

Not, Not, Not, NOT the End of the World

Session 6



“After this I saw in the visions by night a fourth beast, terrifying and dreadful and exceedingly strong. It had great iron teeth and was devouring, breaking in pieces, and stamping what was left with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that preceded it, and it had ten horns.”

(Daniel 7.7)

Chapter One

1. What is “eschatology”? What is eschatology not, not, NOT?
2. There are lots of phrases one could use to talk about the people of God. What was the advantage of Jesus choosing “Kingdom” language?
3. What were some of the territorial, economic, and cultural strategies of the Roman empire?

Chapter Two

1. What are some of the characteristics of what Crossan calls “enough-ism”?
2. Crossan speaks of how the Bible doesn’t necessarily have a preference for the poor, but a commitment to justice. In what ways does that priority affect rich and poor, slave and free alike?

Chapter Three

1. What are some of your options when responding to the Romanization of your culture, economy, and theology?
2. The witness of Josephus and the stories of “serious attempts at organized mass nonviolent resistance backed by martyrdom” is new information for most people. What’s your first response to this material?
3. If the mission of the church is to leverage the first glimpse of God's justice on earth, how does our theology need to change? What does that change look like on the local level?
4. “Will the church accept its destiny?”