

The future, judgement & eternity

Jesus will return to establish God's kingdom and judge the world. Our eternal destiny is determined by our response to God's grace. For those who are saved through faith in Christ, there is a heaven of eternal glory in the presence of Christ. But for those who are not saved, there is the hell of suffering and separation from God.

- **John 3:16-18** ¹⁶ "For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸ "There is no judgment against anyone who believes in him. But anyone who does not believe in him has already been judged for not believing in God's one and only Son."
- **John 3:36** ³⁶ And anyone who believes in God's Son has eternal life. Anyone who doesn't obey the Son will never experience eternal life but remains under God's angry judgment."
- **1 Cor 15:51-57** ⁵¹ But let me reveal to you a wonderful secret. We will not all die, but we will all be transformed! ⁵² It will happen in a moment, in the blink of an eye, when the last trumpet is blown. For when the trumpet sounds, those who have died will be raised to live forever. And we who are living will also be transformed. ⁵³ For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die; our mortal bodies must be transformed into immortal bodies. ⁵⁴ Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled: "Death is swallowed up in victory. ⁵⁵ O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" ⁵⁶ For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. ⁵⁷ But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Different views of the future, judgement and eternity

- **There is an eternal heaven and hell which is determined by faith in Jesus. (Christian)**
- **Everyone goes to heaven. There is no hell.**
- **There is no such thing as heaven or hell**
- **Humans are reincarnated until they achieve oneness with God (New Age, Hinduism)**

Audio sermons can be downloaded from our website: www.islandfmc.ca

All Scripture references are from "The Holy Bible: New Living Translation" unless otherwise noted

ST. JOSEPH ISLAND FREE METHODIST CHURCH

SERMON NOTES

SUN JUNE 12 2016

PASTOR ADRIAN COLLINS

So What's the Difference?

Comparing Evangelical Christianity to Other Faiths



#8 – What is an Evangelical Christian? Part 6

(Review of Previous Weeks, Parts 1-5)

1. An Evangelical Christian has experienced the new birth

We become Christians when we are "born again"

- **John 3:3** ³ Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God."

(Part 1 - See Pastor Adrian's message on Apr 24, 2016)

2. An Evangelical Christian holds to key doctrinal beliefs

The importance of doctrinal beliefs

- **1 Tim 4:16** ¹⁶ Keep a close watch on how you live and on your teaching. Stay true to what is right for the sake of your own salvation and the salvation of those who hear you."

The authority of the Bible

The Bible is God's written word, a trustworthy and true record of God's revelation to people. The Bible bears unerring witness to God the Father, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, creation and people. The Holy Spirit illuminates Scripture and reveals truth as we read it.

(Part 2 - See Pastor Adrian's message on May 1, 2016)

God the Father

There is one living and true God, creator of all things. In the unity of the Godhead there are three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God the Father is eternal, unchanging, perfect, holy, just, loving and merciful. He seeks a personal relationship with every person.

(Part 3 - See Pastor Adrian's message on May 15, 2016)

Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is fully God, the second person of the trinity, and has always existed. Jesus is the only way we can have a relationship with God the Father. Jesus came to earth, born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, died on a cross to atone for our sins. He rose from the dead and is alive today as our exalted Lord who intercedes for us.

(Part 4 - See Pastor Adrian's message on May 22, 2016)

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is fully God, the third person of the trinity, who reveals Jesus Christ to us. The Holy Spirit is active in our conviction, regeneration, sanctification and glorification. He indwells Christians, teaching, guiding, convicting, and comforting them.

(Part 5 - See Pastor Adrian's message on May 29, 2016)

Salvation

Every person has sinned, resulting in a broken relationship with God. We cannot save ourselves, no matter how many good works we do. We can be saved only by the grace of God, given to us through faith in Jesus Christ. His death was the full and sufficient atonement for our sins. As we trust in Jesus to be our Lord and Saviour, our sins are completely forgiven and we are right with God.

- **Eph 2:1-10** ¹ Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. ² You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. ³ All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God's anger, just like everyone else.
- ⁴ But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, ⁵ that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) ⁶ For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus. ⁷ So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus.
- ⁸ God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. ⁹ Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. ¹⁰ For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago."

Different views of salvation

- **Salvation by grace alone, through faith in Jesus, as the only mediator between God and people (Christian)**
- **Salvation by faith and baptism (Roman Catholic)**
- **Salvation by works (Judaism, Jehovah's Witnesses)**
- **Salvation is by faith and works (Mormon)**
- **There is no need for salvation – (New Age, Hinduism, Atheism)**