

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 12, 2017 - THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST'S RETURN

1. Thinking back on this week's sermon, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

2. What aspect of the Bible's teachings on the end times gives you the most hope? What aspect is the most troublesome to you? Why?

3. One of the reasons God has provided such a detailed vision of the future is because it offers so much hope. How, specifically, can you apply the hope of our future to a person who is experiencing the deep grief and suffering this world promises?

4. What would be some of the implications for our Christian faith if Christ were not going to return in glory?

5. The time of tribulation described in Scripture contains some truly terrifying events (refresh your memory by reading Revelation 6:1-17; 8:1-21; 9:1-16; 11:15-19; 16:1-21). What do these things imply about the character of the God who inflicts them?

6. What do you think could motivate Satan to wage such an intense rebellion against God? What lessons can we apply from that to our own hearts?

7. Often when someone goes through tragedy they find themselves reaching out to God. What would it take for someone to live through the entire Tribulation rejecting God?

8. What do you see as the biggest blessing of living as a believer in this Church Age?

9. While the elders of Valley Bible Church are unanimously convicted in their view of the end times, there are other Christians who hold to differing views. How do you deal with contrary beliefs about the interpretation of Scripture between believers?

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Charts of Bible Prophecy by H. Wayne House helpfully illustrates various views of the end times.

Heaven by Randy Alcorn first addresses the theology of heaven, and then uses a question and answer format to answer things like, “what will we look like in heaven,” “what will we do every day in heaven,” and even “will my pets be with me in heaven?”

Things to Come by J. Dwight Pentecost exhaustively (632 pages) examines the scriptural teachings of eschatology in a challenging but thorough manner.

Revelation by John MacArthur is a twelve-week guided study for those who would like to go deeper into the book of Revelation with verse-by-verse commentary and thought-provoking questions.