

End Times in the Gospels Discussion (Part II)

Overview: Before looking at historical views of eschatology (millennialism, pre-millennialism, amillennialism, etc.), let's look first at the Matthew, Mark and Luke; and then next week at 1 Thessalonians, where Paul expresses a living eschatological faith from first to last.

Each of the synoptic Gospel writers develops the theme of "end times" in his own way:

Mark 13: 5-23:

Mark 13: 10:

Mark 26-30:

Matthew (emphasizes end-time judgment to underscore a life defined by righteousness):

Matthew 13:24-30:

Matthew 13: 36-43

Matthew 13: 47-50:

Matthew 25: 31-46:

Matthew 7: 13-14: Follow a narrow path to eternal life

Luke 12:42-48:

Luke 17:25:

Luke 18: 1-8:

Luke 21: 7-12:

Luke 12: 39-40:

Luke 18: 1-8: Persevering faith and faithfulness in the time that remains before end-time vindication of God's people.

John: The parousia (arrival or active "presence") is here in the Spirit in the community today. We live in the present, confident that God will fulfill his promise to make us His Sons and heirs of eternal life.

John 15: 1-11:

1 John 5:5, 11: Eternal life is a present reality for those of faith.