



God's Story, Our Stories

NEW CREATION:
Joining God's
Eternal Story of
Eternal Life



God's Story, Our Stories

- I. **CREATION:** A Good Creator Creates a Good World
- II. **FALL:** Rivalry, Jealousy and Generosity
- III. **ISRAEL:** God Begins His Relentless Rescue
- IV. **JESUS:** God Takes on Flesh in His Story
- V. **CHURCH:** God's Chosen People in God's Beloved World
- VI. **NEW CREATION:** Joining God's Eternal Story of Eternal Life

Error #1:
We can obsess on the details.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-3 NIV

- ¹ "Now, brothers, about times and dates we do not need to write to you,
- ² for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.
- ³ While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape."

Error #2:

We can bypass the discussion.

Revelation 21:6-8 NIV

- ⁶ He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life.
- ⁷ He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son.
- ⁸ But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars--their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death."

John 11:17-26 NIV

¹⁷ On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.

¹⁸ Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem,

¹⁹ and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother.

²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

21 "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

22 But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."

23 Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

24 Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies;

26 and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

When the end of the Story stops
informing our moment in the Story, then
we will live out a different story.

Revelation 21:1-5 NIV

- ¹ Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea.
- ² I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.
- ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

- ⁴ He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no
More death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of
things has passed away."
- ⁵ He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making
everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these
words are trustworthy and true."

Revelation 22:1-5 NIV

- ¹ Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb
- ² down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

³ No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him.

⁴ They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.

⁵ There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 NIV

- ¹³ Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope.
- ¹⁴ We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.
- ¹⁵ According to the Lord's own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep.

- ¹⁶ For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.
- ¹⁷ After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.
- ¹⁸ Therefore encourage each other with these words.

1 Corinthians 15:50-54 NIV

⁵⁰ I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

⁵¹ Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed--

⁵² in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

53 For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable,
and the mortal with immortality.

54 When the perishable has been clothed with the
imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the
saying that is written will come true: "Death has been
swallowed up in victory."

Sanctification makes us spiritually fit for God's presence. Resurrection makes us bodily fit for God's presence. God intends our complete transformation so we may enjoy God forever in the New Creation.

God's Story does not end; in fact, it had no beginning; and God equips us to participate in an unending story by raising us from the dead. He makes us capable of the quality of life that God enjoys by taking on flesh in Jesus Christ and inviting us under Christ's rule and reign.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is
in Christ, he is a new
creation; the old has
gone, the new has come!



Error #3:

We can repress the demands.



“Aim at Heaven and
you will get Earth
'thrown in': aim at Earth
and you will get
neither.”

C. S. LEWIS

Our longing for King Jesus must never be surpassed by our delight or despair in any earthly authority—president, principal, prime minister, or party.

If we are not a people of hope, then the world will have no reflection of hope in Jesus Christ. If we are hopeless, the world will see us as faithless, too. When we are too in love for the temporary, then our hope in Christ wanes and the world questions our faith in Christ.

- Prioritize gathering as the church
- If you haven't been baptized, consider baptism class September 7 (with Baptisms September 28)
- If you are not yet a partner at King Street Church, consider partnership (Classes on October 12 and October 19)