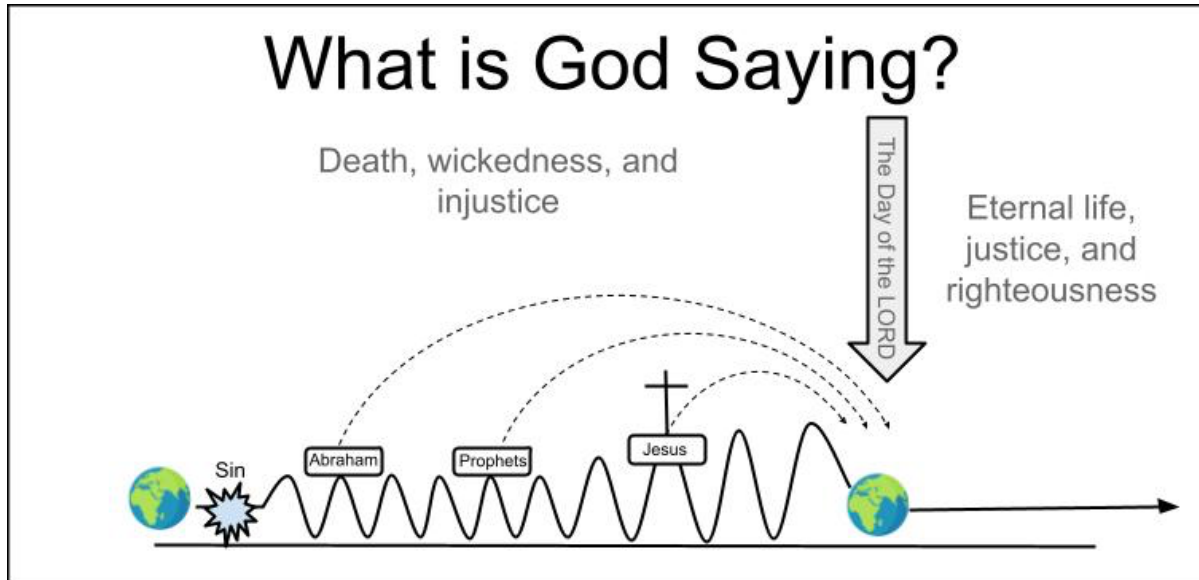


Faith, the Gospel, and God’s Day

I. Review: God’s Message



II. Listening to Jesus’ call to be disciples in light of this view of history

A. Being a disciple means obeying and following the Master, not just believing in Him

⁴⁶ “Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I tell you?” ⁴⁷ *I will show you what someone is like who comes to me, hears my words, and acts on them.* ⁴⁸ *That one is like a man building a house, who dug deeply and laid the foundation on rock; when a flood arose, the river burst against that house but could not shake it, because it had been well built.* ⁴⁹ *But the one who hears and does not act is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the river burst against it, immediately it fell, and great was the ruin of that house.”* (Lk 6:46–49 NRSV)

B. A disciple is someone who has embraced the commitment to obey their Rabbi

¹⁸ *Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.* ¹⁹ *Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,* ²⁰ *and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”* (Mt 28:18–20 NIV)

¹⁴ *Simon has described to us how God first intervened to choose a people for his name from the Gentiles.* (Ac 15:14 NIV)

¹⁸ *When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, “So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads to life.” (Ac 11:18 NIV)*

III. Jesus’ teachings are intended to train us to live in light of this view of history

- A. The Sermon on the Mount: Faith’s response to injustice, mistreatment, being hit, being sued, forced into service, and persecuted is to use them to store up a reward in the future

³⁹ *But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. ⁴⁰ And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. ⁴¹ If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles. ⁴² Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you. ⁴³ “You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. (Mt 5:39–45 NIV)*

¹⁹ *“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Mt 6:19–21 NIV)*

¹³ *But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴ and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.” (Lk 14:13–14 NIV)*

- B. Faith and the Resurrection

³² *Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when you endured in a great conflict full of suffering. ³³ Sometimes you were publicly exposed to insult and persecution; at other times you stood side by side with those who were so treated. ³⁴ You suffered along with those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, because you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions. ³⁵ So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. ³⁶ You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. ³⁷ For, “In just a little while, he who is coming will come and will not delay.” ³⁸ And, “But my righteous one will live by faith. And I take no pleasure in the one who shrinks back.” ³⁹ But we do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have faith and are saved. (Heb 10:32–39 NIV)*

³² *...If the dead are not raised, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.” (1 Co 15:32 NIV)*

IV. What does this mean? How should we live then?

A. The Gospel instructs and disciplines us to live lives of simplicity, obedience, and prayer

11 For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. 12 It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, 13 while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, (Tt 2:11–13 NIV)

7 The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray. 8 Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. (1 Pe 4:7–8 NIV)

B. Questions and final observations:
