

Theology on the Web.org.uk

Making Biblical Scholarship Accessible

This document was supplied for free educational purposes. Unless it is in the public domain, it may not be sold for profit or hosted on a webserver without the permission of the copyright holder.

If you find it of help to you and would like to support the ministry of Theology on the Web, please consider using the links below:



Buy me a coffee

<https://www.buymeacoffee.com/theology>



PATREON

<https://patreon.com/theologyontheweb>

[PayPal](#)

<https://paypal.me/robbradshaw>

A table of contents for *Reformation & Revival* can be found here:

https://biblicalstudies.org.uk/articles_ref-rev-01.php

Reformation & Revival



A Quarterly Journal for Church Leadership

Volume 6, Number 2 • Spring 1997

good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."¹⁰ With that hope in my heart, may I daily *pastor in the light of eternity*.

Author

Larry E. McCall has been pastor of Christ's Covenant Church in Warsaw, Indiana, since 1981. He earned his M.Div. from Grace Theological Seminary and his D.Min. from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. He is married to Gladine and the father of three teenaged children.

Endnotes

- 1 Kent and Barbara Hughes, *Liberating Ministry from the Success Syndrome* (Wheaton: Tyndale House, 1987), 29.
- 2 Hughes, 30.
- 3 F. W. Robertson, *Sermons on Paul's Epistles to the Corinthians* (Boston: Ticknor and Fields, 1863), 44.
- 4 John Calvin, *Commentary on the Epistles of Paul the Apostle to the Corinthians* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1979), 138.
- 5 R. C. H. Lenski, *The Interpretation of St. Paul's First and Second Epistles to the Corinthians* (Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1963), 145.
- 6 Homer Kent, *A Heart Opened Wide* (Winona Lake, Indiana: BMH Books, 1982), 162.
- 7 Philip Edgcumbe Hughes, *Paul's Second Epistle to the Corinthians* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1962), 374.
- 8 Donald A. Carson, *From Triumphalism to Maturity* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1984), 84.
- 9 Peter T. O'Brien, *Word Biblical Commentary: Colossians, Philemon* (Waco, Texas: Word, 1982), 89.
- 10 A. T. Robertson, *The Glory of the Ministry* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1979), 183.

Alnor, William M. *Soothsayers of the Second Advent*. Old Tappan, New Jersey: Fleming Revell, 1989. A popular but helpful warning regarding "last days" nonsense.

Archer, Gleason L., Jr., Paul D. Feinberg, Douglas J. Moo, Richard R. Reiter. *The Rapture: Pre, Mid, or Post-Tribulational*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1984. A fair and well-done presentation of the differing viewpoints regarding the timing of the "rapture" of the church.

*Bavinck, Herman. John Bolt, ed. and John Vriend, translator. *The Last Things: Hope for This World and the Next*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996. The great Dutch theologian handles the whole field in 200 pages. A marvelous and serious work.

Beasley-Murray, George R. *Jesus and the Last Days: The Interpretation of the Olivet Discourse*. Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson, 1993. This volume, originally published as *Jesus and the Future* in 1954, is a massive and important revision. Beasley-Murray is a serious and important premillennial scholar who is fully aware of modern developments in both text and interpretation. Recommended for ministers and serious readers due to technical nature of the work.

Blanchard, John. *Whatever Happened to Hell?* Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway Books, 1995. This is a very valuable work written from a pastoral perspective. Highly recommended for pastors and lay readers alike.

Boettner, Loraine. *The Millennium*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: Presbyterian & Reformed, 1957. Boettner is one of the best representative postmillennial writers of the Reformed school. Fairness pervades the book.

*Boettner, Loraine. *Immortality*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: Presbyterian & Reformed, 1956. In the light of the debate on this subject over the past few decades this is still a very helpful work.

Bolton, Robert. *The Four Last Things: Death, Judgment, Hell and Heaven*. Morgan, Pennsylvania: Soli Deo Gloria, 1994. A classic reprint that is edifying.

Brown, David. *Christ's Second Coming: Will It Be Premillennial?* Grand Rapids: Baker, 1983 reprint of 1876 edition. The author is the famous Brown of the *Commentary* by Jameison, Fausset and Brown. This is a strong criticism of chiliasm and is important for serious study on the issues.

Connelly, Douglas. *After Life: What the Bible Really Says*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1995. An evaluation of near-death experiences with a biblical heaven and hell.

Conyers, A.J. *The End: What Jesus Really Said About the Last Things*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1995. Conyers focuses on Mark 13 in showing why present speculative ideas are doomed to fail.

*Cooper, John W. *Body, Soul & Life Everlasting: Biblical Anthropology and the Monism-Dualism Debate*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1989. Cooper, professor of philosophical theology at Calvin Theological Seminary, has given us a masterful work of both scholarship and pastoral care. A serious and important study of the question of the intermediate state.

Cox, William E. *Amillennialism Today*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: Presbyterian & Reformed, 1966. A good, popular overview of the position. Lay readers can profit from it.

Cox, William E. *Biblical Studies in Final Things*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: Presbyterian & Reformed, 1966. A good companion to the above volume.

Crockett, William. *Four Views on Hell*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992. The views defended are the literal (John Walvoord), the metaphorical (William Crockett), the purgatorial (Zachary Hayes) and the conditional (Clark Pinnock). A useful introduction.

Crockett, William and James G. Sigountos, eds. *Through No Fault of Their Own? The Fate of Those Who Have Never Heard*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1991. A vast array of essays. Valuable for research and understanding of current thought.

*Davis, John Jefferson. *Christ's Victorious Kingdom: Postmillennialism Reconsidered*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1986. The best small evangelical book on the subject.

Davis, Stephen T. *Making Sense of the Resurrection*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993. A careful, fair and readable treatment that deals with all the relevant texts and issues.

de S. Cameron, Nigel M., ed. *Universalism and the Doctrine of Hell*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1992. A collection of essays by various scholars dealing with historical and theological matters. Extremely important for academic study.

DeMar, Gary. *Last Days Madness: The Folly of Trying to Predict When Christ Will Return*. Brentwood, Tennessee: Wolgemuth & Hyatt, 1991. A postmillennial critique that is both amusing and useful.

Dixon, Larry. *The Other Side of the Good News: Confronting the Contemporary Challenges to Jesus' Teaching on Hell*.

Wheaton, Illinois: Bridgepoint, 1992. A good defense of the traditional orthodox doctrinal teaching on the eternal conscious torment of the lost.

Fernando, Ajith. *Crucial Questions About Hell*. Crossway, 1991. A popular and helpful treatment. Blanchard, noted above, is to be preferred.

*Gilmore, John. *Probing Heaven*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1989. A helpful, comprehensive and important book. Highly recommended.

Grenz, Stanley J. *The Millennial Maze*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1992. A sorting out of the various evangelical views.

*Helm, Paul. *The Last Things: Death, Judgment, Heaven and Hell*. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1989. Helm, a philosopher who knows the Word of God well, has written one of the best popular books available. Get it, read it and distribute it.

*Hughes, Philip Edgcumbe. *Interpreting Prophecy*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1976. This little volume comes and goes, in and out of print. It is one of the very best overviews, for average readers, I have ever read. Highly recommended.

Kik, J. Marcellus. *An Eschatology of Victory*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: Presbyterian & Reformed, 1971. A full-scaled defense of postmillennialism. Well done and important for serious students.

Kimball, William R. *The Rapture*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1985. The case against pretribulationism. Well written and important.

*Kimball, William R. *What the Bible Says About the Great Tribulation: Future or Fulfilled?* Grand Rapids: Baker, 1983. Kimball believes it is "fulfilled," and argues his case very well.

Ladd, George Eldon. *The Last Things: An Eschatology for Laymen*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1978. Helpful.

Ladd, George Eldon. *The Presence of the Future*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1974. The very finest study from a historic premillennialist position.

*Ladd, George Eldon. *The Blessed Hope: A Biblical Study of the Second Advent and the Rapture*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1956. I first read this little book in college and it profoundly influenced my future thinking about the issues. Highly recommended.

Ladd, George Eldon. *The Gospel of the Kingdom*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1959. A wonderful and popular exposition of the kingdom of God.

*Ladd, George Eldon. *Crucial Questions About the Kingdom of God*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1952. A virtual classic in many respects.

McDaniel, Colleen and Bernhard Lang. *Heaven: A History*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1988. A historical overview of the views held down through the ages.

*Murray, Iain. *The Puritan Hope*. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1971. Rarely have I read a book dealing with the subject which so "inspired" me to hope and anticipation of God's great work in missions.

Oropeza, B. J. *99 Reasons Why No One Knows When Christ Will Return*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1994. This immensely useful little book is filled with warnings regarding date setting.

Pate, C. Marvin and Calvin B. Haines, Jr. *Doomsday Delusions*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1995. Another title similar to the Oropeza book above.

*Peterson, Robert A. *Hell On Trial: The Case for Eternal Punishment*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: Presbyterian & Reformed, 1995. A fine treatment and much needed.

Ridderbos, Herman. *The Coming of the Kingdom*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: Presbyterian & Reformed, 1962. A massive and important work. Ridderbos is one of the best contemporary Reformed minds who dealt carefully with the text as well.

Stephenson, John R. *Eschatology* (Confessional Lutheran Dogmatics, Volume XIII in series, Robert D. Preus, editor). Fort Wayne, Indiana: The Luther Academy, 1993. A solid contemporary Lutheran work that non-Lutherans should consider.

Wilmot, John. *Inspired Principles of Prophetic Interpretation*. Swengel, Pennsylvania: Reiner, 1975. Martyn Lloyd-Jones highly praised this valuable book. It is not easy to find.

Witherington, Ben III. *Jesus, Paul and the End of the World*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1992. Witherington, a professor at Ashland Theological Seminary, is an important contemporary scholar.

* Highly recommended.

***Ecumenical Jihad:
Ecumenism and the Culture War***

Peter Kreeft
San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 1996.
172 pages, paper, \$11.95.

Sometimes a book appears which captures considerable interest among only a few evangelical leaders but has, at the same time, implications which far exceed the book's actual sales. Such is the case with this book, *Ecumenical Jihad*, by the distinguished philosopher, speaker, and Boston College professor, Dr. Peter Kreeft.

Because this book has been cited and analyzed by several evangelical leaders, and because the distinguished evangelical scholar and teacher, Dr. James I. Packer, wrote a brief endorsement for the volume, the editorial staff of this publication considered it appropriate to interact with this book in a significant way, seeking to demonstrate both its strengths and its weaknesses.

In the present discussion of ecumenicity between Protestant evangelicals and conservative Roman Catholics there are two dangers that face the evangelical Christian. One is to veer to the right, using the older, and often incorrect, rhetoric of nineteenth-century anti-Catholicism. The other is to veer leftward, embracing the new political correctness that immerses differences into a sea of subjectivity. Even more likely could be the growth of mistrust and even misrepresentation of views held by public spokespersons for the faith. It is into these sometimes confusing discussions that we enter in publishing two excellent reviews of Kreeft's controversial work.

It should be understood that Reformation & Revival Ministries has never agreed with the now famous accord,