

Some Thoughts on the Age to Come

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What is the ultimate end of history?

How do I prepare for it today?

Three Presuppositions

1. Life is a gift
2. The gift includes freedom
3. We have a destiny

Comparing Jesus and Paul:

Jesus's primary theme was the Kingdom of God, or God's sovereign rule. The primary ethic from his teaching is be merciful.

Paul's primary theme was life "in Christ." By this Paul meant the church. Paul saw the church as the physical body of Christ on earth, an alternative society in which people experience the presence, or Spirit, of God. The primary ethic from his teaching revolves around being the church in the world.

1. Both taught that life continues after death
(Jn. 3.16; 6.47; 2 Cor. 5.1-5)
2. After death we will encounter a transforming judgment
(Jn. 5.28-29; 2 Cor. 5.6-10; 1 Cor. 3.10-17)
3. Both taught there is an age to come after the transformative judgment
(Matt. 19.28-30; 1 Cor. 15.24-28; 6.2-3)
4. And both taught that this life prepares us for the age to come

Three Conclusions:

1. Give your presence to the people in your life
2. Develop your soul
3. Give yourself away