

# Sermon Discussion Guide

**Date:** July 28, 2024

**Sermon:** What We Believe: Last Things

**Preacher:** Jerrod

**Primary Text:** Revelation 21:1-8



## SUMMARY

*Big Idea: Christ will Come Again and Believers will be with Him Forever!*

Fittingly, *Last Things*, is the final message in our What We Believe sermon series. Jesus promised that he will return. Christians divide over questions related to *When* he will come again, as God says clearly, no one knows when. but the Bible tells us the more important answers – **That** he will come, **Why** he will come, **what he will do** when he comes, and **what that means** for us today. Jesus will come to judge the living and the dead, and he will establish a new heavens and earth. The righteous, those who are clothed in Christ’s righteousness through repentance and faith, will be raised, judged and will receive eternal rewards and life with Jesus. The wicked, those who never repented and never savingly believed in Jesus, will be raised, judged, and receive eternal punishment, the second death. Such warning and such hope fuels joy-filled, missional living now.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

“Jesus is coming back,” may be voiced by many. How could you tell if someone really believed this?

### **Death**

1. Read Romans 5:12; 6:23 and Hebrews 9:27-28
2. What makes death an inescapable reality of our world?
3. When was the last time you thought about death? Where have you seen others and yourself getting caught up with trying to avoid death or avoid even thinking about death?
4. Why do you think death and suffering in general can seem to be such big hurdles for belief in God and love for God? Have you been through such a season of doubt? What helped you through it?

### **Jesus will Return to Judge**

5. Read Matthew 24:36, 44; and 2 Peter 3:1-10
6. From these verses, what do we **not** know (and scoffers use for scoffing)?
7. From these verses, what do we know? What does knowing these truths mean for you?

### **Eternity: Reward & Punishment**

8. Which is harder for you to believe, the reality of everlasting joy and comfort in heaven or everlasting torment and terror in hell? Why?
9. How do you respond to the quote from John Piper (paraphrase), “Hell is far worse than we can imagine, and Heaven is far more glorious than we can imagine.”

### **Key Takeaways**

10. How does this teaching fuel your living now?
  - a. Think about how it relates to forgiveness, mission, and the trap of pursuing and desiring all comfort and ease now in this life.