

WHAT IS GOD'S NARRATIVE?

HOW DOES HE TELL THE STORY?

WHAT IS HIS ACCOUNT FOR THE HISTORY OF EARTH?

HOW WOULD WE KNOW WHAT HAPPENS FROM BEGINNING TO END?

WHERE CAN WE FIND THAT INFORMATION?

IS IT OKAY TO REVISE GOD'S STORY (WITH GOOD INTENTIONS OF COURSE)?



- **ESCHATOLOGY**: the part of theology concerned with death, judgment, and the final destiny of the soul and of humankind.
- **ESCHATON**: the final event in the divine plan; the end of the world.
- **CHRISTIAN ESCHATOLOGY** is a major branch of study within Christian theology dealing with the “last things.” Eschatology, from two Greek words meaning “last” and “study”, is the study of ‘end things’, whether the end of an individual life, the end of the age, the end of the world and the nature of the Kingdom of God. Broadly speaking, Christian eschatology is the study of the destiny of humankind as it is described in the Bible, which is the primary source for all Christian [eschatological] studies.
--The major issues and events in Christian eschatology are death and the afterlife, Heaven and Hell, the Second Coming of Jesus, the Resurrection of the Dead, the Rapture, the Tribulation, Millennialism, the end of the world, the Last Judgment, and the New Heaven and New Earth of the world to come. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christian_eschatology]
- ... **THE SCROLL** containing the final events of human history and the plan for the eschaton is now apparently ready to be opened. Yet as the seal is opened, a rather surprising event happens. Instead of angelic action as in all the rest of the seals, trumpets, and bowls, there is a dramatic [silence for about a half hour]. [Osborne, G. R. (2002). *Revelation* (p. 336). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.]
- **THE OT WRITERS** take “silence” as an anticipation of God’s imminent action (Exod. 14:14; 1 Sam. 12:16), as the natural response to God’s omnipotence (Isa. 41:1; Hab. 2:20), or as a fearsome awe in light of his coming judgment (Zeph. 1:7; Zech. 2:13). This provides a more natural background for the silence here. All in heaven are in breathless anticipation as they await God’s final actions in bringing history to a close, and the sinners are silent in the face of imminent judgment. The scroll is being opened, and they cannot wait for the final events to unfold. [*Ibid.*]

DEFINITION OF TERMS

- Most realtors will tell you that the three most important factors in selling property are (1) location, (2) location, and (3) location. Most theologians will tell you that **the three most important factors in arriving at good theology are** (1) definition of terms, (2) definition of terms, and (3) definition of terms.
[Paul N. Benware. *Understanding End Times Prophecy: A Comprehensive Approach.*]