Eschatology teaching series – Guidelines for contributors

Eschatology has become a contentious issue in some Christian circles, so much so that many Christians actively avoid it. This is a shame, as we should all have at least a basic awareness of the prophecies that point to the future of the world. Others simply ignore it as it seems too complex to get their heads around. We would like to encourage study of this area, and engagement, debate and discussion.

With this in mind, we have put together these guidelines to inform you how we plan to consider articles on this topic.

The plan is to have articles covering a variety of topics, e.g., the tribulation, the rapture, the antichrist, the millennium, the new heavens and the new earth etc. As these topics have a number of interpretations, we wish to have separate articles presenting each interpretation, and the biblical reasons for it (and, where necessary, an introductory piece). We do not wish to tell people what to think in this area, but give them food for thought, and help them to consider all the issues, with biblical exegesis. Where possible, we will publish differing viewpoints on one topic consecutively to help readers to compare.

We want to present this series to all readers:

* People new to the subject will need key terms explained, and then will benefit from a good overview of what may happen. We will put together soon a glossary to explain the main key terms which are essential for understanding.
* People who already have some understanding will have an opportunity to consider other interpretations, and at least understand the rationale for them.

We wish to show to other Christians – and the world – how we can debate and disagree with brotherly love and respect for each other, in a way that promotes the good news of Christ and the Kingdom of God.

With this in mind we ask contributors to write articles, up to about 2,000 words in length, that meet the following criteria:

* Articles should be clear and biblically based
* Articles should present a **positive** case for any particular interpretation, rather than rubbishing others.
* Authors should recognise that other ideas which have been based on the Bible have been constructed by sincere Christians who have been doing their best to understand what the Bible says, although of course not all interpretations can be right. If it is absolutely necessary to point out perceived flaws in any other viewpoint, it should be done so with respect.
* Please ensure that as much as possible you consider what the Biblical texts actually say (exegesis), rather than what you wish them to say. State clearly when you consider that an interpretation is clear from a text, and where you think the text merely implies something.
* Articles should be reasonably easy to read, and avoid over-reliance on jargon. Readers will be able to access a glossary, but it would be helpful if they do not have to do this too often!
* Biblical references can be put in brackets, and these will contain a hyperlink so that readers can easily check them.

Be aware that each article will be considered carefully before publication. Articles will normally be accepted and published if they meet the above criteria, although it is worth checking with our content editor, Kathryn (kathryn@prophecytoday.uk) before you submit it that we haven’t already received a suitable article presenting the same topic. Any view will be considered, providing it has a clear grounding in Scripture. All articles will also be edited for tone, clarity, grammar and spelling, and our house-style.