

We Believe in Eternity (*Various Texts*)

EFCA Statement of Faith, Article 10

We believe that God commands everyone everywhere to believe the gospel by turning to Him in repentance and receiving the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that God will raise the dead bodily and judge the world, assigning the unbeliever to condemnation and eternal conscious punishment, and the believer to eternal blessedness and joy with the Lord, in the new heaven and the new earth, to the praise of His glorious grace. Amen.

The Universal Need

- Because of human sinfulness, everyone is in need of Jesus to save them (John 8:24)
 - He is the only means of a relationship with God (John 14:6)
- Thus, everyone everywhere needs to trust in Jesus
 - And that can only happen if those who know Him share Him (Rom. 10:14)

Eternity for All

- Just like everyone needs Jesus, everyone will face Eternity
- Everyone will experience resurrection (Rev. 20:13; Isa. 26:19; Dan. 12:2; 1 Cor. 15; 1 Thess. 4:13-18)
- Everyone will stand before Christ to be judged (2 Cor. 5:10; Ecc. 12:14; Matt. 12:36; 26:31-32; Acts 17:31; Rom. 14:10; 2 Tim. 4:1; Rev. 20:12)
 - However, there will be different destinies for people, which will depend on what they did about Jesus
 - For those who reject Him, there is eternal punishment (2 Thess. 1:9; Matt. 25:46; Lk. 16:26; Rev. 14:11; 21:6,8; 22:14,15)
 - For those who accept Him, there is eternal blessing & joy in the presence of God (Matt. 25:34, 46; John 14:2)
 - This will take place in a new heavens & earth (Isa. 65:17; 66:22; Rom. 8:19-21; Heb. 12:26,27; 2 Pet. 3:13; Rev. 21:1-3; 22:3)
- All this displays God's glorious grace and results in His praise (Eph 1:6, 12)

So What?

- We will all face eternity & judgment
- Are we prepared?
- Are we preparing others?