

The Last Things (1 of 7)
Small Group Discussion Questions

Join our congregation for worship in-person or online at 10:30 am each Sunday via our [Grantham Church YouTube Channel](#). If you ever miss a message, the sermons are always posted to the recent sermons page at our website and at the Grantham Church Podcast the following day, along with the sermon slides and small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for staying connected with us!

Sunday, May 4th, 2025



Eschatology is the study of “the last things” in Christian theology. The *eschaton* is about the biblical view of the future, which comes into sharp focus with Jesus and the New Testament. Where is everything going? What happens when we die? And what about heaven, hell, the end times, the second coming, the final judgment, and the resurrection? In this 7-week sermon series, we will explore *The Last Things* and how our knowledge of the future can deepen our trust in God in times of fear and uncertainty, ground us in the Christian hope, and help us to live in light of the last things.

Sermon Title: Existential Threats, Eternity & the Eschaton

Scripture Reading: Psalm 46:1-11; Ecc. 3:11; Isaiah 46:9-10; Matthew 24:1-35

Sermon Focus: We’re living in a time when fears, worries, and questions about the future are increasing. Leading thinkers are now talking about real existential threats to humanity. These things prompt questions about where things are going and if there is any hope for the future. In the first message of our series, Pastor David introduces us to *The Last Things* and invites us to adopt an eternal perspective, build our lives upon God’s story, and deepen our trust in his power to guide history to its intended goal.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group. Use the following questions to help *guide* your small group discussion:

1. Begin by reading Matthew 24:1-35. Pastor David said in the immediate context that Jesus is referring to the fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of the Temple. And though it wasn't the "end of the world" entirely, it was certainly the end of the world as they knew it. These warnings would have been troubling to them. So, how can we take what Jesus has said and apply it to our own situation? How might this passage of Scripture give us warning and hope for the future?
2. This series is about the *eschaton* (the last things) according to the Scriptures and Christian theology about the future of all things. Pastor David gave the following reasons for being concerned about eschatology and doing this series:
 1. It helps us to know God's story and our part in that story.
 2. It guides us and keeps us from living by a false story.
 3. It keeps us focused on the gospel and the mission of the church.
 4. It deepens trust in God, produces hope, and holds us to a biblical worldview when the world is falling down around us.
 5. For those in Christ, it says that we do not need to fear the future.
 6. It assures us that God will judge sin, death, evil, and injustice.
 7. It reminds us that God is guiding all of history to its completion.

Think about these for a moment. Are there 2-3 reasons that interest you the most right now? Share with your group why you chose the ones you did?

3. Pastor David gave the following takeaways and application:
 1. **God is guiding history, and he is inviting you into his story of hope.**
We must saturate and orient our hearts to the biblical view of the future.
 2. **God calls us to resist the false stories and not give into fear of the future.**
We must view everything through a NT lens and put our faith in Christ.
 3. **God wants us to know him as our rock and refuge in this present evil age.**
We must be intentional in pursuing and experiencing our sovereign God.

Which one of these is the Holy Spirit drawing your attention to the most right now? What is God saying to you? How does he want you to respond?

4. Think back to the images that Pastor David used to depict where, according to Christ and the Scriptures, things are going in the future. What are the false stories about the future that have been challenging God's story in your mind?
5. Finally, read Psalm 46:1-11. What fears or concerns do you have about the future? What is God saying to you about that? What would it look like to put your faith in the Lord? After your conversation, close the time in prayer together.