

- a. He will come again
  - i. The creedal statements about Jesus have mentioned the past, the present, and now they turn to the future.
  - ii. Our hope for the future is based on the one who will come in glory.
  - iii. We live in the interval between when the Kingdom of God drew near in Jesus of Nazareth and when it will come in power and glory at the end of history. We see traces of the kingdom now through faith but then all will see what we see.
  - iv. Creation will come to the place that God intended from the beginning. Personal life will be fulfilled and history will be fulfilled as well. The coming of Christ proclaims the victory of God.
- b. To judge the living and the dead
  - i. Christ's coming means judgment for the nations
  - ii. The standard of Judgment is announced by Jesus in Matthew 25-the sheep and the goats. Faith in Jesus naturally bears fruit in compassion for the least of these.
  - iii. As we await the coming of Christ we are to "keep alert" or "watch". These are images drawn from sentries who keep watch during the night. It means we do our duty, what Christ has called us to do-see Matt 25!
  - iv. The time of his coming is delayed so that the Gospel can be preached to the nations and so that there is sufficient time to repent.