

Concerning the Coming of our Lord

23rd in the "Thessalonians" Series 2 Thessalonians 2:1-2 August 24, 2025 Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction: In this text, we are given an orientation to the difficulty of interpreting the Bible's message about the end times.

1) We must be careful not to be led astray by false teachings, especially about Christ's return.
2) What Christians need to be aware of are the erroneous distortions and understandable disagreements "concerning the coming of our Lord."
3) Five reasons help explain why there are distortions and disagreements in the church about the end times: a) Christians do not know the Bible well enough to handle the complexities of end-times promises.
b) Christians have struggled to apply the important end-times themes and doctrines properly.
c) Christians in recent generations have wedded unhealthy end-times topics and themes to politics.
d) It is important to understand that the Bible's teachings about the end times have many aspects that are no self-evident.
e) The church has long focused on keeping the main things the main thing regarding the end times, especially for the purpose of giving Christian hope.
The Apostles' Creed I believe in The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

I believe in ... The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ ... He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end ... I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Response

Hope Church, let us believe in the main and indisputable truths of Scripture about our blessed hope.

Sunday Text Questions

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Read the text aloud and discuss any significant observations or issues needing clarification together.

1) What is your response to end-times topics like the millennium, the rapture, the future of Israel, and the nature of the new creation? Do they ... a. ...fascinate you, to the point of overemphasis and imbalance? b. ...annoy you, to the point of happy ignorance and avoidance? c. ...intimidate you, and make you feel like such things are for experts only? d. ...encourage you, because they help you know how to live and hope in Christ each day? 2) Paul was writing to correct untruths or half-truths told to the Thessalonian Christians about the end times. What are some untruths or half-truths that get told or taught to Christians today? 3) Do the topics of the end times and the biblical book of Revelation cause you to be "unsettled or "alarmed" (v. 2) or do they give you a sense of peace and hope? 4) What do you think are God's reasons for giving us in Scripture key insights and instructions on the end times and Christian hope? 5) What truths about the end times and the new creation are the most confusing for you, or are the most difficult to understand? And why? 6) What truths about the end times and the new creation give you the most encouragement, guidance for living in the present, and true Christian hope? And why?

Further study this week: Passages related to the message of this week's text: Matthew 24:6 (Mon); Luke 21:36 (Tues); Revelation 12:9 (Wed); Romans 16:19-20 (Thurs); Acts 17:30-31 (Fri).

7) In what other ways, if any, did this passage speak into your life to teach, rebuke, correct, or train you in

righteousness (cf. 2 Timothy 3:16)?