

Session 13: The Doctrine of Future Things (Chapters 30)

The Doctrine of Future Things

The prophetic information in the Bible is not given to satisfy our innate curiosity about the future, but to encourage us to live like we are children of God while we are still on earth. It is given, not to impact our curiosity, but our lifestyle.

4 Major Subdivisions of the Doctrine of Future Things:

1. **Return:** Jesus will *return* to earth again.
 - Jesus was crucified, buried, resurrected, and then ascended into heaven where he will remain until He returns. No one knows when this will be but what we do know is that when He comes this time it will not be as a carpenter's son but in the power and glory of His Father with His angels. During His first visit here on earth, He came as a servant with an emphasis on His humanity. During His second visit to earth He will come as a King, emphasizing His deity.
2. **Judgment:** God will *confirm* the eternal *destiny* of all individuals.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. - 2 Corinthians 5:10 (NIV)
3. **Universe:** The old universe will be destroyed and *replaced* with a new one.
 - The present universe was flawed with sin at the time of the Fall of man. When Christ returns the universe will be destroyed and replaced with a new universe and an the new earth that will have no harmful features. (2 Peter 3:12, 13 and Revelation 21:1)
4. **Eternity:** Christians will live with God *forever*.
 - Only beauty and goodness will exist.
 - Believers/We will rule with Him *forever* as vice-regents.
 - We will govern angelic beings.
 - We will be beings of beauty and power who will participate in glorious celestial ceremonies.

- We will receive much personal glory by the grace and goodness of God, and spend generous times worshipping and praising God.
- Intellect, beauty, power and talent will be virtually limitless as we both serve Jesus the King AND rule with Him in a world that progressively glorifies God and brings great joy and individual satisfaction.