

# ESCHATOLOGY

GOD'S FINAL CHAPTER

# ESCHATOLOGY

## ☞ **Biblical Truth:**

God's expectation is that as disciples we will study all of His word and He promises to help us understand it. Christ's return is the blessed hope of all Christians. Being ready for the Lord's return involves our living in anticipation of His appearing and being faithful in the tasks He has given us.



# ESCHATOLOGY

☞ Key Verse – Titus 2.13:

*<sup>13</sup>while we wait for the **blessed hope** the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ*



**CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH** by Thom Tapp



**“Martha, quick, bring me my book on  
eschatology...”**



# KEY TERMS

- ☞ Eschatology – << *eskhatos* >> last / final – knowledge or study of the last things
- ☞ Millennium – Refers to Christ's 1000 year reign on earth – term is not in bible but comes from << *mille* >> thousand and << *annus* >> – a year
- ☞ Rapture – Refers to the description of believers being caught up and meeting Christ in the air – comes from *Rapere* – caught up, plucked up, taken by force (see I Thes 4.17)



# KEY TERMS (CONT.)

☞ Apocalypse - << *apokolipse* >> - unveiling

☞ Tribulation – Generally refers to the 7 years of terrible events described in Revelation and Daniel



# WHY STUDY ESCHATOLOGY / REVELATION

## 1. The future is assured

☞ Christ's return is literal – Not spiritual

☞ Fulfillment of entire bible

☞ The consummation of God's plan is the great goal, great hope, and great ending of the church



# WHY STUDY ESCHATOLOGY / REVELATION

## 1. The future is assured (cont.)

☞ Blessed Hope – God’s gift to Christians – hope << *elpis* >> – joyful and confident expectation of eternal salvation

☞ We are to encourage one another with this thought

I Thes 4.17 (NIV)



# WHY STUDY ESCHATOLOGY / REVELATION

## 2. God expects us – and wants us to study all of His word

- ☞ God calls us to study the entire truth of His word
- ☞ There is no part of scripture that God chooses for us to ignore

II Tim 3.16-17 (NIV)



# WHY STUDY ESCHATOLOGY / REVELATION

## 2. God expects us – and wants us to study all of His word (cont.)

ℵ God promises punishment for those who add / detract and  
blessing for those who read AND HEED revelation

Rev 22.18-19 (NIV)



# WHY STUDY ESCHATOLOGY / REVELATION

## 2. God expects us – and wants us to study all of His word (cont.)

Rev 1.3 (NIV)

- ... Blessed is the same word used Titus 2.13 – fortunate through no act of your own
- ... Reads - << *anaginosko* >> - to know accurately and with certainty
- ... Heeds - << *tereo* >> - to attend to carefully, to guard



# WHY STUDY ESCHATOLOGY / REVELATION

## 3. The study of Eschatology should spur us on to evangelism and living righteously

- ☞ Christ's return is normally mentioned with an exhortation to Godly living – I Thess 5.4-10, 2 Pet 3.9-14, I John 2.28-29
- ☞ Paul gives explicit instruction that Christ's return should motivate us in the right direction

I Tim 6.14 (NIV)



# WHY STUDY ESCHATOLOGY / REVELATION

## 3. The study of Eschatology should spur us on to evangelism and living righteously (cont.)

- ☞ Focuses us on evangelism
- ☞ Studying prophecy provides purpose in our life
- ☞ We demonstrate our obedience by studying prophecy – and it provides an anchor for our faith

I Pet 4.7-11 (NIV)



# WHY STUDY ESCHATOLOGY / REVELATION

## 4. As disciples of Christ we need to understand so we will not be deceived

☞ We must be prepared as the plan of God unfolds - We must be ready and prepared.

☞ In the last days there will be scoffers – people who doubt that Christ will return

II Pet 3.3-6 (NIV)

☞ Satan will be cunning enough to fool the world and would try and deceive Christians

Matt 24.23-27 (NIV)



# WHY STUDY ESCHATOLOGY / REVELATION

## 4. As disciples of Christ we need to understand so we will not be deceived (cont.)

☞ Jesus warns His disciples and us directly to be ready and  
keep watch

Matt 24.42 (NIV)

Luke 12.35-47, 54-56 (NIV)

Rev 3.3 (NIV)

I Thess 5.2-9 (NIV)



# HOW TO BE PREPARED

- ☞ We must know what we are looking for
- ☞ Keep watch (Matt 24.42) – prepared and ready – maintaining constant readiness
- ☞ Learn how to discern the signs and look for Christ's return
- ☞ Must guard against deception –



# HOW TO BE PREPARED

Matthew 24.45-51

- ❧ wicked - ignore his master's instruction - recognizing Jesus authority means obedience
- ❧ forgets his accountability
- ❧ actions expose his heart
- ❧ beat -
- ❧ eating and drinking w/ drunkards - fleshly pleasures
- ❧ Lack of a vital expectancy of Master's return

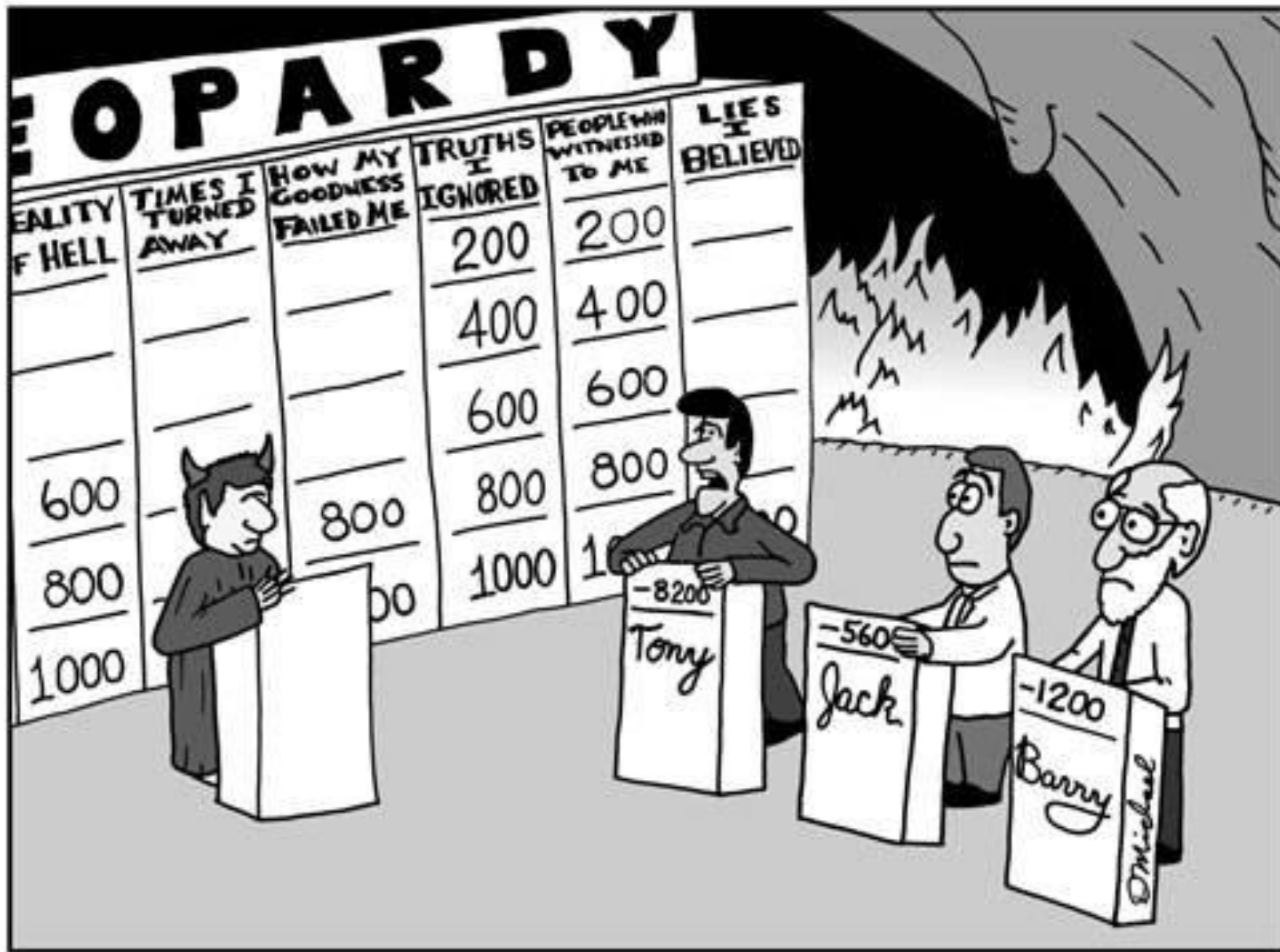


# HOW TO BE PREPARED

Matthew 24.45-51

- ✧ faithful and wise servant
- ✧ good stewardship
- ✧ “I tell you the truth”
- ✧ “It will be good “
- ✧ Gives him more to be in charge of





"Let's try 'Funny Things I Said About Those Born-Again Believers That Aren't So Funny Now' for 200 please."

