

LIVING IN THE LIGHT OF ETERNITY FOUNDATIONS ROUND UP

Our final two foundations, Resurrection of the Dead and Eternal Judgment, are very much future orientated. Whilst they have application in the present, they are both essentially still part of our future, and specifically that point in the future which marks the transition from the Present Age to the Age to Come which will take place when Jesus returns.

So why are such things considered foundations of the Christian life? Because when we are born again we receive eternal life, and so our whole lives as believers are lived in the light of eternity. What we do in the here and now reaps a harvest in eternity. Which is why Jesus says,

Do no lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matt 6:19-21)

Likewise, Paul says,

Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw – each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose if, because it will be revealed by the fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each has done. If the work that anyone has built on the foundations survives, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, buy only as through fire. (1Cor 3:12-15)

Questions for discussion:

Read 2 Peter 3

So let's turn to 2Peter 3 and look at how the Return of Jesus, our Resurrection, and the Final Judgment shape and direct the way we live the life of faith today. That is, how do we live in the light of eternity?

- What conclusions does Peter say we should draw from the fact that the Day of the Lord, the Return of Jesus, hasn't yet happened. And what conclusions should we not draw? How can we cultivate this kind of worldview? (vv4-9)
- 2. What sort of people ought we to be? (v11, vv14-18), i.e. what are the attitudes we should cultivate and the actions we should give our energies to?
- 3. How do we hasten the Day of the Lord? (v12)