Doctrinal Statement

Eschatology

Scotty Williams

April 11, 2025

Everyone will experience both a spiritual and physical death (Gen. 3:19-24; John 3:1-8). Those who put their faith in Jesus are spiritually regenerated by the indwelling of His Spirit (Rom. 6). Upon their physical death their body, soul and spirit, will enter into the presence of God in His current dwelling place, paradise, in an intermediate state, experiencing the conscious love and presence of God, until the ultimate resurrection of the renewed heaven and earth, where all who believe will live in a glorified, fuller sense of the bodily, resurrected self, in the renewed heaven and earth (Luke 23:39-43; Col. 3:1-4; Rev 21-22). Those who do not put their faith in Jesus are not born again, and upon their physical death, cease to inhabit any of the Divine's image, are left in this demise, and do not reside in God's presence (Matt. 7:21-23; 2 Thes. 1:9).

Jesus' life, death and resurrection proved victorious over the evil one, destroying the powers and authorities of death (1 Cor. 15:21-28; Acts 2:24), reconciling and restoring the union between God and man (Gal. 2:20; Rom. 5:8-11), and inaugurated God's kingdom on earth (Matt. 12:28). As a result, God's kingdom is present, in partiality, in the present age as Jesus reigns on His heavenly, Davidic, throne (Acts 2:29-36). The Old Testament "millennial" prophecies are fulfilled spiritually in the Church, and while it will experience much tribulation in the present age, we remain on mission, advancing the good news of Jesus' reign (Dan. 7; Mark 16:15). At a day and time unknown, Jesus will personally return to judge all people, both on earth and in the intermediate state (Matt. 24:36-37; 2 Cor. 5:10). On that day, all who believed will eternally experience the promised resurrection to share in the new and glorious embodied reality and unblemished state of His dwelling presence in God's renewed heaven and earth (Col. 3:1-4; Rev. 21-22). All who did not believe will be condemned, including the adversary and the principalities in the dominion of darkness, where they will be casted out, completely removed from the presence of God and into in a state of eternal desolation (Rev. 20:11-15; Rev. 22:15).