

Jesus Changes Everything
Jesus Changed the Future (Hebrews 9:23-28)
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WATCH/LISTEN: <https://www.fbcjc.org/sermon/jesus-changed-the-future/>

Jesus Changed Everything including the Future

Mark Lowery Story

Eschatology - last things - proof texting - Matthew 19 - 25

The Death March - 19:1 - Leave Galilee, 20:18-19 - Prophecy, 21 - Triumphal Entry, 21:12 - Temple Teaching (sets clear dividing line between religious leaders and believers and back to Bethany for night), 23 - "Woes", 24-25 Mt of Olives - Disciples "When?" (destruction of Jerusalem and Second Advent)

Jesus' authority, power, and rulership are different from the earth's system. While it is absolute, it is good, it is invitational, and it is healing. He is a great High Priest who can empathize with us. He is also the King who can do something about it. But He exercises His power in a different way than the worldly system. He will "rule with an iron scepter and dash them to pieces like pottery," but only after extending His patience — for He is "not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9).

And so we wait for Him to set this world right. We heard whispers throughout the Old Testament prophecies about the coming of the Messiah, then we saw signs of the Messiah fulfilled in the first Advent recorded in the Gospels. And we eagerly await His second Advent, where His rulership will bring healing and light to this sin-sick world.

Jesus changed traditional (Jewish) thoughts about eschatology.

Psalm 2:7-9, - "I am telling all of you the truth. I have heard the Eternal's decree. He said clearly to me, "You are My son. Today I have become your Father. The nations shall be yours for the asking, and the entire earth will belong to you. They are yours to crush with an iron scepter, yours to shatter like fragile, clay pots." Micah 5:2 - "But you, Bethlehem of Ephrathah, of the clans of Judah, are no poor relation—From your people will come a Ruler who will be the shepherd of My people, Israel, Whose origins date back to the distant past, to the ancient days."

Jewish eschatology in Jesus' day seemed to be concerned with events that will happen at the end of days and related concepts. This includes a Jewish Messiah that would restore Israel and free them from foreign rule, the ingathering of the exiled Jews from around the world, and the coming of peace and prosperity.

I Don't know! - Seminar

What conclusions can we draw from Jesus' teachings concerning last things?

Sudden - Matthew 24:44 - "So you must be ready because you know the Son of Man will come, but you can't know precisely when.", Luke 12:40, "I'm trying to tell you that

these are times for alertness, times requiring a sense of urgency and intensity, because like the master in the first story or the thief in the second, the Son of Man shows up by surprise."

Preparation - Matthew 24:36, - *"No one knows the hour or the day, not even the messengers in heaven, not even the Son. Only the Father knows."* I like to plan ahead. It is difficult to plan ahead when you don't know "when" it is going to take place.

How are we to live now? - Jesus' primary purpose in the incarnation was to restore my relationship to my creator by the atonement for my sin. Secondly, he wanted to teach me how to live in that relationship. Central to that living was the filling of the Holy Spirit into my life. That gives me:

1. Purpose (values) - Zacheus, Rich Young Ruler, Parable of the rich farmer

2. Mission - Not willing that any should perish, Great Commission

3. Assurance - John 10:28-30 - *"I give them a life that is unceasing, and death will not have the last word. Nothing or no one can steal them from My hand. My Father has given the flock to Me, and He is superior to all beings and things. No one is powerful enough to snatch the flock from My Father's hand."* Hebrews 9:28 - *"the Anointed One, our Liberating King, was offered once in death to bear the sins of many and will appear a second time, not to deal again with sin, but to rescue those who eagerly await His return."*

4. Victoriously - 1 John 5:4 - *"This is the victory that has conquered the world: our faith."* I

know who is going to win and it is not based on me being able to follow all the rules - the Ten Commandments, baptism, prayer, reading or memorizing scripture, church attendance or other activities.

The first advent allowed me to enter into a right relationship with God through Jesus' sacrifice for my sin and when I do I need to live with purpose, mission, assurance and victoriously.

Jesus Changed Everything Including the Future