Your Kingdom Come: The Doctrine of Eschatology

Essay Questions

LESSON ONE

THE GOAL OF CREATION



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Essay Questions

1. Define "eschatology." Broadly understood, what period of time is covered under the term eschatology?

2. What does the creation account of Genesis 1–2 tell us about our God-ordained roles and responsibilities? How is this related to the "cultural mandate"?

3. What is the *proto-euangelion*, and where is it found in Scripture? Why was it necessary?

4. List and describe the five major redemptive covenants in the Old Testament. What expectations for God's kingdom were associated with each covenant?

5. Based on Old Testament prophetic descriptions of the eschaton, what blessings were expected in the last days? Use specific Scripture references to support your answer.

6. What were the two great ages expected by first century Jewish theologians? Given the theological developments that took place between the Old and New Testaments, did Jesus and his apostles confirm or contradict this Jewish expectation? Use specific Scripture references to support your answer.

7.	How did unmet expectations and prophetic mystery create complications for the
	New Testament church's belief that Jesus was the Messiah?

8. The apostles' adjusted expectations came with an understanding of "inaugurated eschatology"? What does this phrase mean? Explain how the kingdom of God has come, is coming, and will come in the three stages of inaugurated eschatology.

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LESSON TWO THE LIVING AND THE DEAD



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LESSON THREE

THE COMING OF THE KING



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1. Why is it necessary for Christ to return to earth?

2. What does the Bible teach us about the manner of Christ's return? What will it look like? How will we recognize him? Use specific Scripture references to support your answer.

3.	The lesson tells us that the timing of Christ's return is a "divine mystery." Citing specific Scripture references, explain what this means.	
4.	Scripture mentions several circumstances that are precursors to Christ's return. Describe three of the precursors that will precede Jesus' second advent.	

5.	Evangelicals interpret the precursors to Christ's return using a variety of
	strategies. List and explain the four main evangelical interpretive strategies
	associated with the signs of the times.

6. What are the predominate beliefs of those who hold to the millennial view of historic premillennialism?

7.	What is the basic timeline assumed by those who hold to the view of
	dispensational premillennialism?

8. What is postmillennialism? How does it differ from premillennial views of the millennium?

9. What does the term "amillennialism" literally mean? What is the amillennial view of the millennium, and how is it different from postmillennialism?

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Lesson Four

THE END OF THE AGE



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1. Explain the two predominant first-century schools of thought concerning the resurrection of the dead. Give the rationale for each view. Using Scripture, demonstrate which position Jesus, Paul and the rest of the early church took on this issue.

2. What is divine authority? Explain the nature of God's authority in the general resurrection over both hell and heaven.

3.	What effect will the general resurrection have on creation? How will it impact the natural world, hell, and heaven?
4.	What effect will the general resurrection have on human beings? Who will be included? What will our resurrected bodies be like?

3.

5.	Scripture references in your answer.
6.	List and describe the three parties or groups that will face the final judgment.

7. What do we mean when we say that God will consider every piece of evidence in the final judgment in order to ensure that perfect justice is upheld? Will everyone be held to the same level of accountability, or will we be judged according to our own situations?

8. In the final judgment, Christ will render two types of decisions: curses for those that have done evil and blessings for those that have done good. What will be the final outcomes of both of these decisions?

9.	How will the new heavens and new earth reach a state of purity? In what way does this compare to the flood in Noah's day? How is it different?

10. Will God create a completely new heavens and new earth, or will he renew the current heavens and earth? Give evidence from Scripture to support your answer.

11. Explain some of the geography of the new heavens and new earth. How will the natural and supernatural realms become a unified kingdom? What does Scripture tell us about the New Jerusalem?