

We will now begin the thirteenth lecture on biblical theology. /We will study **chapter 7, Eschatology** of New Testament theology.

### **/1. Existential Eschatology.**

/Existential theologians' view of eschatology is not horizontal eschatology. /They see the eschatology through a vertical view. /Take Karl Barth for example.

/Karl Barth interpreted the phrase "in a flash" in 1 Corinthians 15:52. /He claimed that this did not refer to a short amount of time. /He said that time frame was the present, a present that transcends time.

/Karl Barth did not see resurrection from a biblical point of view. /We believe that believers will resurrect with Jesus in the Last Days, just as the Bible says about resurrection. /However, Karl Barth did not believe in the resurrection of the physical body. /This is vertical eschatology.

/There also was a theologian named Rudolf Bultmann. /Bultmann claimed that the Final Judgment was not a dramatic, cosmic event. /Bultmann denied the existence of a Final Judgment of the future, /quoting John 3:18, "stands condemned already."

/What does this verse mean? It means that unbelievers will face unhappiness in the future, but their judgment has already been revealed in the present. /It illustrates a nature of a present judgment, /but it does not emphasize the nature of the present time.

/This verse merely emphasizes the fact that Christ's salvation movement will surely be fulfilled. /Again, Bultmann claimed that John 3:18 spoke about a present-day judgment.

/We emphasize that judgment will be complete at the time of Jesus' Second Coming. /Eschatology of the New Testament is about a horizontal cosmic event of the future. /The concept of time of the Bible is proof of this.

/The events of the New Testament are a completion and fulfillment of the prophecies of the Old Testament. /Hence, Jesus will return and judge humanity, and we will be saved through a horizontal concept of time.

### **/2. Eschatology of the New Testament.**

/In Matthew 24, Jesus teaches about the signs of the Last Days. /Let's take a look at Matthew 24.

/I ask that you would refer to the twenty-fourth lecture on the Gospel of Matthew online. /In Matthew 24:3, the disciples asked Jesus about the signs of the end of the age. /This world will indeed come to an end. /The book of Revelation also speaks of this.

/When Jesus answered the disciples, He said to first watch out that no one deceives you. /It says in verse 5 that many will come in Jesus' name and say that they are Christ.

/Matthew 24:24 also says that false Christs and false prophets will appear and deceive people. /We are not to follow them when they say Christ is here or there.

/They will say that Christ is in the desert, in the mountains, in the sea, and here and there, and we must not follow them. /When our Jesus returns, He will come suddenly like lightning that comes from the east and the west.

/This means that Jesus will not return in secret, what will return for all peoples in the world to see. /There are many cults today. /There are over fifty cults in Europe alone.

/There are over 150 cults in America. /There are over 100 cults in South Korea. /There are over 90 cults in China. /As such, there are many liars in these last days who claim that they are Christ. /False Christs say that they are Christ when they are not.

/False prophets incorrectly teach the Bible. /Antichrists stand against Jesus and stand against the church. /There are many cults today. /We must be careful that we are not deceived by them.

/Next, Jesus says in Matthew 24:6 that there will be wars. /Then in verse 7, He says that nation will rise against nation. /In 1914, the First World War began. /At that time, 10 million people died.

/The Second World War took place in 1939. /At that time, 50 million people died. /There were over 200 wars in the 20th century. /Thirty-five million people died then. /In this way, nation will fight against nation. /Nations fight ideologically. /Nations fight religiously.

/In verse 7 it says that there will be famines and earthquakes. /There are many earthquakes today. /In 1976 in Tangshan, China, 270,000 people died in an earthquake. /In 1926 in Gansu, China, 260,000 people died in an earthquake. /In 1923 in Tokyo, Japan, 140,000 died.

/Seventy thousand died in China in 1932, /60,000 died in Peru in 1970, /10,000 died in India in 1993, /and 150,000 died /from a tsunami that occurred in December 26, 2004 in South Asia. /In May of 2008, 180,000 people died in the province of Sichuan in China.

/Then on May 11, 2010, 20,000 died from a tsunami in Japan. /In this way, there would be many earthquakes. /There will be more earthquakes in the future. /There will be famines. /There will be a lack of oil. /There will be a lack of gas.

/There will be a lack of wood and iron. /There will be a lack of water. /It teaches that there will be great tribulations as these. /Next, Matthew 24:14 says that Jesus will return when the gospel is preached to the ends of the earth. /Verse 21 says that there will be great distress.

/However, God said that he would shorten the days of great distress. /In verse 31, Jesus

said that He would return on the clouds. /In verse 32, Jesus said that learn the lesson from the fig tree. /The fig tree symbolizes the nation of Israel.

/In May 14, 1948, the State of Israel gained independence. /Israel was scattered throughout the world for 1,900 years, and they gained independence on /May 14, /1948 by the power of God. /The branches of the fig tree grew tender. /The Lord's return is near.

/Verse 36 says that no one knows the day or hour of the Lord's return. /Cults claim that they know the date of Jesus' return. /We do not know the day or time of Jesus' return.

/Therefore, we must be awake and ready to receive Jesus when He returns. /Although we do not know the date of hour of when Jesus will return, we do know that "Jesus' return is near." /We can know that Jesus' return is near by the growing number of cults in this generation.

/We can also know that the Lord's return is near by the wars, earthquakes, and famines. /We must be awake and be ready like the five wise virgins. /Next, we will move on to Revelation. /Let's first look at Revelation 6.

/Chapter six speaks of the seals. /The first seal is a white horse. /Please refer to the lectures on the Book of Revelation online. /Revelation 6:2 speaks of a white horse. /This symbolizes the gospel movement.

/The gospel movement spreads throughout the whole world. /The second seal is a red horse. /The red horse is the powers that persecute Christianity. /It is the antichrist. /It is the movement of the antichrist that breaks churches down and persecute and kills believers.

/The third seal is a black horse. /The black horse is an economic war. /It is a trade war. /Today, nations trade with one another. /Each nation attempts to sell many of their national products.

/People of the world will encounter famine through such economic wars. /Next, the fourth horse is a pale horse. /This is a religious war. /This is a religious and ideological war. /For example, it is the war between a Christian view of the world and an Islamic view of the world.

/Then from verse 12 is the sixth seal. /Then, verse 17 says that a great day of wrath is near. /This day is the day of Jesus' return. /Then from chapter 7 is the 144,000. /The events of the future are not in chronological order in the Book of Revelation.

/The end of chapter 6 is about Jesus' return, and chapter 7 goes back ahead to the earlier times. /The 144,000 are mentioned in 7:4. /Cults claim that only 144,000 people will receive salvation. /One hundred and forty-four thousand is  $12 \times 12 \times 1,000$ .

/There are twelve representatives of believers in the Old Testament, and twelve representatives of believers in the New Testament. /The number “1,000” indicates a large number. /Thus, the 144,000 refer to all believers from the past to the future. /It refers to all believers of Jesus.

/Verse 9 says that there was a great multitude. /Therefore, the number refers to all believers of Jesus. /Next, the seventh seal is written in chapter 8. /There were seven trumpets in the seventh seal. /There are the first through the seventh seals.

/Next, there are seven trumpets in the seventh seal. /Then 8:7 speaks of a trumpet plague. /The first trumpet sounded and hail and fire was thrown to the earth. /This symbolizes the environmental disasters. /The earth will become polluted and ruined.

/In verse 8 is the second trumpet. /Something like a huge mountain was thrown into the sea, and the sea was destroyed. /In verse 10 is the third trumpet. /A great star fell on rivers and waters. /In verse 12 is the fourth trumpet. /The sun, moon, and stars fell.

/Revelation 9:1 speaks of the fifth trumpet. /In this way, there are seven trumpet plagues. /The environment will worsen and all things alive will die. /Revelation 10:4 speaks of the seven thunders. /Before that, the fifth trumpet is sounded in 9:1, /and the sixth trumpet in 9:13, /and it says there that there will be great wars.

/In Revelation 10:4 speaks of the seven thunders. /God deducted the seventh thunder plague. /God kept the seventh plague from coming. /Next, Revelation 11:11. /It says that the breath of life from God entered them after the three and a half days.

/Revelation 11:12 says, “Come up here.” /This speaks of Jesus’ return. /It says here that it was after three and a half days. /There will be a seven year great tribulation. /There will be the first three and a half years of the great tribulation, /and there will be a latter half of the three and a half years.

/Three and a half years is 1,260 days. /Three and a half years is also 42 months. /Three and a half years is also a time, times and half a time /Forty-two months is also known as a time, times and half a time. /There is the first three and a half years of the seven year great tribulation and a second three and a half years. /The first three and a half years include the trumpet plagues.

/The second three and a half years include the bowl plagues. /We believers will be raptured during the great tribulation. /Thus, we believers must receive the trumpet plagues. /However, we will not receive the bowl plagues in Revelation 16.

/Revelation 11:11-12 speak of Jesus’ return. /Next, verse 15 speaks of a seventh trumpet. /Chapter 12 then repeats these events and is gradually carried along.

/Chapter 13 speaks of a beast from the sea. /This symbolizes the nation of the world, /and there is a beast in 13:11 that comes out of the earth. /However, this beast had horns like a

lamb. /This symbolizes fallen Christianity.

/For example, it symbolizes fallen Christianity like the Roman Catholic Church. /Next, there are the bowl plagues in chapter 16. /We believers will not receive the bowl plagues. /We will receive the tribulations of the first three and a half years and then will be raptured. We will meet the returning Jesus in the air.

/Believers will not receive the bowl plagues in Revelation 16. /After the trumpet plagues, one-third of the earth will be destroyed. /However, almost all the earth will be destroyed by the bowl plagues that are in chapter 16. /The Armageddon is referred to in 16:16. /This is the final war.

/The humanistic world will be destroyed through this war. /Then in chapter 17, it says that the great prostitute will be destroyed. /The prostitute symbolizes the materials, cultures, and civilizations of the humanistic world. /Then chapter 18 says that the nation of Babylon will be destroyed.

/This also means that the humanistic world will be destroyed. /Materials and civilizations will be destroyed. /The prostitute will be destroyed in chapter 17, and Babylon will be destroyed in chapter 18. /In chapter 17, humanistic cultures and cultures and ideologies of the world will be destroyed. /In chapter 18, the external things, such as materials and civilizations, buildings, seas, and lands will be destroyed.

/The humanistic world will be destroyed in one morning. /However, we believers will be saved. /In chapter 19, we believers will praise God. /Revelation 19:11 speaks of Jesus' earthly return.

/We believers will be raptured soon after the first three and a half years. /Believers will be raptured and will go up into the air, and we will come back down with Jesus at His return. /Then Jesus will judge this world. /Revelation 19:11 says that Jesus will return on a white horse.

/In verse 14, we believers will follow Jesus with the armies of heaven. /In 19:20, the beast and false prophets will be thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur. /The "beast" symbolizes the nations of the world and its leaders. /It is the antichrist. /The Lord will throw false prophets and cults into the fiery lake of burning sulfur of hell.

/Next, chapter 20 speaks of the Millennial Kingdom. /The Lord will lock the devil in the Abyss for a thousand years. /Then the world will be a sinless world for a thousand years. /The Millennial Kingdom will take place after Jesus returns to this earth.

/Again, Jesus will return in the air. /After the first three and a half years pass, we will be raptured. /Then the bowl plagues will take place for the second three and a half years. /At that time, almost all of humanity will die. /Then Jesus will return to this earth with us believers.

/Then we will reign as kings for a thousand years. /This is the premillennial view. /We believe in the premillennial view. /Who will be the citizens of the Millennial Kingdom? /They will be those who barely survived the Armageddon. /They will be the citizens of the Millennial Kingdom.

/We will have already been transformed into spiritual bodies before the Millennial Kingdom comes. /We will resurrect when Jesus returns. /Thus, we will be kings in the Millennial Kingdom. /Therefore, we will reign as kings in our spiritual and resurrected bodies.

/The people who barely survive the Armageddon in the second three and a half years will be people of the Millennial Kingdom. /The people will not sin. /There will be corruption among the people. /However, because the devil will be locked up in the Abyss for a thousand years, there will not be works of the devil for a thousand years.

/We will reign over the people in spiritual bodies. /The people will not die but live for a thousand years. /The people will also continue to give birth. /The people will not die and they will not wail.

/If someone is born in the three-hundredth year of the Millennial Kingdom, how long will he live? /He will not die, but he will live for seven hundred years. /If someone is born in the six-hundredth year of the Millennial Kingdom, how long will he live? /He will not die, but he will live for four hundred years.

/Then, because people will not die for a thousand years, they will continue to give birth. /When the thousand years are over, the earth will be filled with people. /We will be kings at that time. /We will enter and leave the New Jerusalem.

/The citizens of the Millennial Kingdom will not be able to enter the New Jerusalem. /The people will obey us when we rule over them. /They will worship God. /They will not sin. /Then in 20:8, Gog and Magog will appear at the end of the Millennial Kingdom. /Gog and Magog will deceive the people.

/Gog and Magog will deceive the people. /Some will be deceived by Gog and Magog and some will not. /Then the Great White Throne Judgment will follow. /The Great White Throne Judgment. /This is alluded to in Matthew 25:31. /It is also spoken of in Revelation 20:11.

/Through the Lord's Great White Throne Judgment, the sheep will enter eternal heaven, /and the goats will enter eternal hell. /The sheep symbolize the chosen, /and the goats symbolize the unchosen. /Those who are not deceived by Gog and Magog in the Millennial Kingdom will be those who are chosen.

/The chosen believers and we will enter eternal heaven. /Those who were deceived, the unchosen, will go to hell. /All believers who came after Adam will be resurrected near the middle of the seven years great tribulation. /However, unbelievers will receive

judgment at the end of the Millennial Kingdom.

/Hence, we believers will all enter eternal heaven. /Revelation 20:5 says, this is the first resurrection. /Revelation 20:4 says, “They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years.” /This is “Ezesan” in Greek.

/“Ezesan” means “lived” or “came to life.” /Thus, we believers will resurrect and reign as kings for a thousand years. /Revelation 21:1 speaks of a new heaven and a new earth. /Revelation 21:2 speaks of a new Jerusalem. /This indicates the Millennial Kingdom and it can also refer to eternal heaven.

/Revelation 22:1 speaks of the water of life. /This can also be seen as the Millennial Kingdom or eternal heaven. /Revelation 22:17 says, /“The Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come!’ And let him who hears say, ‘Come!’ Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.”

/Here, the “bride” symbolizes us believers. /2 Corinthians 11:3 /We believers are the bride of Christ. /Revelation 22:18, 19 say, do not add or take away from the Bible. /We must believe the entire 66 books of the Bible.

/We must not add anything to the Bible nor take away from it. /We must be witnesses to the Bible exactly as it is, and we must believe the Bible exactly as it is. /In Revelation 22:20, Jesus said, “Yes, I am coming soon.”

/Jesus will come exactly at the appointed time. /Jesus came to this earth just as it was prophesied in the Old Testament. /Jesus ascended into heaven on clouds. /Jesus will return in the image just as the disciples saw. /Jesus will surely return on clouds.

/Therefore, we must prepare our faith well. /In verse 20, the apostle John says, “Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.” /John prepared for Jesus’ return. /John waited passionately for Jesus’ return.

/There are three different views about Millennialism. /First, there is the premillennial view. /This is the premillennial view. /This is the theory that Jesus will return before the Millennial Kingdom takes place.

/Second, there is the postmillennial view. /This is the theory that Jesus will return after the Millennial Kingdom takes place.

/Third, there is the amillennial view. /This is the theory that there is no Millennial Kingdom. /They believe that the New Testament church period is the Millennial Kingdom.

/We will first look at the postmillennial view. /The postmillennial view says that Jesus will return after the Millennial Kingdom is over. /They believe that sin will dissipate as worldly cultures advance. /Then the world will become a better place to live. /However,

this is an incorrect theory.

/People of the world become more and more wicked as worldly science and technology advance. /Jesus also said that in the Last Days, the world will be filled with more sins like in the days of Noah and Sodom and Gomorrah. /Therefore, the postmillennial view is incorrect.

/Next, the amillennial view. /The amillennial view claims that the New Testament church period is the Millennial Kingdom. /However, Revelation 20:2 clearly says that Satan will be locked up. /There are many works of Satan in the present New Testament church period. /Therefore, the New Testament church period cannot be seen as the Millennial Kingdom.

/Next, the premillennial view, which we previously discussed. /1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17 / 1 Corinthians 15:52 /Revelation 20:1 teaches about this. /Thus, Jesus will return before the Millennial Kingdom takes place, just as the Bible says. /The Millennial Kingdom will take place after Jesus returns.

/There are three views of Millennialism in the church today. /There are such theories among scholars in the church. /All three are based on the Bible in their own ways. /Even if our theories on Millennialism is different, we do not call one another, cults.

/We must think about this from a biblical point of view. /We must correctly understand the truth. /We believe that the premillennial view is biblically correct. /Also, what is most important and clear is that Jesus will return.

/Therefore, we must prepare oil and lamps like the five wise virgins. /I pray that you will receive Jesus with joy when He returns.

/Here we will conclude the thirteenth lecture on biblical theology. /Thank you.