

The One Thing that Matters Most

Revelation 20:11-21:8

Kinds of lines

A line segment: has a start and an end

- The world as we know it. Human physical lives

A ray: has a start but no end

- Human spiritual lives

A line: limitless in both directions

- God

"Show me, LORD, my life's end and the number of my days; let me know how fleeting my life is." Psalm 39:4-6

Jesus taught: this "age" will end

Matthew 13:39-40; 49-50; 24:3

20:11-15

21:1-2

21:3-5

21:6-8

21:22, 27



Celebrating Communion		
Our good, holy Creator God	God's grace as Savior	Coming King who perfects creation
The tragic reality of sin	Faith to receive & give forgiveness	Living on God's Mission

The Big Idea

Each person's eternal destiny hinges on a single question:

Is my trust in the Lord Jesus Christ?

Jesus: historical life, death, and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth

Christ: God's provision of a Savior

Lord: God Himself

God's judgment IS NOT based on the degree of our moral goodness

God's judgment IS based on our citizenship in the new Jerusalem

"Babylon": The kingdom of this age

The Books

Our lives reveal our true home:

mixture of good and bad

Everyone's natural state

"Jerusalem": The Holy City from Heaven

The Book of Life

Putting one's trust in the Lord Jesus Christ

"Sins" not counted against them

"Jesus is my Savior and King"

Application

Put our trust in the Lord Jesus Christ

Whatever my questions, failures, troubles...

Trust in Him as Savior King

Never leave this trust (no matter our theology)

Sins not counted against us

AND a determined pursuit to leave sin

and to follow Jesus by the Spirit's power in us

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"

"We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." 2 Corinthians 5:17, 20-21

Reflection Questions for later today or this week...

1. Is your name written in the Book of Life? How do you know?
2. What might tempt you to waver in your trust in Jesus?
3. How does trust in the Lord Jesus Christ relate to our certainty that we will continue to fall short of God's standards?
4. Whom do you know who needs to know this Good News?
How might you appeal to them to be reconciled to God in Jesus?

Conversation starters with people in daily life, whether or not they are Christians

What is the central message of Christianity?

