

## Living with the End in Mind

Pastor David Uth

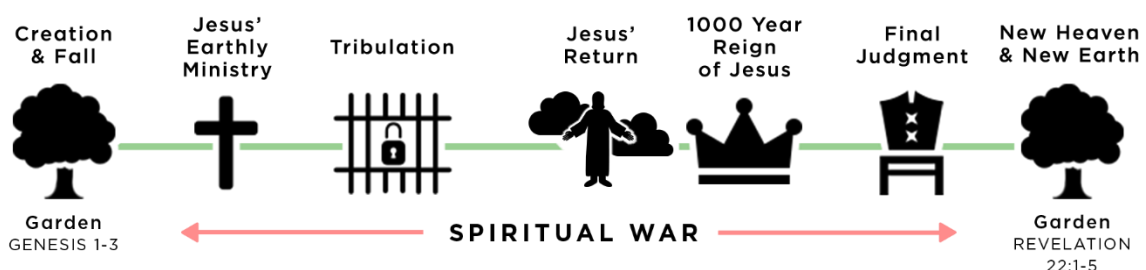
### Passage: Matthew 25:31-45

**31**“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. **32**Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. **33**And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. **34**Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. **35**For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, **36**I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ **37**Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?’ **38**And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you?’ **39**And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ **40**And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’ **41**“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. **42**For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, **43**I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ **44**Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’ **45**Then he will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ **46**And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

### Background

In today’s message, Pastor David will help us navigate another aspect of the “end times” that will take place after the return of Jesus – the millennial reign and final judgement of Christ. While much of what will happen upon and after the return of Jesus remains a mystery, we do know that HOW believers live today matters. For this reason, followers of Jesus should consider if our actions align with the faith we profess. Are we really living in a way that our WALK matches our TALK?

### Sermon Notes



October 9, 2022

## Instructions

Since we believe we are BETTER TOGETHER, this discussion guide serves as a conversation guide with your small group. The “Belong” section offers an ‘ice-breaker’ or reflection question to start your time together. In the “Believe” section, feel free to use all or only some of the questions. Our hope is to have meaningful conversations around God’s Word, not simply answer all the questions. Finally, the “Become” section is to help identify a specific next step. Use these questions as a guide to find practical ways to apply the passage to our everyday life and to pray for one another.

## Belong

- What do you love most about the changing of season from summer to fall and why?

## Believe

- **Read Matthew 25:31-46.** As you hear Jesus’ words to His followers, what stands out the most? What questions did the sermon or this passage raise in your mind? What is the main difference between the sheep and goats in this teaching? What are the final destinations for the two groups? How should this passage shape our daily lives? How does this passage help us understand the relationship between faith AND “works?” What do you think Jesus means when he talks about the “least of these?” What challenges you the most in this passage? How would you summarize the main point of this passage?
- **Read Matthew 25:1-30.** Jesus shares two parables about the kingdom of heaven/God. What happened in the first parable? Why were some wise and some foolish? How did the bridegroom respond? What can we learn from Jesus’ statement in verse 13? In the second parable, what was the difference between the first two workers? How did the master respond to the first two servants? What did the third servant with one talent do? What was his reasoning? How did the master respond? In one sentence, how would you summarize the main point of the first and second parables? How would you apply these principles to your life right now? How do these parables help us live NOW with the “end in mind?” How do these two parables help us interpret Jesus’ teaching in verses 31-46?
- **Read 2 Corinthians 5:6-10.** What is your initial reaction to the idea of standing before Jesus to “receive what is due” to us? If Jesus has paid the penalty for our sins as believers, what do you think this “judgement” means? What does this passage teach us about accountability and responsibility for the way we live NOW? How does this passage encourage you? What steps do you need to take today to more seriously consider how you are using what God has given to you?

## Become

- In what ways are you using and *not* using the resources God has given you to help grow His kingdom?
- **PRAYER POINTS:** How can we pray specifically for one another this week? Continue to pray for those who suffered loss in the hurricane. Pray for opportunities to use your gifts to serve Christ by serving others. Pray for clarity on how to use all of your resources (time, talents, finances) to help others follow Jesus.