



WEEK #5: End Times and Eternity

The Apostles' Creed

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty,
from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy universal church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen*

1: *Whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.*

The Return of Christ is a PROMISE. (Luke 12:40, John 14:1-4, Acts 1:9-11, Mark 13, Revelation 19, 2 Peter 3.)

The Judgment consists of REWARDS and REVIEW.
(Matthew 25, 2 Corinthians 5:10, Revelation 20:11-15, Matthew 16:27, Luke 14:14, Romans 14:10-13.)

- What should be my response? I live with PERSPECTIVE keeping the end in mind.

2: *The resurrection of the body.*

The Resurrection of our bodies will be a PROMOTION.

(1 Corinthians 15, Matthew 22:30-31, Luke 14:14, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Philippians 3:20-21, Daniel 12:2.)

- What should be my response? I live with HOPE even through difficulty and death.

3: *Life everlasting.*

The end of the story is a New HEAVEN and New EARTH where all is restored and redeemed.

(2 Peter 3:13, Revelation 21:1-5, Isaiah 65:17-19, Isaiah 66:22, Revelation 22:1-5.)

- What should be my response? I live with PURPOSE by joining Jesus on his mission now.

Discussion Questions:

1. How does what we believe as Christ-followers affect the way we live? In other words, how can we put the Apostle's Creed into practice as a way of life and not just a system of beliefs?
2. How can the hope of everlasting life help us face the sufferings and trials of life, including death?
3. What teaching in the Creed series impacted you the most? What has been challenging or difficult to grasp?

Recommended Resources:

- *Affirming the Apostles' Creed*, by J. I. Packer
- *The Apostles' Creed*, by R. Albert Mohler, Jr
- *When Christ Comes*, by Max Lucado
- *What's the Truth About Heaven and Hell*, by Douglas A. Jacoby
- *Preparing for Jesus' Return*, by A.W. Tozer
- *Heaven*, by Randy Alcorn
- *Beyond Heaven's Door*, by Max Lucado