

Session 11: The Consummation

Apprentice Track Workshop

A) Life as the Church in *These* Last Days

1) Be _____

a) Matthew 24:42-44

b) Same idea illustrated in the Parable of the Ten Virgins in Matthew 25.

2) Be _____

a) Signs evidencing the _____ of God - Proclamation of the gospel to all nations (Matthew 24:14; 28:20)

b) Signs evidencing _____ to God

(i) Tribulation (Matthew 24:21-24; Revelation 7:14)

(ii) Apostasy (2 Thessalonians 2:2-3; 2 Timothy 3:1-7)

(iii) Antichrist (2 Thessalonians 2:1-10; Matthew 24:24; 1 John 1:8; Revelation 16:13; 19:10; 20:20)

c) Signs evidencing the _____ of God (Matthew 24; Mark 13:3-13)

(i) Wars

(ii) Earthquakes

(iii) Famines

d) On the one hand Christ's victory is sure yet at the same time our world is increasingly dark.

3) Be _____ - The New Testament speaks of Christ's _____ as our 'blessed hope' (Titus 2:13).

B) The Return of Christ

- 1) Christ's return will be _____, **bodily, and visible** (Acts 1:11)
- 2) Christ's return will be _____, **glorious, and** _____ .
 - a) Matthew 16:27
 - b) This glory will be visible to all. (Revelation 1:7; I Thessalonians 4:16)

C) The Millennial Reign of Christ

1) The Nature of Christ's Reign

- a) During the Millennial, Christ will reign _____ on earth.
- b) Christians who have _____ before the return of Christ will be raised from the dead to reign with Christ and _____ his presence (Rev. 20:4)
- c) Christians living at the time of Christ's return will be _____ to him to reign with him and _____ his realm (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).
 - (i) "Rapture" = Latin "rapio," = "caught up."
 - (ii) The imagery of the "rapture" is meant to highlight Christ's coming to dwell with his people as a _____.

2) The Purpose of Christ's Reign

- a) Through the Millennial reign of Christ, God will fulfill his promises to _____ (Romans 11:25-32).
- b) Through the Millennial reign of Christ he will _____ every enemy culminating in the final _____ and completely _____ the curses of the Fall (1 Corinthians 15:24-28).

D) The Final Judgement and Eternal Punishment (Revelation 20:11-15)

- 1) **Unbelievers will be judged and condemned to _____ punishment**
- 2) **Believers will be judged according to our _____ and _____**

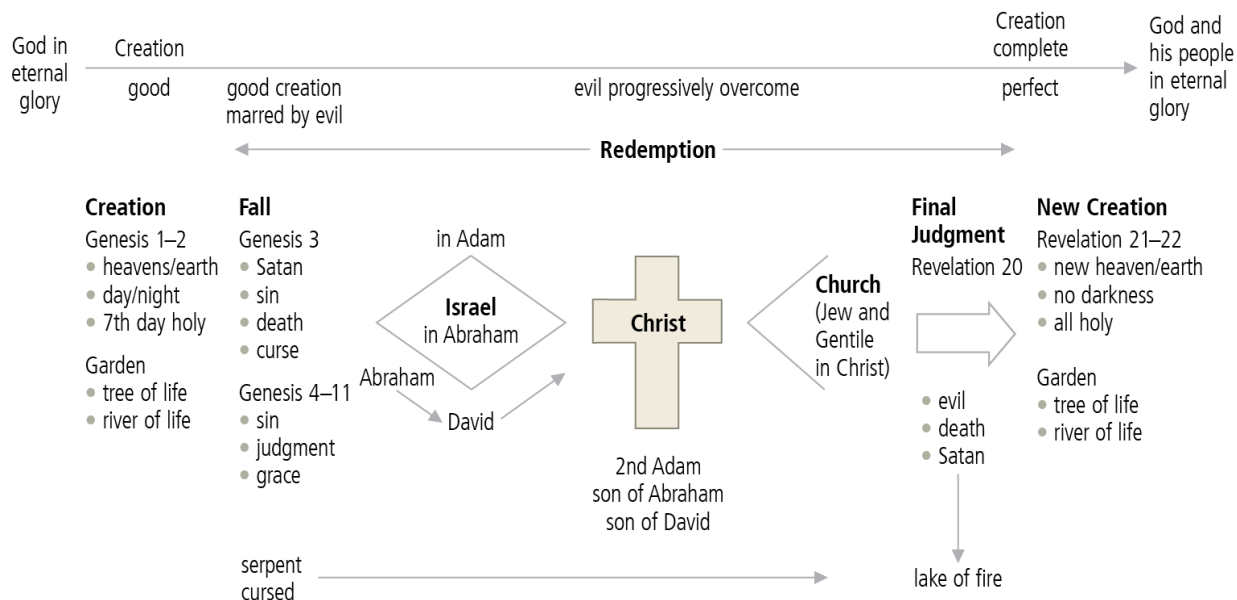
E) The New Heavens and New Earth (Revelation 21:1-22:5)

1) Life in the World to Come

a) _____ **Physical Bodies** (Philippians 3:16)

b) **Life as we always** _____ **it could be**

2) The New Heavens and Earth Demonstrate a Complete _____ of the Curse



3) From a _____ to a _____

(i) A New _____

- His city will be massive and contain room for all his people.
- His city will be a place of rest for the wandering sojourning people of God.

(ii) A New Holy of _____

(iii) A New Edenic _____

*4 Views on the Last Things

1) Postmillennialism

- a) This view says that through the binding of Satan, there will be a gradual increase in the growth of the church and spread of the gospel where more and more people will become Christians. The influence of more believers will change society so that it will function as

God intended gradually resulting into an age of peace and righteousness, in other words – the millennium, which is not necessarily a literal one thousand years.

- b) Christ will then come back “post”, or after, the millennium.

2) Amillennialism

- a) This view is the simplest and says that Satan’s binding will reduce his influence over the nations so that the gospel is preached to the whole world, yet there is a general view that times will worsen.
- b) Christ’s reign is a heavenly one and the millennium is equivalent to the church age currently going on, without reference to a literal thousand years. Christ will then return and judge believers and unbelievers at once.

3) Premillennialism

a) Dispensationalism

- (i) This is a rather recent view which states that Christ will rapture believers before the suffering of the tribulation period. During the tribulation, the Jewish people will be left to go through it and will be ultimately converted. He will then return for a third time after the tribulation with his saints to rule the earth for one thousand years.

b) Historic or Classic Premillennialism

- (i) The church age will go through the tribulation period. At the end of the tribulation, Satan will be bound, and Christ will come back to establish his kingdom on earth for the millennium, which is not necessarily a literal thousand years. The resurrected believers will reign with the resurrected Christ physically on earth during this time.
- (ii) At the end of the millennium, Satan is loosed and Christ decisively defeats him and his remaining followers. Then the unbelievers from all times will be judged, and the believers will enter into the eternal state.
- (iii) At PGC we do not hold that these views are central to the gospel. Faithful believers can hold to any of these four (though it is rare to find a Post-Millennialist who holds to the inerrancy of Scripture). However, each of the elders and our statement of faith affirms Premillennialism.
- (iv) More narrowly, Classical Premillennialism does the best job at understanding the return of Christ based on the plain reading of important texts (rather than spiritualizing everything or reading it super figuratively) while at the same time recognizing that the prophetic and apocalyptic books are mysterious and intentionally figurative. So, in this class we’ll be looking at the details of the end times from the perspective of Historic Premillennialism.