

Doxa Series
“Eternity is real”
04/10/21
Newport News

Opening

-7 core Christian beliefs...unlocking glorious living

- **God is one**
- **The Bible is true**
- **The Cross is enough**
- **Mankind is helpless**
- **Jesus is life**
- **Eternity is real**
- **The Church is central**

-But we aren't going to spend huge amounts of time convincing you of these doctrines, these beliefs...this series is about challenging you to consider a very specific way these beliefs should be changing the way you live!

-(talk about moralism and intellectualism)

Introduction

-doxa: *glory, splendor, grandeur, power, kingdom, praise, honor... revealed presence of God, God himself...*

-root of doxa: *to think, suppose, believe, consider, imagine...*

-So each week we are going to look at one of these 7 core Christian beliefs (re-read) and ask this question:

>How does my belief that Eternity is real inspire me to pursue a life that reveals God's glory to the world around me?

>unlocking glorious living is about our lives pointing people to a living God who IS... (work through the definitions)

>this series is about creating 7 life statements...

Eternity is Real

-Death is not the end. Death is the beginning. (eternal spiritual beings in temporal mortal bodies)

- (talk about Idris Ball's funeral...)
- 2 Corinthians 5:8
- 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (my dreams in 1990)

-John 14:1-7 (ref.)

-The Blessed Hope (Bible Doctrines excerpt)

-Mark 9:2-6 (ref. - 6 days after feeding of 4k, blind man of Bethsaida, and Peter's declaration) (DEATH IS NOT THE END. DEATH IS THE BEGINNING)

-Hebrews 12:1

-How does my belief that ___Eternity is real___ inspire me to pursue a life that reveals God's glory to the world around me?

Real Means Consequential

-Luke 16:19-31 (is it a parable, don't think so, no other parable names characters...true story)

-Matthew 13:24-30, 40-43

-Universalism is a lie...

- perfect love gives a choice
- comparative experience

-Matthew 12:31, Mark 3:28-29, Luke 12:10 (ref.)

...blasphemy in Jesus' day meant a complete and total rejection of someone and everything about them to the point of slandering them in an effort to ruin their reputation. (explain meaning for us)

-How does my belief that ___Eternity is real___ inspire me to pursue a life that reveals God's glory to the world around me?

Real Means Exclusive

- 1 Corinthians 12:3
- John 14-16 (reference only)

...one of the primary works of the Holy Spirit in the world today is to bring a revelation of Jesus to us...so to reject the Holy Spirit is to reject Jesus...and Matthew 13 could not be more clear regarding this consequence! (blasphemy)

- Romans 10:9-17

-I am at one with God, rescued from myself, just as if I'm perfect, because Jesus paid it all.

- **Atonement**
- **Redemption**
- **Justification**
- **Propitiation**

- Luke 12:5 / John 14:6

-How does my belief that ___Eternity is real___ inspire me to pursue a life that reveals God's glory to the world around me?

The Hell of Hades

- The Abode of Death
- an emphasis on A Kingdom/Realm (personal interpretation)
- organized force (Matthew 16:18)
- subject to God (Revelation 6:8)
- consciousness (Luke 16:23-24)
- permanent eternity (Matthew 25:46, Revelation 14:11)

The Hell of Gehenna

- The Place of Punishment
- an emphasis on suffering (personal interpretation)
- named after the Valley of Hinnon that was south of Jerusalem where trash, waste, and dead animals were burned
- judgment (Luke 12:5) (Hebrews 9:27)
- a place of suffering (never dulling) (Mark 9:43)
- seen in behavior (Matthew 23:15, "child of hell")
- tempts us here (James 3:6)

The Hell of Tartaros

- The Place of Punishment
- an emphasis on suffering (personal interpretation)
- a subterranean region regarded by the ancient Greeks as the abode of wicked dead where they suffered for their evil deeds
- a sober reminder (2 Peter 2:4)

The Hell of Sheol

- The Grave or Unseen State
- an emphasis on both a realm and suffering
- no return (Job 7:9)
- without praise (Psalm 6:5)
- describes degradation (Proverbs 5:5, 7:27)
- emotional exile (Jonah 2:2)

Band

-tell story of side mirror...replacement glass costs \$150, generic plastic insert at AutoZone \$10...sometimes good enough is good enough...the mistake we make is applying that principle to Heaven...we'll never be good enough...

-by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone...

-Jesus isn't asking you to believe, the devil believes...He's asking you to come!

-How does my belief that ___Eternity is real___ inspire me to pursue a life that reveals God's glory to the world around me?

-I want to look expectantly every day for opportunities to point people to Jesus.

Close

-Of all the decisions in this life, of all the choices, there is nothing more pressing than where we will spend eternity, paradise or perdition, eternal bliss or forever in agony... John 3:16,17