A Quiz: Test your knowledge of eschatology!

© Evert van Voorthuizen, July 2021.
Email: preteristadvocate@gmail.com.

Bible Version
Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®).
Copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
The ESV text may not be quoted in any publication made available to the public by a Creative Commons license.
The ESV may not be translated in whole or in part into any other language.

The timing of Jesus' return

1. Within what time frame did Jesus promise to return?
   Mt 16:27-28; 24:34; Mk 8:38 – 9:1.
2. What is the meaning of "this generation" in Matthew 24:34 (and parallels: Mark 13:30, Luke 21:32)?
   Mt 11:16 (= Lk 7:31); 12:41-42 (= Lk 11:29-32); 12:45; 23:35-36 (= Lk 11:50-51); Mk 8:12; Lk 17:25.
3. What major event (amongst others) would be associated with his coming, and how does this relate to the Great Tribulation?
   Mt 24:1-3, 15-21.
4. Who would witness these events?
   Mt 24:6, 15, 20, 44.
5. How might the (seemingly) contradictory statements of Matthew 24:34 and 24:36 be reconciled?
6. What is the "end of the age" (Mt 24:3, ESV), and how does it differ from the end of the world?
   (Clue: it relates to Jewish expectations about the messianic kingdom.)
7. Which disciple was expected to live until Jesus returned, and why?
   Jn 21:22-23.
8. In the 60s AD "scoffers" began to assert that Jesus had not fulfilled his promise to return (2Pet 3:3-4).
   Which promise(s) did they have in mind, and why could they so confidently assert such?
   Who were these scoffers? Were they the same men as those mentioned in Jude 1:18-19?
   Mt 16:27-28; 23:35-38; 24:30, 34; 26:64.

Paul

1. When did Paul expect Jesus to return?
   Php 4:5b.
2. Whom did Paul expect would live until Jesus returned?
   1Thes 4:15; 5:2-5; 2Thes 1:7; 2:1-3; 1Tim 6:14.
3. Whom did Paul expect would live until the Resurrection?
   1Cor 15:51.

Hebrews

1. When did the author expect the Judgment to take place?
   Heb 10:25.
2. Who would be judged?
   Heb 10:30 (which cites Dt 32:35-36).
3. When did he expect Jesus to return?
   Heb 10:37.
4. What was "becoming obsolete and growing old" and "ready to vanish away" (Heb 8:13)?
   How does this relate to the "removal of things that [can be] shaken" (Heb 12:27), and to the author's warnings about judgment?

James

1. When were the "last days" according to James?
   Jas 5:3.
2. When did James expect Jesus to return, and the Judgment to take place?
   Jas 5:7-9.
3. Who would be judged?
   Jas 5:1-6, 9.

Peter

1. What were Peter's readers undergoing?
   1Pet 1:7; 4:12.
2. When did Peter expect "the end of all things" to take place?
   1Pet 4:7.
3. When did Peter expect the Judgment[1] to take place?
   1Pet 4:5, 17.
4. Who would be judged?
   1Pet 4:5, 17.
5. How might all this relate to 2 Peter 3:7-12: the destruction of the heavens and the earth by fire.

John

1. What "hour" was it when John wrote?
   1Jn 2:18.
2. What can we infer about the nature and teaching of the "antichrists" mentioned by John?
   1Jn 2:18-19, 22-23; 4:1-3; 2Jn 1:7.

[1] 1 Peter 4:17 (Greek text): τὸ κρίμα (*to krima*) = THE Judgment.

Jude

1. When was the "last time" according to Jude?
   Jude 1:18.
2. Who would be judged, and when?
   Jude 1:14-19.
3. What does Jude mean by contending "for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 1:3)? How might his own expectations of imminent judgment relate to this body or system of doctrine that the apostles taught and that the Church believed from its inception?

Revelation

1. When were the visions of Revelation to be fulfilled?
   Rev 1:1, 3; 22:6, 10.
2. When was Jesus coming?
   Rev 22:7, 12, 20.
3. Who would witness his coming?
   Rev 1:7; 2:5, 16, 25; 3:3, 11.
   What does this suggest about the nature of that coming?
4. What was about to break out, and who would be affected?
   Rev 3:10.
5. Who is the "great city" that is judged (Rev 18:16, 18-19) and what nasty names is she called?
   Rev 11:8; 17:5.
6. What was the city's crime? How does that relate to what Jesus had foretold?
   Rev 17:6; 18:24; cf. Mt 23:34-36.
7. Who are the two women of Revelation, and how are they related?
   Revelation 17 – 18, and 21 – 22.
8. How might John's visions relate to the prophecies of Isaiah?
   Isa 1:10, 21, 26; 2:1-4.
9. What "king" was reigning when John wrote (Rev 17:10)?
   Clue: Julius, Augustus, Tiberius, Caligula, Claudius, Nero (54-68 AD), Galba (reigned just 7 months).
10. If Revelation's visions are prophetic, when must the book have been written?
    Clue: Nero's persecution lasted from 64-68 AD; the Jewish-Roman War lasted from 66-70 AD.
11. How many millennia are there in Revelation 20:1-6?
    Where is Satan, and where are the martyrs, during these millennia?
12. How do these millennia relate to each other?
    Clue: Satan's release results in deception, persecution, and martyrdom.
13. How many resurrections are there in Revelation 20?
    Rev 20:5; 20:11-15.

Nature of our deliverance

1. From what/whom does Jesus rescue his people?
   Mt 1:21; Jn 8:31-36, 51; Col 1:13-14.

Nature of the Resurrection

1. What was the inheritance longed for by the Old Testament (OT) saints, and how would they enter into it?
   Heb 11:10, 16, 35.
2. When were they to receive this, and why did they have to wait so long?
   Heb 11:39-40.
3. Where did these OT saints go to when they died?
   Clue: Where did Jesus and the repentant thief go to when they died (Lk 23:43)?
4. Where do we go to when we die?
   2Cor 5:8; Php 1:23.
5. What does this difference imply about the timing and nature of the Resurrection?
6. What sort of body will we get when we die?
   1Cor 15:44, 50; 2Cor 5:1-10.
7. What is the significance of the "keys" in Revelation 1:18, and what is the nature of the Resurrection in Revelation 20:11ff.?
8. How has death been "abolished" for Christians?
   Jn 8:51; 11:25-26; 2Tim 1:10.
9. Hymenaeus was "jumping the gun" with respect to the Resurrection (2Tim 2:17-18).
   From his error, what can we infer about what Paul had been teaching concerning the nature and timing of the Resurrection?

The Judgment

1. Whom would God send before Judgment Day, and who fulfilled this prophecy?
   Mal 4:5; Mt 11:14; 17:10-13; Lk 1:17.
2. John's threat of judgment was directed at whom, and how far off was that judgment?
   Mt 3:7-12.
3. What does the Parable of the Ten Minas suggest about the timing of the Judgment?
   Luke 19:11-27.
4. Who were waiting for, and could even "hasten", the coming Day of Judgment?
   2Pet 3:12.
5. Who constitute Jesus' "brothers" in the Sheep – Goats Judgment (Mt 25:40)?
   Mt 10:40-42; 12:49-50; cf. Ac 9:4-5.
6. What does Revelation 22:11 imply about the timing of the Judgment?

New heaven and earth and New Jerusalem

1. Who was expecting the imminent arrival of these?
   2 Peter 3:12-13; Rev 21:1; 22:6, 10.
2. According to Isaiah, what activities will people indulge in in the New Jerusalem, and how old will they be when they die?
   Isaiah 65:17-25.
3. Who is Christ's "Bride"?
   Rev 21:2, 9; 22:17; Eph 5:25ff.
4. What are the two locations of this city?
   Rev 21:2, 10; Heb 12:22; 13:14.
5. Are believers already citizens of this city, and if so, how?
   Gal 4:26; Php 3:20; Heb 12:22; cf. Eph 2:6.
6. How might the city itself relate to the surrounding new heaven and earth?
   Clue: How does London relate to the rest of the U.K.?
7. Who rules from the city, and over what?
   Rev 5:10; 22:5.
8. What is the significance of the twelve foundations of the city's wall?
   Rev 21:14; Eph 2:20.
9. What is significant about the city's shape, and what does that mean for its citizens?
   Rev 21:16; 1Kgs 6:20; Eze 41:4; Rev 1:6; 5:10; 7:15; Heb 10:19.
10. Who dwells within the city?
    Rev 21:27.
11. Who lives in the new heaven and earth but outside the city's walls?
    Rev 22:15.
12. How can those outside enter the city?
    Who invites them in?
    Once inside, what can they partake of?
    Rev 22:14, 17.
13. What spiritual blessings does the city impart to the world?
    Rev 21:24; 22:2.
    Is this a description of eternity, or of the present gospel/kingdom/Church age?
14. How might the New (or heavenly) Jerusalem relate to OT prophecy?
    Clue: OT prophets spoke of Jerusalem's restoration following judgment, and the return of the exiles to the city. And of the city being holy, with Yahweh dwelling therein.
    See for example, Isaiah 1:25 – 2:4; 44:28; 45:13; 65:19ff.; Zechariah 8:3.
15. Through whom is Jerusalem restored and the exiles gathered?
    Isaiah 53; 54:1 (cf. Gal 4:27).
16. How might this city relate to the Resurrection?
    Rev 22:7-8; cf. 20:13-15.

Fulfillment of Prophecy

1. The OT prophets spoke about which time?
   Ac 3:18, 24; 1Pet 1:10-12.
2. What was promised to Abraham, and how are those promises fulfilled?
   Rom 4:13; Gal 3:8, 14, 16; cf. Gen 12:3; 17:8; 22:18.
3. What was promised to King David?
   2Sam 7:11-16.
4. What sort of kingdom was foretold?
   Psalm 72.
5. With the failure of David's line, and with the nation's demise and exile, how would God's promises be fulfilled?
   Isa 7:14; 9:6-7; 11:1-10; Isaiah 40 – 66.
6. Where would David's heir rule from?
   Ps 2:6; Ps 110:1-2; Dan 7:13-14.
7. What does his ruling "with a rod of iron" (Ps 2:9; Rev 12:5) imply?
8. What were godly Jews eagerly anticipating around the time of Jesus' birth?
   Lk 2:25, 38.
9. What did Gabriel promise to Mary about her son's kingdom?
   Lk 1:32-33.
10. When was the kingdom "at hand", and when would it "come with power"?
    Mt 3:2; 4:17; 10:7; Mk 9:1.
11. Why is the proclamation of the kingdom integral to the gospel?
    Ac 8:12; 19:8; 20:25; 28:23, 31.
12. Has David's throne been restored, and if so, how?
    Ac 2:30-36; Rev 11:15.
13. How are the nations Jesus' reward and inheritance, and how does he win them?
    Ps 2:8; Mt 28:18-19.
14. How do David's military conquests relate to the gospel?
    Ac 15:16-18; Rom 15:9; cf. Am 9:11-12; Ps 18:43-50.
15. When did Paul view Isaiah 11 as being fulfilled?
    How was the depicted peace — the harmony between diverse animals (Isa 11:6-9) — fulfilled?
    Romans 15:12, which cites Isaiah 11:10. Cf. Isa 2:1-4; 11:6-9; 19:23-25; 65:25; Rom 15:5-13; Eph 2:14-15.
16. How does John's last vision — that of the new creation / New Jerusalem — tie together the various strands of OT prophecy? Relate what John saw to:
    God's covenant promises to Abraham and to Israel; his promise to David of a lasting dynasty and kingdom; his promises concerning Jerusalem's restoration, with his people delivered and gathered from exile.
    Relate this to the vision's Edenic imagery (water and tree of life; no more banishment, death, or curse); to its tabernacle/temple imagery; to the marriage of Christ and his Bride.