

The Story

Chapter 12 – The Story That Never Ends

Class Notes

May 12th, 2021

1 An Unrecognized Problem

2 In Christ, you are now part of an eternally unfolding story.

➤ "_____ " at the conclusion of the story doesn't exist.

- See **Matthew 28:18-20; John 14:1-3**.

➤ *The Breaking of the Fear of Death*

- **Hebrews 2:14-15 (ESV) — 14** Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, **15** and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

- _____ story + distress + shortcomings = hopelessness

- _____ story + distress + shortcomings = hope

➤ *What happens when you die?*

- **2 Corinthians 5:6-10 (ESV) — 6** So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, **7** for we walk by faith, not by sight. **8** Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. **9** So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. **10** For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

3 At the End of Earth's Story (This Age)

- See **Matthew 24 and 25**.
- The Increase of Deception, Environmental Distress, _____, and Violence
- The Increase of " _____ "
- The Establishment of False _____
- Be ready! The Coming of Christ comes _____.
- The Judgement of all Life
 - The Two Books (**Revelation 20:11-15; 1 Corinthians 3:12-15**)
 - **Revelation 20:11–15 (ESV)** — **11** Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. **12** And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. **13** And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. **14** Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. **15** And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

4 The New Earth, The New Jerusalem, and Heaven

- A Few Key Scriptures:
 - **Hebrews 12:1–2 (ESV)** — **1** Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, **2** looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.
 - **Matthew 22:29–32 (ESV)** — **29** But Jesus answered them, "You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God. **30** For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. **31** And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God: **32** 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not God of the dead, but of the living."
 - **Revelation 21:1–4 (ESV)** — **1** Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. **2** And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. **3** And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. **4** He will wipe

away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

- **Revelation 22:1–5 (ESV)** — **1** Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb **2** through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. **3** No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. **4** They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. **5** And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

- A Place of _____
- A Place of Broader _____
- A Place of Purified _____
- A Place of God's Full _____ and _____
- A Place of Unbounded _____
- A Place of _____
- A Place of a Larger _____
- A Place of Free _____
- A Place of Unbounded _____ and _____