

Discussion Class: The Christian View of Reality

Preface

We will discuss what is taught in the Bible as real, what is not real, and what would be an appropriate response. All questions will be considered and all opinions will be respected. Nothing you say here will be held against you.

This is your class. Please feel free to speak up and ask your questions – even though they sound “dumb” to you. If need be, we will all join together to help you sharpen up the question, and develop its implications. I assure you, such questions open the door to very meaningful and profitable truths. We will all be benefited.

I want to encourage spontaneous questions and responses such as “What do you mean by ‘that’?” If you wish you can write your question out and give it to me. With some questions I may ask that we postpone it a week so I can do some research and be able to share better information.

It will be appropriate to ask very practical questions, such as, “Why doesn’t God answer more of our prayers?” or “Why does He heal some people and not others?” or “Why does Satan sometimes seem more powerful than God?” or “Why do I have so much trouble living the Christian life when I’m doing everything the way I’ve been told?”

The goal of this class is not to question or call any Bible truth into question! The goal is to make truth and error more clear and learn how we can relate meaningfully to God and His Kingdom, and to reject the error of the Kingdom of Darkness. I want each one to be an active participant, to enjoy our discussion, and to be able to grow faster in our walk with God. Let’s make our class a spiritual and enjoyable exercise.

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In the broadest terms what is “out there” would be: God, The Kingdom of God, The Kingdom of Darkness, and The Natural World (the universe) which would include us.

Consider how the Bible “looks upon” what is “out there” or “invisible” and yet holds it to be very important, powerful and must be taken into account.

What is presupposed – taken for granted – in the following passages? What commands, promises, or exhortations are found there? What are these commands, promises, and exhortations based upon? How do they apply to us today? How should we respond to such Biblical material?

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Matthew 6:33

For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace. Romans 6:14

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. Romans 8:1

For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints ... Ephesians 1:18

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Ephesians 6:12

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Colossians 1:13,14

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. Hebrews 11:1

But you have come to Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men made perfect, to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. Hebrews 12:22-24

Let's try to pray for one another on a daily basis. Ask God to meet with us, and guide us, so He would be pleased and glorified with our discussion, and that He would teach us how to love Him and one another more.

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