

For your notes:

 [www.youtube.com/OrmistonCFC](http://www.youtube.com/OrmistonCFC)

### Meeting Times

**Sunday mornings:** 9:30 am to 11:00 am (*sometimes longer!*)

**Sunday evenings:** 6 pm to 7:30 pm

**Mighty Kid's Church:** 10:00 to 11:00 am (downstairs)

**Sunday evenings:** 6:00 pm to 7:30

**Tuesday Bible Studies** - Fortnightly at Doug & Margaret Anderson's home 7:00 PM

**Wednesday Night Meetings** - Weekly at Kathy Elms' home 7:30 PM

### Online Giving

We thank you for your support. If you prefer to give via online banking, the details are:

Westpac Bank - Garden City Branch ([www.westpac.com.au](http://www.westpac.com.au))

Account Number: 160478

BSB Number: 034062



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Ormiston Christian Faith Church  
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Welcome to Ormiston Christian Faith Church!

## News



- **Welcome:** This morning Pastor Tony Ingram will be our speaker, remember everyone is welcome to join us for refreshments after the meeting!
- **Last week** our special morning tea was enjoyed by all present, and we raised an amazing amount of money through the gold coin donations to purchase materials and curriculum for our Mighty Kid's Church. Christy Carey baked some awesome scones which were enjoyed with jams and fresh cream for this event, and we will be having another one soon! Thanks to all who supported this worthy cause!
- **Volunteers welcome:** please feel free to put your name down on the list near the door if you would like to assist. The more the better.
- **Christmas lights project:** If you would like to contribute to our end of the year outreach via the Christmas lights project, please feel free to talk to Paul or David. Adam Carey has donated a large light display, and more lights will be needed to complete the light show.

So here's what I want you to do. When you gather for worship, each one of you be prepared with something that will be useful for all: Sing a hymn, teach a lesson, tell a story, lead a prayer, provide an insight.

**1 Corinthians 14:26** (*The Message*)



## Beyond Faith and Hope: Life in the Coming Kingdom of Jesus Christ



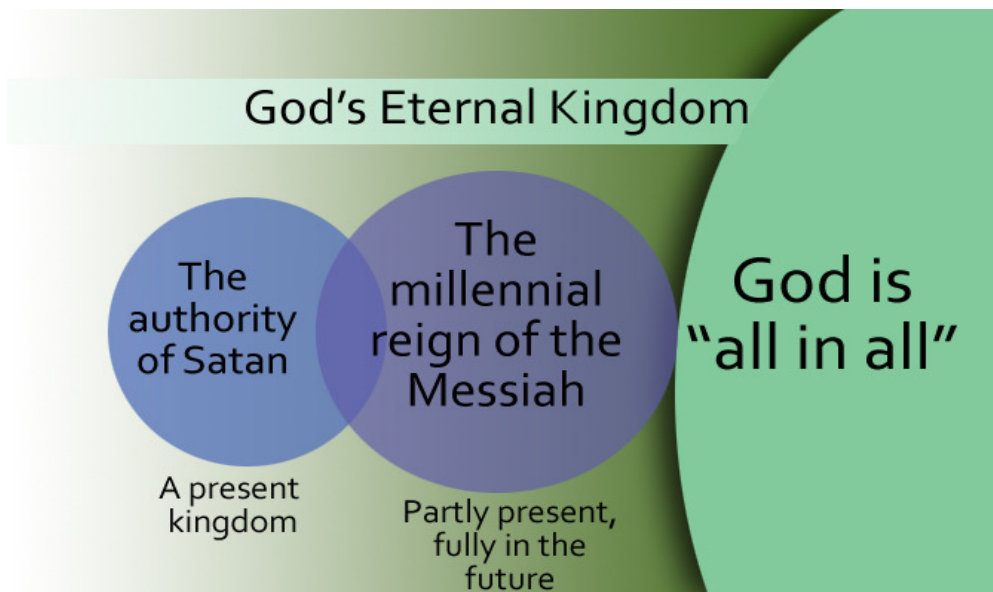
Why do so many Christians drop out of fellowship? Despite experiencing God's saving grace and power, they no longer attend church regularly. Might this be because they have no Future Hope?

A strong faith is not the answer to *everything!* A future Hope is also important. Israel had a Resurrection Hope, and held onto it through times of great trial. Job made a strong statement of his faith in a coming resurrection. (Job 19:23-27). In Acts 26:6-8, the Apostle Paul spoke of the resurrection as "the hope of the promise made to the fathers (i.e. Abraham, Isaac and Jacob).

The Resurrection Hope is the theme of Acts, chapters 24-26.

The Resurrection is "the hope of Israel", but is also "the blessed hope" of the Church! (Titus 2:13) In God's covenant oath to Abraham, the promised hope was salvation and safety. (Luke 1:68-75)

### Three Kingdoms



In John 5:25, Jesus states, "Truly, the hour is coming *and now is* when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God, and those that hear shall live". This does not refer to the literal, physical Resurrection but to the awakening from spiritual death of those who believe in Jesus now. (Ephesians 2:1-3) *We have passed* from death to life. (John 3:36) 1 John 3:14 assures us that we know that we have eternal life – that we hold it in present possession – when we love God's people.

John 5:28-29 refer to the literal Resurrection: "The hour is coming (note the absence here of "and now is") when all that are in the graves" shall hear the voice of the Son of man, and shall come forth in the resurrection. either to life or to damnation.

Revelation 20:5-6 states that the Kingdom is to be inherited in the First Resurrection. Paul states in 1 Corinthians 15:50 that "flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom". "The rest of the dead" will rise to judgement 1000 years after the First Resurrection.

Heaven is not our home – Earth is our home! God promised the world to Abraham. (Romans 4:13) We will "meet the Lord in the air" (1 Thessalonians 4:17) and then return to earth with him. We will receive our rewards and will rule the nations. The meek will inherit the earth, as Jesus (quoting Psalm 37:11, promised (Matthew 5:5). The very human Son of David will rule from the throne of God's kingdom on earth, which will be in Jerusalem. (1 Chronicles 28:5 & 29:23)

All the families of the earth will be blessed through Abraham's spiritual descendants (both Jew and gentile). It's good to "look up" toward your coming redemption, but if your hope is to reach Heaven, you are facing the wrong way!

In Matthew 8:11 Jesus states that during Christ's reign on earth, non-Jews will sit down with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. Christ's judgement seat will be a far more searching throne of examination than was Pilate's! (Matthew 25:31, Romans 14:10, 2 Corinthians 5:10) The faithful will approach the judgement with confidence. (Hebrews 4:6, 1 John 4:15-18)

Christ's Kingdom will be *Heaven on Earth!* The Father's Kingdom will come only after the Son's authority is exerted over "the last enemy" – death. (1 Corinthians 15:24-26)

**By Pastor Peter Barfoot** (as preached on Sunday 9th August, 2009)