Your Questions about Scripture and Hope

Having questions is a natural part of our faith. Asking questions helps us clarify what we believe and what it means to live as Christians in the world. In this episode, we consider some of the questions you asked in response to our series on the Lord's Prayer, Joshua, and Revelation. Then we'll discuss issues that some of our listeners have shared that are most pressing for their faith right now. We'll look at the Scriptures to find the hope and encouragement we need to live faithfully each day.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- Has your faith ever stalled or gotten stuck because of a question you had?
- How do you go about finding answers to faith questions?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: Your Questions about Scripture and Hope

READ Matthew 6:9-13, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Hebrews 11:13-16, Revelation 20:1-6, John 15:18-25, Psalm 46

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- What are some ways your life demonstrates your citizenship in the kingdom of God and that God's will sets the agenda for your life?
- Reflect on the quote, often attributed to Saint Augustine, that host Scott Hoezee paraphrases at the end of segment 1: "In the Old Testament, we have Christ hidden, and in the New Testament, we have Christ revealed, but it is all one message; it is all one plan of salvation, and it is all equally authoritative." Have you heard this idea before? In your experience, are all parts of the Bible treated as equally authoritative or does it seem like one part of the Bible is more important, more valuable, or more worthy of study?
- In segment 2, Scott and host Darrell Delaney note that we can't always identify the specific amount of time between when a prophecy was given and when it would be fulfilled because prophecy is "forth-telling the truth of God" and often has multiple horizons of fulfillment. They cite Cyrus, king of Persia (Ezra 1), and then later Jesus as two horizons of messianic prophecies being fulfilled. Can you think of any other biblical examples that show multiple horizons of prophetic fulfillment?
- Do you think the different views on the millennium—premillennial, postmillennial, and amillenial—referenced in Revelation impact how a person lives out their faith in daily life? Why or why not?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

Matthew 4:17, Philippians 3:15-21, Revelation 4-5, Romans 8:1, Romans 6:1-14, 1 Timothy 3:16-17, Genesis 12:1-3, Hebrews 11:1-16, Ezra 1, Isaiah 45:1-7, Matthew 24, Acts 10:38, Hebrews 10:25

CONCLUSION

Think about the term Darrell used in segment 3: spiritual fortitude. What does that mean to you? How can asking and answering faith questions together contribute to "spiritual fortitude"? Close your time of reflection in prayer, thanking God for his wisdom and assurance that Jesus is still on the throne. Ask him to strengthen you so that you might faithfully be a witness to his kingdom here on earth.

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