

DAY 45: HOW THE MARANATHA MESSAGE CHANGES WHAT WE THINK WE KNOW ABOUT THE GOSPEL

I. CHURCH HISTORY

- A. The early church consistently proclaimed the Maranatha message: The Lord came, the Lord is coming
 - 1. That message went through a cultural evolution as it shifted from Jerusalem to Rome
- B. The Reformation did a lot of good, but it also oriented the body of Christ away from a future faith and towards a historical faith
 - 1. The main message became looking back to what Jesus did
- C. The Reformation would define obedience as things you should do because of what Jesus has done and it teaches that faith is justified through what Jesus already did

II. THE CALL FOR ENDURANCE

- A. We need endurance to be obedient and have faith in Jesus ([Revelation 14:12](#))
- B. Indicatives: indicates that something has happened
- C. Imperatives: indicates something you should do
 - 1. Legal framework
 - 2. Love framework
- D. “Faith is the assurance of things hoped for” ([Hebrews 11](#))
- E. “Waiting for our blessed hope...” ([Titus 2:11](#))
- F. Your current suffering, being made worthy, is not connected to the past, it is connected to the future ([2 Thessalonians 1:5](#))

III. THE IMPERATIVES OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

- A. Almost all imperatives in the New Testament are connected to future events
- B. “Because the end of all things is at hand” ([1 Peter 4:6-7](#))
- C. There is good news in the death of Jesus, but it is lacking if there is no future context
 - 1. Jesus died on the cross for you not just for you to go to heaven
- D. A future, apocalyptic Gospel brings the historical nature of the gospel into its proper context, giving it robust meaning
- E. The early church’s primary message was always more focused on the future events to come

