

Barn Essential Beliefs Series:

Part 11

Views on the Final Things – Beliefs and Consequences

November 29, 2020

Russ Mason

Previously in the Essential Beliefs Series

April 26th ~ The Uniqueness of Jesus (with
a quick review of previous messages)

May 31st ~ Atonement

July 12th ~ Justification

September 13th ~ Glorification & Ascension

October 11th ~ The Present-Day Ministry of
Jesus

November 8th ~ At the End of Days

Jesus Christ is currently reigning
as Heavenly King and Lord. He:

“... has taken His seat at the right hand of the Majesty
in the heavens....” Heb. 8:1-2; Eph. 1:20

“...Son of Man...came up to the Ancient of Days...
and to Him was given dominion...”

Daniel 7:13-14; Psalm 110:1-2

“...rules in the midst of His enemies.” Acts 2:34-35; Heb. 10:13

“God has highly exalted Him...Jesus is Lord...! Phil. 2:9-11

“...King of Kings and Lord of Lords.” Revelation 19:15-16

“...He must reign until...all enemies underfoot.” 1 Cor. 15:25-26

At The Barn, we believe that:

Jesus returned to heaven to be with Father God;
sent the Holy Spirit to empower the church...
Will return personally, visibly, and bodily...
...as the Righteous Judge of all...; and that
Believers will experience eternal life with Him
in resurrected glorified bodies...and will
dwell with God in New Heavens and New
Earth.

Eschatology

“es’cha-tos” + “log’os” (Greek)

Last/Final + logic/word/discourse laid out =

The study of the last things

Understanding of the end of days

The Proper Interpretation of Scripture is Essential!

“Rightly handling the word of truth!”

|| Tim. 2:15

Be careful not to “twist the scriptures”
to your own “destruction”!

|| Pet. 3:16

Keys to the Proper Interpretation of Scripture

No "Cherry Picking"!

The whole counsel of the Word of God.

Allow the New Testament to interpret the Old.

Allow clear passages to explain difficult ones.

The Holy Spirit is the Author and Interpreter of the Holy Scriptures! No 'private interpretation'!

Apocalyptic Literature

Visions of Daniel, Ezekiel, Joel, John, etc.

Highly symbolic and metaphorical
God defines and interprets His own terms.

Joel 2:31 "The sun shall be turned into darkness
and the moon into blood...."

At Pentecost, Peter said this prophecy
had been fulfilled in Christ. Acts 2

Understanding the Apocalyptic Language of Scripture

What is meant by “literal interpretation”?

Is Jesus made of wood with metal hinges?

Does He have fleece and hooves?

Does He have seven horns and seven eyes?

Yet, Jesus literally and truly is the Lamb of God.

Jesus really is the Door for the sheep!

These signs, symbols, types, and metaphors
communicate true facts about spiritual realities!

Three Views on Interpreting The Book of the Revelation of Jesus:

Preterist ~ all or most of Revelation is about events that had already happened

Historicist ~ identifies symbols with people and events throughout history

Futurist ~ interprets most of Ezekiel, Daniel, and Revelation as unfulfilled prophecies of events which are still in the future

Special Terms and Considerations in Theories of the Last Things:

“Tribulation” ~ Is there a specific time coming?

“Secret Rapture” ~ Will there be a Pre-trib,
a Mid-trib, or a Post-trib

“snatching away” of the saints?

“Millennial” Reign of Christ ~ Is Rev. 20:1-7 to be
taken literally or figuratively?

Three Major Eschatological Views:

Premillennial: Christ returns before the millennium
(divided into “historic” and “dispensational”)

Postmillennial: Christ returns after a “millennium”
by a gradual extension of the kingdom

Amillennial: Christ rules and reigns in the midst of
His enemies throughout the age of
the preaching of the Gospel

Ps. 110:1-3, 1 Cor. 15:25-26, Heb. 10:13, Acts
2:34-36

The Kingdom of God

Christ's rule and reign:

An accomplished Spiritual Reality? Yes!

Our experience? "Now and Not Yet"

Duration? "He must reign until..."

Now: The present Reality in the Heavenly
Realm breaking through on earth

At His Coming: The future Reality manifest
fully in the New Heavens and New Earth

Essential Beliefs

Seven Truths about the End of Days:

- 1) Jesus will return. | Thess. 4:16; Acts 1:11;
| Cor. 15:52; Matt. 24:27, 30
- 2) The Dead in Christ will rise. | Thess. 4:14-16
- 3) We will be changed. | Cor. 15:51-55; | Jn. 3:2;
Matt. 24:31

Essential Beliefs About the End of Days:

4) Satan will go into the Lake of Fire. Rev. 20:10,
14; II Pet. 2:4; Jude 6

5) All the dead will rise for Eternal Judgment.
Death and hell go into the Lake of Fire.
Rev. 20:11-15

6) "Then comes the end...the Kingdom is
delivered to the Father" I Cor. 15:24, 28

Essential Beliefs About the End of Days:

- 7) The New Heavens and New Earth;
The marriage supper of the Lamb;
The restitution of all things; eternity future.

Acts 3:19-21; || Pet. 3:10-13; Rev. 19:7;
Rev. 21:1, 7, 10, 16, 22-24

Beliefs have Consequences

Essential beliefs have Eternal Consequences
“Non-Essential” beliefs also have consequences~
most definitely in our life experience here,
and quite possibly in the hereafter.
Our beliefs shape our actions and experiences.

The Two Greatest Commandments: Love God & Love your Neighbor/Enemy

Matt. 22:37-40/5:43-44

Have affectionate esteem for those who labor...

Warn those who are lazy and disorderly...

Encourage the timid and fainthearted...

Be patient with everyone, holding your temper...

Never repay evil with evil... but forgive and bless

1 Thess. 5:13-15; Eph. 4:32; Rom. 12:14; 1 Cor.

4:12

Benediction: | Thessalonians 5

“... May your whole spirit, and soul, and body
be kept sound and be found blameless
at the coming of the LORD...”

“...He Who calls you is Faithful...
He will do it!”

MARANATHA!

Conclusion and Segue to Worship

“We have paganized our soteriology
(our ideas about salvation);
We have moralized our anthropology
(our ideas about being human);
We have platonized our eschatology
(our ideas about the future).”

N. T. Wright

The Apostle Paul's Revelation:

- 1) What God has done for us in Christ
 - 2) What God's Word and Spirit can do in us to cause those divine facts to become manifest in our personal experience
 - 3) What our Lord Jesus is doing for us right now at the right hand of the Father
- Today: What our Lord will do at the end of days

Psalm 110

“The LORD says unto my Lord,

‘Sit at My right hand until I make Thine enemies
a footstool for Thy feet!’

The LORD shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zíon,

‘Rule in the midst of Thine enemies!’

Thy people will volunteer freely in the day of Thy power...

The LORD has sworn and will not change His mind,

‘Thou art a priest forever

according to the order of Melchizedek!’

The Lord is at Thy right hand... He will judge the nations...

He will drink from the brook... He will lift up His Head.”