

Lent Course Week 3 Questions

1. Was there anything that was new to you in the opening presentation? If so how do you react to what was said? If you have questions to put to the meeting then raise them at the end.
2. What do you make of Matthew 22:31-32? How does this affect our understanding of the afterlife?
3. What do you say to the recently widowed woman who says that she talks to her deceased husband and prays for his help?
4. Should we pray for the dead? Give reasons for and against.
5. Consider Hymn 161 verses 1, 2, 6 and 7 and Hymn 174. What do you think of the views they offer of the state of the blessed after death? Do they reflect how you view the resurrection life in the new earth?
6. In what ways does prioritising 'treasure in heaven' (Matt 19:21) have a bearing on our lives today?
7. How do you react to the idea that people who do not believe in Jesus will end up in hell? Does 'turn or burn' preaching have a place in our Christian proclamation today? If you have a view of judgement how best would you explain it to someone today?
8. Tom Wright suggested there were flashing red lights to warn us against travelling in a wrong direction (middle of p 192). Do you agree with these? Are there other warnings that could challenge people?
9. The heavenly state is often defined in negatives (Rev 21:1, 4; 22:8). Why not do some speculative creative thinking and come up with some positives?