

Book of the Bible: “Revelation: “The Right Wardrobe”

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As we wrap up the “Preaching the Books of the Bible” series, and we look back at the sixty-six books of Scripture, there are two constants. One is humans have failed God and failed miserably. The second: God loves sinners to death and relentlessly pursues them.

The first book of the Bible, Genesis, and the last book, Revelation, are bookends to the Biblical story. Genesis 1-3 tells of the human fall out of relationship with God and being cut off from the tree of life and relationship with the Creator. The last two chapters of Revelation talk about the tree of life again and describes how to have access to it again.

1. We are accountable to God for our failures and sins.

“Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. The earth and the heavens fled from his presence...And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which was the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done.”

Revelation 20:11-14

2. We are saved because of repentance and faith in Jesus.

“Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they might have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates of the city.” Revelation 22:14

3. What do we wash our filthy robes in?

“I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people, and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes...Then one of the elders asked me, ‘these in white robes – who are they and where did they come from?.’ I answered, ‘sir, you know.’...he said, ‘they have washed their

robes [lives] and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.”

Revelation 7:13-14

In other words, repentance and faith in Jesus Christ give us access to eternal life with God.

4. What will heaven be like?

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away...I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘Look, God’s dwelling place is now among the people and God himself will be with them. They will be his people, and he will dwell with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain.”

Revelation 21:1-5

5. God’s invitation to salvation.

“The Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come!’ Let those who hear say, ‘Come!’ Let those who are thirsty come; and let all who wish take the free gift of the water of life.”

Revelation 22:17