

## Syllabus for Class on Eschatology: The Study of Last Things

### I. Class Description

This class on eschatology is a 10-session equipping class that helps the student firmly grasp the truths that all Christians must believe about the future (core eschatology) for the purpose of honoring Christ by maintaining unity within a local church context. Also, perspectives on the millennial debate will be engaged, views of the timing of the rapture will be discussed, and narrative frameworks on the continuity of Scripture will be presented. Within each of these areas of investigation, valid conclusions will be drawn that favor the most likely way to understanding the millennium, rapture, and continuity of Scripture.

### II. Class Objectives

This class aims:

- A. To familiarize the student with core eschatology (or “orthodox eschatology”), so as to establish local church unity.
- B. To acquaint the student with the current discussions over the millennial debate, rapture question, and continuity of Scripture.
- C. To present a favorable view of premillennial theology and a prewrath rapture.
- D. To discern different hermeneutical foundations with a view to arguing for a consistent, normal, grammatical, historical, and literary hermeneutical method.
- E. To stir within our hearts a longing for “the blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:13).

### III. Class Textbooks

#### A. Recommended Books

1. Blaising, Craig A., Kenneth L. Gentry Jr. & Robert B. Strimple. *Three Views on the Millennium and Beyond*. The Counterpoints Series, eds. Darrell L. Bock & Stanley N. Gundry. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1999. [Abbreviated as **MB**]
2. Blaising, Craig A., Alan Hultberg & Douglas Moo. *Three Views on the Rapture: Pretribulation, Prewrath, or Posttribulation*. The Counterpoints Series, eds. Stanley N. Gundry & Alan Hultberg. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2010. [Abbreviated as **Rap**]

3. Bock, Darrell, Michael Horton, Mark Snoeberger & Stephen Wellum. *Covenantal and Dispensational Theologies: Four Views on the Continuity of Scripture*. Spectrum Multiview Books, eds. Richard J. Lucas & Brent E. Parker. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2022. [Abbreviated as **CD**]
4. Kurschner, Alan. *Antichrist Before the Day of the Lord: What Every Christian Needs to Know About the Return of Christ*. Pompton Lakes, NJ: Eschatos Publishing, 2013. [Abbreviated as **ABDL**]

#### B. Additional Recommended Books

1. Franklin, Robert. *Rediscovered Early Church Premillennialism: Teachings of the Earliest Church Fathers on Prophecy*. Arlington, TX: Word Lamp Publications, 2014.
2. Snow, Travis M. *The 70 Weeks Jubilee: Israel, The Messiah, and The End of the Age in Daniel 9:24-27*. Dallas, TX: Voice of Messiah, 2021.
3. Waymeyer, Matt. *Amillennialism and the Age to Come: A Premillennial Critique of the Two-Age Model*. Woodlands, TX: Kress Biblical Resources, 2016.

#### IV. Class Schedule & Optional Reading Assignments

Session Dates	Topic	Reading
August 18, 6:30-7:45pm	Introduction & Core Eschatology	<i>JBC Core Doctrinal Statement on "The Future"</i>
September 1, 6:30-7:45pm	Millennial Debate   Postmillennialism and Response	<b>MB</b> , 11-80
September 15, 6:30-7:45pm	Millennial Debate   Amillennialism and Response	<b>MB</b> , 83-153
September 29, 6:30-7:45pm	Millennial Debate   Premillennialism and Response	<b>MB</b> , 157-276
October 13, 6:30-7:45pm	Rapture Question   Pretribulational Rapture & Response	<b>Rap</b> , 25-108
October 27, 6:30-7:45pm	Rapture Question   Posttribulational Rapture & Response	<b>Rap</b> , 185-274

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Eschatology: The Study of Last Things  
Fall 2022  
Designated Thursdays 6:30-7:45pm

November 10, 6:30-7:45pm	Rapture Question   Prewrath Rapture & Response	<b>Rap, 109-183; ABDL</b>
November 17, 6:30-7:45pm	Continuity of Scripture   Introduction & Covenant Theology	<b>CD, 1-33, 35-73, 202-210, 221-226, 241-243</b>
December 1, 6:30-7:45pm	Continuity of Scripture   Progressive Covenantalism & Traditional Dispensationalism	<b>CD, 74-111, 195-199, 226-233, 243-246; CD, 147-182, 183-189, 210-220, 233-238</b>
December 15, 6:30-7:45pm	Continuity of Scripture   Progressive Dispensationalism & Conclusion	<b>CD, 112-146, 189-195, 246-249</b>