



HOPE OF HEAVEN

WEEK 9 : Matthew 24:3-14, 24:36-39; Revelation 19:11-16, 21:1-8

When Jesus came to Earth over 2000 years ago, He came as a humble, suffering servant. When Christ comes again, He will return as a conquering king to overthrow everything and everyone who is evil, and usher in a Heavenly kingdom. As Christians, we have hope that we will be with Christ forever in this kingdom. We can be confident of this and should do all within our power to help bring as many people with us as we can.

ICE BREAKER (OPTIONAL)

What is something or some event you look forward to every year? What about it makes you so excited?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1) Read Matthew 24:3-14.** What are the warning signs of Christ's return that Jesus mentions? How do you think someone can "endure to the end" despite all the hardship that Jesus describes?
- 2) Read Matthew 24:36-39.** Jesus states that no one knows the day or hour in which He will come again, and when He does, it will be too late for anyone to receive salvation. How does knowing this difficult truth effect your motivation to share the Gospel with others now?
- 3) Read Revelation 19:11-16.** This description of Jesus at his second coming sounds very different than He is described at His first coming, but it's the same Savior. How does reading this description of Jesus effect the way you view Him?
- 4) Read Revelation 21:1-8.** Verses 1-7 describe what Christians have to look forward to when God makes all things new. What stands out to you in these verses? Verse 8 describes the destiny of all people who reject God. Is God unjust to allow people to go to hell? Why or why not?
- 5) Why do you think it is necessary for Christians to always keep the end in mind? Note: The end being when we finally get to be with our Lord in Heaven vs eternity in hell for non-believers.**

YOU AND THE GREATEST STORY

The return of Jesus will either be fulfillment of "our blessed hope" (Titus 2:13) for the believer, or a day of incredible terror for the non-believer. This may sound like a tough reality, and it is! That's why it is so important for us to embrace Jesus as our Savior, to be growing closer to God now, and to be living on mission to spread the Gospel to as many people as possible.

For this last devotion, take time to think about and consider your next steps after this series. Maybe you haven't given your life to Jesus yet, talk with a Christian you know about what the Gospel is and what being a Christian is all about. Maybe you've never read the Bible consistently, make a plan to set aside time every day to read and find a Bible reading plan you will stick to. Maybe you have a friend who isn't saved, pray for this person and commit to at least trying to share the Gospel with them.

Just because this series is over does not mean your growth is. Take your time with God seriously and make Him the #1 priority in your life by seeking Him, obeying what He has commanded, and striving to love others as He has shown His love for us.