

## **Eschatology, Session 1: Overview; 6/18/2025**

Current Issues: Israel and Iran; Ted Cruz on Tucker Carlson... etc.

-Preview of study and calendar.

### **Session 2: Role of Prophecy Part 1; 6/25/25**

-Prophetic Roles of forthtelling and foretelling: Dt 28-32 and the Prophets.

-“Day of the LORD” or “that day” and the eschaton

### **Session 3: Role of Prophecy Part 2; 7/9/25**

-Hermeneutics and types of language: apocalyptic, analogical and symbolic.

-Literal Interpretation not sufficient, grammatical historical and orthodoxical preferred.

-Multiple fulfillments

### **Session 4: Last Days According to Jesus; 7/16/25**

-Jesus predicted what would be done “soon” or “quickly.”

-Individual gospel accounts; examining them individually.

### **Session 5: Partial Preterism; 7/23/25**

-Most of what is considered future things was already fulfilled in 70AD with the destruction of the temple and associated siege and aftermath.

\*lay out evidence for the historical case from Josephus and others

-The exception is the bodily return of Christ and final judgement (the next thing on the eschatological calendar other than the continuing and expanding reign of Christ among the nations [postmill]).

### **Session 6: The Case for the Early Dating of Revelation; 7/30/25**

-Evidence

-Purpose: Divorce of Israel

### **Session 7: Millennial Issues Part 1 (Rev 20); 8/6/25**

-Premillennial (dispensationalism) and Historic

\*all tribulation and rapture issues/questions are a subset of this

\*Late Great Planet Earth and other nonsense

\*Israel and American Politics

## Session 9: Millennial Issues Part 2; 8/13/25

- Amillennial: now/not yet
- Postmillennial: hope of the nations

## Session 10: Final Things; 8/20/25

- The Resurrection of the Dead
- The Great White Throne Judgement
- The Judgement Seat of Christ
- The New Heavens and New Earth

TODAY:

**I. Definition of Eschatology: study of last things.** Post death. Eschaton or eternity (see session 2 below). The Greek word translated “eschatos” can mean several things but for our purposes, means final or end. It only occurs seven times in the Greek NT and only means final or ends. **Meanings:** *Eschaton* is used as an adjective meaning "last" or "final" in:

- **Temporal sequence** (e.g., Mark 12:6, 1 Corinthians 15:8).
- **Spatial or social rank** (e.g., Luke 14:9–10, "lowest" place).
- **Monetary units** (e.g., Matthew 5:26, Luke 12:59, "last" penny/mite).
- **Eschatological sense** (e.g., 1 Corinthians 15:26, "last" enemy, tied to end-times victory).
- Definition of “telos”: **end or point**. Teleology vs Eschatology
- **Distinction from τέλος:** While τέλος (telos) often means "end" as completion, purpose, or outcome (e.g., Matthew 24:6), ἔσχατον emphasizes being the "last" in a series, time, or rank. Only 1 Corinthians 15:26 has a clear eschatological (end-times) connotation.

**II. Essentials:** The Scriptures and the creeds affirm the same things. Anyone who does not affirm these is not Christian (heretic), regardless of whatever else they believe about God and man.

**Physical return of Christ** (Matt 24:30–31, 26:64; John 14:2–3; Acts 1:9–11; Phil 3:20–21; 1 Thes 4:16–17; Titus 2:13; Heb 9:28; 2 Pt 3:10–12; Rev 1:7)

**Resurrection of the dead** (Dan 12:2; Matt 22:31–32; Lk 14:14; Jn 5:28–29, 11:24–25; Acts 4:2, 17:31–32, 24:15; Rom 6:5; 1 Cor 15:12–24, 15:51–52; Phil 3:20–21; 1 Thess 4:14–16; Heb 6:2; Rev 11:18, 20:4–6, 20:12–13)

**Judgement** (Matt 7:21–23, 10:15, 11:22–24, 12:36–37, 12:41–42, 25:31–46; Jn 5:22–29, 12:48; Acts 10:42, 17:31; Rom 2:5–16, 14:10–12; 2 Cor 5:10; Heb 9:27, 10:27; 2 Pet 2:9, 3:7; Jude 6, 14–15; Rev 11:18, 20:11–15)

**Eternity in heaven and hell** (Matt 19:16–29, 25:46; Jn 3:16, 3:36, 5:28–29, 6:40, 10:28, 17:2–3; Rom 2:7, 6:22–23; Gal 6:8; 2 Thess 1:9; Heb 5:9; 2 Pet 2:9; Jude 7, 21; Rev 14:9–11, 20:10, 20:14–15, 21:6–8)

**The creeds DO NOT mention “the tribulation” or “millennium”.**

“He [Jesus Christ] will come again to judge the living and the dead....” “I believe in... the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.” Apostles Creed 2<sup>nd</sup> Century

“He [Jesus Christ] will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end...” “We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.” -Nicene Creed 325AD

“We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.” “He [Christ] shall come to judge the quick and the dead. At whose coming all men shall rise again with their bodies; and shall give account for their own works. And they that have done good shall go into life everlasting; and they that have done evil, into everlasting fire.” -Athanasian Creed 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Century

### III. **Purpose** or “telos” of the study:

#### A. Eschatology **gives meaning** to the present.

##### 1. **Victory** of Christ over Satan. Christus Victor!

Luke 1:33 “He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

Mark 3:26 “And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but he is finished!” or “he is ended” or “has an end”.

Rev 1:8, 21:6, 22:13 “I am the alpha and omega, the beginning and the end.”

##### 2. **Personal relationships**

2Cor 1:13-14 “For we write nothing else to you than what you read and understand, and I hope you will understand until the end,<sup>14</sup> just as you also partially did understand us, that we are your reason for boasting as you also are ours, in the day of our Lord Jesus.”

#### B. Future accountability and reward are **motivational**.

##### 1. **Perseverance of the saints: salvation to those who endure**.

Matt 10:22 “But the one who endures to the end will be saved.”

Heb 3:14 “For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end”

Heb 6:8 “but if it yields thorns and thistles, it is unfit and close to being cursed, and its end is to be burned.”

Heb 6:11 “And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence so as to realize the full assurance of hope until the end”

1Pt 1:9 “receiving as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls”

## **2. Punishment to the lost. Motivation to be saved.**

2Cor 11:15 “Therefore it is not surprising if his ministers also disguise themselves as ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their deeds.

Phil 3:19 “whose end is destruction, whose god is *their* stomach and glory is in their shame, who set their thoughts on earthly things.”

1Thess 2:14-16 “For you, brothers, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea, for you also suffered the same things at the hands of your own countrymen, even as they *did* from the Jews, <sup>15</sup>who both killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets, and drove us out, and do not please God, and *are* hostile to all men, <sup>16</sup>hindering us from speaking to the Gentiles so that they may be saved; with the result that they always fill up the measure of their sins. But wrath has come upon them to the utmost.”

**3. Personal holiness. Motivation to be pure and righteous.** Rom 6:21-22 “Therefore what benefit were you then having from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. <sup>22</sup>But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you have your benefit, leading to sanctification, and the end, eternal life.”

### **Additional information:**

The Greek word **τέλος** (telos) appears in the New Testament with various meanings, primarily "end," "goal," "purpose," or "completion," depending on context.

### **Summary of Meanings:**

- **Eschatological/Temporal End:** Most common (e.g., Matt. Matthew 24:6, Mark 13:7, 1 Cor. 15:24), referring to the end of the age, trials, or history.
- **Outcome/Result:** (e.g., Matt. Matthew 26:24, Rom. Romans 6:6, James 21, James 5:11), meaning the conclusion of a process.
- **Goal/Purpose:** (e.g., Rom. Romans 10:10, 1 Tim. Timothy 4:1), indicating the aim or intent.
- **Completion/Fulfillment:** (e.g., Luke 22:37, John 13:37), signifying fulfillment or full extent.
- **Continuity:** (e.g., Luke 18:18, 1 Thess. 5, Thessalonians 2:16), meaning "continually" or "to the utmost."
- **Eternal/Divine Scope:** (e.g., Rev. Revelation 1:6, 21:6, 22:13), describing God's eternal nature.

Below is a comprehensive list of its occurrences in the Greek New Testament (based on the Nestle-Aland/UBS critical text) with brief explanations of its usage:

1. **Matthew 10:22** – "ὁ δὲ ὑπομείνας εἰς τέλος οὗτος σωθήσεται"
  - Translation: "But the one who endures to the end will be saved."
  - Usage: Here, *telos* refers to the "end" in a temporal sense, likely pointing to the end of trials, persecution, or eschatological events.
2. **Matthew 24:6** – "μέλλήσετε δὲ ἀκούειν πολέμους... οὐπω ἐστὶν τὸ τέλος"
  - Translation: "You will hear of wars... but the end is not yet."
  - Usage: *Telos* denotes the "end" in an eschatological context, referring to the ultimate conclusion of events before Christ's return.
3. **Matthew 24:13** – "ὁ δὲ ὑπομείνας εἰς τέλος οὗτος σωθήσεται"
  - Translation: Same as Matthew 10:22, emphasizing endurance until the "end."
  - Usage: Identical to Matthew 10:22, focusing on the temporal or eschatological end.
4. **Matthew 24:14** – "κηρυχθήσεται τοῦτο τὸ εὐαγγέλιον... εἰς μαρτύριον πᾶσιν τοῖς ἔθνεσιν, καὶ τότε ἔξει τὸ τέλος"
  - Translation: "This gospel will be preached... as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come."
  - Usage: *Telos* refers to the eschatological "end" of the age.
5. **Matthew 26:58** – "ὁ δὲ Πέτρος ἠκολούθει αὐτῷ... ἕως τῆς αὐλῆς τοῦ ἀρχιερέως... ἰδεῖν τὸ τέλος"
  - Translation: "Peter followed him... to the courtyard of the high priest... to see the outcome."
  - Usage: *Telos* means "outcome" or "result," referring to the conclusion of Jesus' trial.
6. **Mark 3:26** – "εἰ ὁ Σατανᾶς ἀνέστη ἐφ' ἑαυτὸν... οὐ δύναται σταθῆναι ἀλλὰ τέλος ἔχει"
  - Translation: "If Satan rises against himself... he cannot stand, but has an end."
  - Usage: *Telos* indicates the "end" or "destruction" of Satan's power.
7. **Mark 13:7** – "ὅταν δὲ ἀκούσητε πολέμους... οὐπω τὸ τέλος"
  - Translation: "When you hear of wars... the end is not yet."

- Usage: Similar to Matthew 24:6, referring to the eschatological "end."
- 8. **Mark 13:13** – "ὁ δὲ ὑπομείνας εἰς τέλος οὗτος σωθήσεται"
  - Translation: Same as Matthew 10:22 and 24:13.
  - Usage: Endurance until the "end" (temporal or eschatological).
- 9. **Luke 1:33** – "βασιλεύσει ἐπὶ τὸν οἶκον Ἰακώβ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας, καὶ τῆς βασιλείας αὐτοῦ οὐκ ἔσται τέλος"
  - Translation: "He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."
  - Usage: *Telos* means "end" in the sense of termination, emphasizing the eternal nature of Christ's kingdom.
- 10. **Luke 18:5** – "ἵνα μὴ εἰς τέλος ἐρχομένη ὑπωπιάζῃ με"
  - Translation: "Lest by her continual coming she wear me out."
  - Usage: *Telos* here means "continually" or "to the end," indicating persistence over time.
- 11. **Luke 21:9** – "ὅταν δὲ ἀκούσητε πολέμους... οὐπω τὸ τέλος"
  - Translation: "When you hear of wars... the end is not yet."
  - Usage: Like Matthew 24:6 and Mark 13:7, referring to the eschatological "end."
- 12. **Luke 22:37** – "τὸ περὶ ἐμοῦ τέλος ἔχει"
  - Translation: "What is written about me is reaching its fulfillment."
  - Usage: *Telos* means "fulfillment" or "completion," referring to the accomplishment of prophecy about Jesus.
- 13. **John 13:1** – "πρὸ δὲ τῆς ἑορτῆς τοῦ πάσχα... ἠγάπησεν αὐτοὺς εἰς τέλος"
  - Translation: "Before the Feast of Passover... he loved them to the end."
  - Usage: *Telos* can mean "to the end" (fully, completely) or "to the utmost," emphasizing the extent of Jesus' love.
- 14. **Acts 7:19** – "οὗτος κατεσοφίσατο τὸ γένος ἡμῶν... ἕως τοῦ τέλους" (some manuscripts)
  - Translation: "He dealt shrewdly with our race... until the end."
  - Usage: *Telos* (if present in the manuscript) means "end" or "outcome." Note: Some texts omit *telos* here.
- 15. **Romans 6:21** – "τίνα οὖν καρπὸν εἶχετε τότε... ὧν νῦν ἐπαισχύνεσθε; τὸ γὰρ τέλος ἐκείνων θάνατος"
  - Translation: "What fruit did you have then... of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death."
  - Usage: *Telos* means "end" or "result," referring to the consequence (death) of sin.
- 16. **Romans 6:22** – "νυνὶ δὲ... τὸ δὲ τέλος ζωὴν αἰώνιον"
  - Translation: "But now... the end is eternal life."
  - Usage: *Telos* means "end" or "result," referring to the outcome of a life in Christ (eternal life).
- 17. **Romans 10:4** – "τέλος γὰρ νόμου Χριστὸς εἰς δικαιοσύνην παντὶ τῷ πιστεύοντι"
  - Translation: "For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes."

- Usage: *Telos* can mean "end" (termination) or "goal/purpose," suggesting Christ fulfills or completes the law's purpose.
- 18. 1 Corinthians 1:8** – "ὅς καὶ βεβαιώσει ὑμᾶς ἕως τέλους ἀνεγκλήτους"
- Translation: "Who will sustain you to the end, blameless."
  - Usage: *Telos* refers to the "end," likely the eschatological return of Christ.
- 19. 1 Corinthians 10:11** – "ἐπ' οὗς τὰ τέλη τῶν αἰώνων κατήντηκεν"
- Translation: "Upon whom the ends of the ages have come."
  - Usage: *Telos* (plural here) refers to the "ends" or "culmination" of historical ages, pointing to the eschatological era.
- 20. 1 Corinthians 15:24** – "εἴτα τὸ τέλος, ὅταν παραδιδῷ τὴν βασιλείαν τῷ θεῷ"
- Translation: "Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God."
  - Usage: *Telos* refers to the eschatological "end" when Christ's reign is consummated.
- 21. 2 Corinthians 1:13** – "οὐ γὰρ ἄλλα γράφομεν ὑμῖν ἀλλ' ἢ ἃ ἀναγινώσκετε... ἕως τέλους"
- Translation: "We write nothing else to you than what you read... until the end."
  - Usage: *Telos* means "end" in a temporal sense, likely until the eschatological end or completion.
- 22. 2 Corinthians 3:13** – "οὐ καθάπερ Μωϋσῆς... πρὸς τὸ μὴ ἀτενίσαι τοὺς υἱοὺς Ἰσραὴλ εἰς τὸ τέλος τοῦ καταργουμένου"
- Translation: "Not like Moses... to prevent the Israelites from staring at the end of what was fading away."
  - Usage: *Telos* likely means "end" or "outcome," referring to the fading glory of the old covenant.
- 23. 2 Corinthians 11:15** – "ὧν τὸ τέλος ἔσται κατὰ τὰ ἔργα αὐτῶν"
- Translation: "Whose end will be according to their deeds."
  - Usage: *Telos* means "end" or "destiny," referring to the final judgment of false apostles.
- 24. Philippians 3:19** – "ὧν τὸ τέλος ἀπώλεια"
- Translation: "Whose end is destruction."
  - Usage: *Telos* refers to the "end" or "final outcome" (destruction) for those who live as enemies of the cross.
- 25. 1 Thessalonians 2:16** – "ἔφθασεν δὲ ἐπ' αὐτοὺς ἡ ὀργὴ εἰς τέλος"
- Translation: "But wrath has come upon them to the utmost."
  - Usage: *Telos* means "to the end" or "fully," indicating the completeness of God's judgment.
- 26. 1 Timothy 1:5** – "τὸ δὲ τέλος τῆς παραγγελίας ἐστὶν ἀγάπη"
- Translation: "The goal of this instruction is love."
  - Usage: *Telos* means "goal" or "purpose," referring to the aim of Paul's teaching.
- 27. Hebrews 3:14** – "μέτοχοι γὰρ τοῦ Χριστοῦ γεγόναμεν, ἐάνπερ τὴν ἀρχὴν τῆς ὑποστάσεως μέχρι τέλους βεβαίαν κατασχῶμεν"
- Translation: "We have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our confidence firm until the end."
  - Usage: *Telos* refers to the "end," likely temporal or eschatological perseverance.

28. **Hebrews 6:8** – "ἡ δὲ ἐκφέρουσα ἀκάνθας... κατάρας ἐγγύς, ἥς τὸ τέλος εἰς καὶ σὺν"
  - Translation: "But if it bears thorns... it is near to being cursed, whose end is its own destruction."
  - Usage: *Telos* means "end" or "destiny," referring to the outcome (burning) of worthless land.
29. **Hebrews 6:11** – "ἐπιθυμῶμεν δὲ ἕκαστον ὑμῶν... τὴν πληροφορίαν τῆς ἐλπίδος ἄχρι τέλους"
  - Translation: "We desire that each one of you... show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end."
  - Usage: *Telos* means "end," referring to the completion of life or eschatological hope.
30. **Hebrews 7:3** – "ἀπάτωρ, ἀμήτωρ, ἀγενεαλόγητος, μήτε ἀρχὴν ἡμερῶν μήτε ζωῆς τέλος ἔχων"
  - Translation: "Without father, fatherless, motherless, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life."
  - Usage: *Telos* means "end," emphasizing the eternal priesthood of Melchizedek, likened to Christ.
31. **James 5:11** – "καὶ τὸ τέλος κυρίου εἶδετε, ὅτι πολὺσπλαγχνός ἐστιν"
  - Translation: "You have seen the outcome of the Lord's compassion."
  - Usage: *Telos* means "outcome" or "result," referring to the result of God's dealings with Job.
32. **1 Peter 1:9** – Peter\* Translation: \* "Receiving the end goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls."
  - Usage: *Telos* means "end" or "goal," referring to the ultimate result of faith (salvation).
33. **1 Peter 3:7** – "ἵνα μὴ ἐκκόπτηται τὰ προσευχὰς ὑμῶν... εἰς τέλος" (in some manuscripts)
  - Translation: "So that your prayers may not be hindered... to the end."
  - Usage: *Telos* (if present) means "continually" or "to the end." Note: Some texts omit *telos*.
34. **1 Peter 4:17** – "ὅτι ὁ καιρὸς τοῦ ἄρξασθαι τὸ κρίμα... τί τὸ τέλος τῶν ἀπειθούντων;"
  - Translation: "For it is time for judgment to begin... what will be the end of those who do not obey?"
  - Usage: *Telos* means "end" or "outcome," referring to the destiny of the disobedient.
35. **Revelation 1:8** – "ἐγὼ εἰμι τὸ ἄλφα καὶ τὸ ὦ, ἀρχὴ καὶ τέλος"
  - Translation: "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the End."
  - Usage: *Telos* means "end," paired with "beginning" to express God's eternity and sovereignty.
36. **Revelation 2:26** – "ὁ νικῶν... δώσω αὐτῷ ἐξουσίαν... ἕως τέλους"
  - Translation: "The one who conquers... I will give him authority... until the end."
  - Usage: *Telos* means "end," likely referring to perseverance until the eschatological end.
37. **Revelation 21:6** – "ἐγὼ τὸ ἄλφα καὶ τὸ ὦ, ἡ ἀρχὴ καὶ τὸ τέλος"
  - Translation: "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End."
  - Usage: Same as Revelation 1:8, emphasizing divine eternity.
38. **Revelation 22:13** – "ἐγὼ τὸ ἄλφα καὶ τὸ ὦ, ὁ πρῶτος καὶ ὁ ἔσχατος, ἡ ἀρχὴ καὶ τὸ τέλος"
  - Translation: "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."
  - Usage: Same as Revelation 1:8 and 21:6, reinforcing God's eternal nature.