

POSITION PAPER

Eschatology

Introduction

Eschatology, the theological study of last things, concerns the culmination of God's redemptive purposes in history through the return, reign, judgment, and ultimate victory of Jesus Christ.

Throughout Scripture, eschatology functions not merely as speculative theology or prophetic curiosity, but as a source of hope, perseverance, holiness, mission, and worship.

At Church Xtended, we believe the Christian hope is fundamentally centred not on timelines, sensationalism, or fear-driven speculation, but on the person of Jesus Christ and the certainty of His return.

The Bible consistently presents history as moving toward divine consummation under the sovereign authority of God.

This position paper outlines Church Xtended's theological convictions concerning the second coming of Christ, the Kingdom of God, resurrection, judgment, eternal destiny, prophetic interpretation, and the posture believers should maintain as they await Christ's return.

The Centrality of Christ in Eschatology

Christian eschatology is ultimately Christological.

The culmination of history is not centred on geopolitical events, speculative systems, or apocalyptic fascination, but on the revelation of Jesus Christ as King.

The New Testament repeatedly presents Christ's return as:

- visible;

- personal;
- bodily;
- triumphant;
- and glorious.

Acts 1:11 declares:

“This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.”

The Church therefore lives in expectation of Christ’s return while remaining faithful to His mission in the present.

The Already and Not Yet of the Kingdom

Church Xtended understands the Kingdom of God within the biblical tension commonly described as the “already and not yet.”

Through Christ’s first coming, the Kingdom of God has already broken into history.

Jesus proclaimed:

“The kingdom of God is at hand.”

Through His death, resurrection, ascension, and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, Christ inaugurated the reign of God among His people.

Yet the fullness of the Kingdom awaits future consummation.

Sin, suffering, death, injustice, spiritual warfare, and human brokenness continue to exist until Christ returns to establish His final and universal reign.

The Church therefore lives between inauguration and consummation:

- experiencing the realities of God’s Kingdom now;
- while longing for its ultimate fulfillment.

The Return of Jesus Christ

Church Xtended believes Jesus Christ will return personally, visibly, bodily, and gloriously.

The second coming is not symbolic mythology, merely spiritual metaphor, or allegorical abstraction.

The New Testament consistently presents Christ's return as a future historical reality.

At His return:

- Christ will judge evil;
- establish perfect justice;
- resurrect the dead;
- consummate His Kingdom;
- and fully reveal His glory.

The return of Christ remains central to Christian hope.

However, Church Xtended rejects speculative date-setting, sensationalism, conspiracy-driven prophecy culture, and fear-based manipulation concerning end-times theology.

Jesus Himself declared:

“But of that day and hour no one knows.”

Therefore, the Church is called not to obsession with timelines, but to faithful discipleship, spiritual readiness, holiness, mission, and perseverance.

Resurrection and Final Judgment

Church Xtended believes Scripture teaches the future bodily resurrection of both the righteous and the unrighteous.

Those united to Christ will experience eternal life in the presence of God, while those who reject God's salvation will face final judgment.

The resurrection affirms the goodness of God's creation and the ultimate victory of Christ over sin and death.

Christian hope therefore is not escape from creation, but the renewal and restoration of all things under Christ.

The final judgment reveals both:

- God's justice;
- and God's holiness.

Every person will ultimately stand accountable before God.

At the same time, believers stand justified through faith in Jesus Christ, not through human merit or self-righteousness.

Heaven, New Creation, and Eternal Hope

Church Xtended believes God's redemptive plan culminates in the renewal of creation.

Revelation describes the new heavens and new earth where:

- righteousness dwells;
- death is defeated;
- suffering ceases;
- and God dwells fully among His people.

Christian hope therefore is deeply restorative.

The Gospel anticipates not merely personal salvation, but cosmic renewal under the reign of Christ.

The Church lives now in anticipation of that coming reality.

Eschatology and Christian Living

Biblical eschatology should produce:

- holiness;
- perseverance;
- mission;
- urgency;
- hope;
- worship;
- and faithful discipleship.

The expectation of Christ's return is intended not to produce fear-driven withdrawal from the world, but faithful engagement within it.

Believers are called to:

- preach the Gospel;
- pursue justice;

- love people;
- disciple nations;
- and remain spiritually watchful.

The Church must resist both apathy and unhealthy obsession concerning end-times teaching.

Church Xtended's Position

Church Xtended believes:

- Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly;
- history is moving toward God's sovereign consummation;
- the Kingdom of God is both present and future;
- there will be bodily resurrection and final judgment;
- eternal life is found only through Jesus Christ;
- believers are called to holiness, mission, perseverance, and hope;
- Scripture should guide eschatological understanding above speculation or sensationalism.

We await Christ's return with anticipation, faithfulness, humility, and hope.

Conclusion

Christian eschatology ultimately points toward the triumph of Jesus Christ.

The return of Christ reminds believers that history is neither random nor abandoned. God remains sovereign over creation, redemption, and the future.

At Church Xtended, we seek to live as people of hope:

- faithfully proclaiming the Gospel;
- pursuing holiness;
- loving our neighbour;
- and awaiting the glorious return of our Lord Jesus Christ.