

Life Group Notes

Sunday 14th May 2023

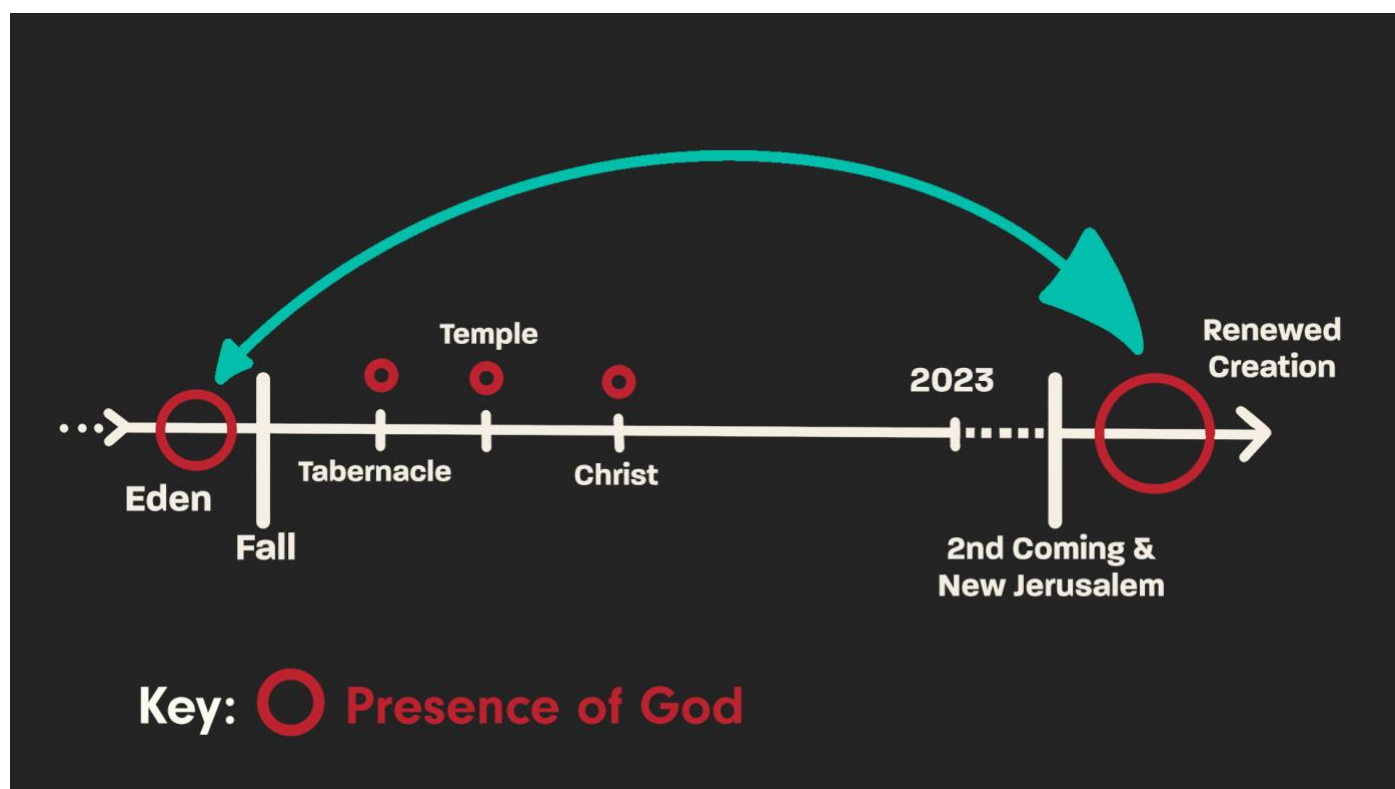
Speaker: Sean Green

Title: The Apostles' Creed: We don't need a bucket list

Passage: -

The resurrection of the body: (1Cor 15v42-44, 49) A believer's death is important to God, but death has lost its grip on us. So it's appropriate to mourn but with Christian Hope. At Jesus' Second Coming, those who have already died will be raised to life and receive their glorified bodies that are both Imperishable and recognisable. Life everlasting is as much about the quality of the life everlasting as it is the duration.

The Life everlasting: Eden (garden) and New Jerusalem (city) are related, Eden as a signpost to the better, renewed creation. In New Jerusalem, we receive a resurrection body with no link with Adam (so no impulse to sin). In the garden they were able to choose whether they cultivated righteous or unrighteous things. We can only choose righteousness in the renewed creation (that's way better). In the garden they were cultivated and subdued by the serpent. In the renewed Creation we will be eternally free from the serpent's cultivation, or capacity to sin.



The Renewed Creation is our final & permanent home: It is a place where God will once again dwell with His people; a place of reunions; where we will understand why & have accurate knowledge; a place of beauty beyond imagination.

In a sense it is easier to say what won't be in renewed Creation than what will be there:

- No Satan nor Sin (It's Power, Presence or Penalty).
- No warfare within ourselves or around us.
- No Sorrow, Pain, Sacrifice or Separation (No sea).
- No living by faith.
- No effects of the Fall / curse (growling dogs?)

SO WHAT?

It matters how we live: We shouldn't treat the earth like a hotel room. God made it, declared it good, asked us to steward it, and He's going to renew it.

Cultivate a longing: Don't allow your questions of how it will happen, get in the way of cultivating a hope and desire for it to happen.

You don't need a bucket list: Our lack of longing for age to come is a product of our enjoyment and comforts of our today... and a shallow understanding of what the renewed will be like. Much of what we want to do now, we can do in the everlasting life, but free from the frailties of our flesh and impact of sin.

Suggested Questions:

1. What comes to mind when you think about your death and resurrection body?
2. What wasn't included on the diagram (e.g. Judgment?)
3. What aspects of life everlasting can you start to cultivate?