

Pentecost 23

November 12, 2017

Other Readings

Amos 5:18-24

Psalm 70

Readings for study

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Before: Live a life pleasing to God

- This is the primary proof text for a doctrine called the “rapture.” For more insight, read “The Rapture Exposed by Barbara Rossing. The Left Behind movies are based on this idea. Lutherans do not believe this to be a future event that will happen as described here, but rather lump this in with other writings labeled as “apocalyptic writings” (think Daniel or Revelation). They typically feature demons, dragons, all sorts of other “crazy” depictions of events.
- Uninformed
 - o Where does the Rapture and escapist theology find its growth? In lack of education
- Grieve as others do who have no hope
 - o What do you say to someone who doesn’t believe
 - o Here the thought that there is no resurrection of the dead
- God will bring with him those who have died
- We who are alive will not precede those who have died
 - o The Greek here for died is fallen asleep
 - o Paul does not anticipate dying before Jesus returns
- Cry/call/trumpet
 - o Annunciation of a ruler’s arrival
- Dead in Christ will rise first
- Caught up in the clouds
- Meet the Lord in the air
- With the Lord forever
- Encourage one another

After: Being prepared

Matthew 25:1-13

Before: Faithful and unfaithful slave

- Part of a section that focuses on the end of things (being awake and working)
- Then
 - o The Parousia (second coming)
- Ten bridesmaids
 - o Literally the Greek means virgins
- Lamps
- Bridegroom
- Foolish/wise
- Bridegroom was delayed
 - o Think of how Paul assumed he would be alive for the return
- Became drowsy
 - o Giving up on the arrival of the bridegroom
- Shout: Look!
- Foolish/wise again

- Door was shut
- Lord, open to us
- I do not know you
- Keep awake

After: Parable of the Talents