

ESCHATOLOGY

Eschatology refers to the theology about the End Times. The Southern Baptist Conventions' *Baptist Faith and Message*, while obviously supporting belief in inerrant Scripture, and therefore supporting heaven and hell and the second coming of Christ, does not specify an End-Times Theology. This highlights the difficulty in interpretation of Revelation and other Biblical passages that refer to the End Times. This also highlights the relative importance - or lack thereof - of Eschatology. The Gospel matters. The fact that Jesus is coming again matters. The fact that those who believe in Jesus will go to heaven and those who do not believe in Jesus will go to hell matters and, critically, drives our mission. The exact order, timing, and details of these events matters less.

It is important to remember that the End Times refers to the establishment of the Kingdom of Christ. We live in the "already-but-not-yet" in regards to the Kingdom. Jesus has risen from the dead, and thus the kingdom is established in the hearts of believers and our role is to extend it here on earth. However, Jesus has not come back to fully establish His kingdom, where all sin and tears are washed away. In the meantime, we share the gospel and do Christ's business of establishing His kingdom, waiting for Him to come again in glory.

SCRIPTURE VERSES

2 Corinthians 5:10

John 14:3

Mark 13:32

Matthew 24:30-31

1 Corinthians 15:51-53

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18

Book of Revelation

ARTICLES

<http://www.bpnews.net/31963/end-times-scholars-differ-on-what-bible-says-about-subject>

<http://www.sbclife.net/article/2295/southern-baptists-and-the-millennium>

BOOKS

The Kingdom of Christ: The New Evangelical Perspective -Russell Moore

NOT TRUSTWORTHY

Rob Bell

(*Originally published by Resonate Church.)