

# Session 8

## The End

---

### 1. Key facts that all are agreed on

- A. Christ will return to judge the living and the dead.
- B. There will be a general resurrection where all will be raised from the dead, and a specific resurrection where believers in Christ will be raised to everlasting life.
- C. The judgment will be according to “what we have done” which will show up our inadequacy to please God therefore those redeemed will point to the work of Christ for them to show they have been covered by the blood of Christ.
- D. From Christ’s first coming to his Second coming, the Holy Spirit is given to be our guide enabling the church to be a witness to Jesus Christ as Lord, to his death and resurrection, and those who do so to the end would be considered as those who have been busy with the Lord’s work.
- E. After the final judgement, there will be an eternal new heaven and new earth where the redeemed will be with God; and there will also be a hell where those who have not believed in Christ will be eternally.

### 2. The Themes of the 1689 in Chapters 31-32

- a. Death
- b. The Intermediate State
- c. The Resurrection of the body
- d. The Return of Christ and the Final Judgement
- e. Heaven and Hell

### **3. The Problem of Speaking about the End**

- Dispensational Theology and Rapture Theology (Scofield Reference Bible and Hal Linsay)
- Protestants have historically disagreed

### **4. The Millennium**

- Revelation 20 is the key passage.
- A-millennial: not literal thousand year; speaks of period from Christ's first coming and second coming.
- Pre-millennial: views two distinct programs of fulfilment of prophecies, one for Jews and one for church; Jesus will return before the thousand years and then reign for a thousand years, pre-tribulation rapture, pessimistic about the world - it will see a decline before the end
- Post-millennial: the world will get better throughout the thousand years, after which time Jesus will return. Held by Jonathan Edwards, John Owen
- Historic Pre-millennial: Non-dispensational. Held by Spurgeon.

### **5. How to interpret apocalyptic literature**

- Examples in Daniel and Revelation
- Four approaches: Historicist, Spiritualist/Idealist, Preterist, Idealist

### **6. New Way of Thinking about Eschatology**

- Kingdom as Realised Eschatology
- "Already not yet" Acts 2:15-17; Hebrews 1:1-2.

### **7. The Second Coming of Jesus**

- The Purpose of the church age: mission (Matt 24:14)

- The Life-giving person of the church age: the Holy Spirit

## **8. The Place of the Jews in the End Times**

- Romans 9-11

## **9. The Antichrist or “Man of Lawlessness”**

- 2 Thessalonians 2
- 1 John 2:18-19

## **10. Final Judgment**

- John 5:22, 27
- Acts 17:31

## **11. Heaven**

- A reality of believers in Jesus being with God in Christ forever enjoying his love and favour on them in the new heavens and the new earth.
- Revelation 21:1-9
- John 14:1-3

## **12. Hell**

- Eternal reality of experiencing the wrath of God, and separation of God’s goodness and love.
- Matthew 25:46
- Revelation 21:8
- Matthew 13:42