

# Theology: How it Works

MAY 19, 2024



## **SERIES OVERVIEW:**

*When we talk about theology, a lot of times, it can get very academic or detached from the Christian life. Over the next seven weeks, we want to journey together to help us take the study of God (theology) and ask, "Why do I need to know this?" "What do I need to know about it?" and "What do I do with this?" so that it becomes very practical - out of the clouds and into our homes and lives.*

## **MESSAGE TAKEAWAYS:**

### **THE BIBLICAL APPROACH TO ESCHATOLOGY BEGINS WITH CURIOSITY ABOUT JESUS.**

### **ESCHATOLOGY IS NOT INFORMATION ABOUT GOD'S PLAN FOR LATER. IT'S ABOUT INVOLVING US IN GOD'S PURPOSES RIGHT NOW.**

- Pastor Brannon says, "Eschatology is not information about God's plan for later. It's about involving us in God's purposes right now." His question is, "do you know how to be obedient to the Holy Spirit today?" How does knowing that Jesus is coming back someday change the way you live today? How can we be less prone to forget this truth?
- John Chapman says, "We must learn to be content with the dissatisfaction of not yet being what we one day will be." All Christians are called to live with "great impatience and patient endurance."
  - **Read James 5:7.** Does thinking about the end times cause you to worry or does it give you comfort? Do you find yourself having great patience or great impatience during the in-between?
- How did you feel about the focus on the topic of eschatology? Does this topic come with any emotional baggage for you?

- What impact should knowing that Jesus is coming back have in our lives, according to **1 Thessalonians 4:13, 18**? Why do you think “hope” and “encouragement” are often not what believers associate with the topic of eschatology?
- Have you tended to have more of a “jot and tittle” (try to know all the details, can lead to arrogance) approach, a “meh” (does this really matter?, can lead to apathy) approach, or something in between?
- **Read Acts 1:6-8.** Instead of answers, Jesus promised power through the Holy Spirit. How are you seeking to grow in listening to and obeying the Holy Spirit?
- **Read 1 John 3:2-3.** Rather than arrogance or apathy, what result should deep hope in the return of Jesus have in our lives? How do you think this practically plays out day-to-day?
- “The point of all theology is not knowledge of, but relationship with, the King of kings.” Thinking back through this theology sermon series, what has challenged you most to grow in relationship with God?

## **FINAL THOUGHTS:**

*As we continue on this journey, we would love to help you in any way we can. If you are wondering what next steps are right for you, please reach out, and we'd love to have a conversation with you or your group about the season you are in and the places Jesus has entrusted to you as you seek to be formed by His Word.*

**Meet with a Pastor: <https://ncchapel.churchcenter.com/people/forms/551596>**