

Week 5 - Wednesday, September 14
ST. PAUL: APOSTLE TO THE WORD
with Dr. Geoffrey Lentz

The Coming: The End Times and Resurrection

Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11, 1 Corinthians 15, Philippians 3:20-21

A core part of Paul's teaching is that Jesus is the Messiah promised to set things right and bring a new age to the world. Christians are called to live into this new messianic age. However, the old age has not yet ended, but Christ will come in final victory and claim the victory won in his death and resurrection. This week, we will discuss popular end-times schemes and how they differ from Paul's two-age understanding.

- I. **Opening Reflection**
- II. **Review**—Acts 2, Ethics
- III. **Pharisee/Jewish Eschatology**—Names: Parousia (coming), epiphany, apocalypse.
 - A. The Two Ages
 - B. The Messiah, his triumphal entry/victory, and his kingdom—Daniel 7:13:14, Zechariah 9:9-13
 - C. The Judgment
 - D. The Resurrection of the Dead, Ethics
- IV. **Paul's Eschatology**
 - A. The Two Ages
 - B. The Messiah, his victory, and his kingdom, Parousia/coming
 - C. The Judgment—Romans 8:1
 - D. The Resurrection of the Dead, Ethics—1 Corinthians 15
- V. **Text**—1 Thessalonians 4:13-17
 - A. What about the rapture? John Nelson Darby (teaching the 1830s and 40s) in the UK—Darbyism/dispensationalism. *Scofield Reference Bible*, Hal Lindsey, Tim LeHaye.
 - B. Triumphal Entry—Colossians 2:15, Revelation 1
 - C. What should Christians believe? Which direction is God headed?
 - D. How does our eschatology effect our worship, theology, and ethics?
- VI. **Closing Reflection**

Days of Elijah

These are the days of Elijah,
Declaring the word of the Lord
And these are the days of Your servant
Moses, Righteousness being restored.
And though these are days of great trial,
Of famine and darkness and sword,
Still, we are the voice in the desert crying
“Prepare ye the way of the Lord!”

Behold He comes riding on the clouds,
Shining like the sun at the trumpet call,
Lift your voice, it's the year of jubilee,
And out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

These are the days of Ezekiel,
The dry bones becoming as flesh,
And these are the days of Your servant David,
Rebuilding a temple of praise.
These are the days of the harvest,
The fields are as white in Your world,
And we are the laborers in Your vineyard,
Declaring the word of the Lord!

Behold He comes riding on the clouds,
Shining like the sun at the trumpet call,
Lift your voice, it's the year of jubilee,
And out of Zion's hill salvation comes.