

The Return of Christ

Col 3:3-4

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Background

It's been said that "metaphor is the language of faith" -- it's hard to imagine how could we speak of divine, transcendent realities *without* using metaphors! But does that mean that everything we read in the Bible is a metaphor? When the Apostle Paul wrote that we "have been raised with Christ", was that just a metaphor? Or was it a literal promise waiting to be fulfilled? And if it is a literal promise, what difference does that make in our lives? Join us this Sunday as we sort the literal from the metaphor and rediscover another corner piece truth from the Letter to the Colossians.

Sermon Text: Col 3:1-2 (ESV)

³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Discussion Questions

1. Preparation

- a. What is one thing you hoped to talk about today/tonight?
- b. What question(s) did you come away with from the sermon?
- c. What stands out to you the most from this sermon?

2. Sunday questions

- a. Eugene said that to be a Christian is to live with a deep longing for the return of Christ. Do you have this deep longing? Why or why not?
- b. When you think of Christ's return, do you typically think of a bodily existence or not? Explain.
- c. When you think of Christ's return, do you believe that his return will inaugurate our "fullest, truest life"? Explain.
- d. Last week Eugene said that "corner piece truths transform behavior." Therefore, if we have a correct view of Christ's return, it will change how we live now. Can you explain why and how it will change how you will live now?
- e. Eugene said that communion anticipates Christ's return. Do you typically think about Christ's return during communion? Why or why not?