

- **Intro: tone = positive (assume doing)**
 - events “far” in the future don’t seem real – **have to work hard to conceptualize, realize their certainty**
 - **joke: I’m going to be** old one day, wrinkly, hunched over, mind not function as well – **dead – prepared?**
 - **Dennis Trask and Jerry Flatt:** die one day, funeral, won’t be our elders, other men step up – **prepared?**
 - **lesson:** Is Eternity Real to You? – **prepared?**

- **Before eternity can be real to you, God has to be real. – Wed. Bible class**
 - **illus.:** Tyler and Taylor, man across town is going to give you each \$100b if you can this number after church - 555-1421 — **do you believe get \$, why not, don’t believe there’s a man**
 - **must believe God exists before can believe eternity (heaven, hell) exist**
 - **SR - Ec. 3:11 God has set eternity in your heart** – by the appropriateness (beauty) of all things created
 - **supplemental song, Have You Seen Jesus My Lord**
 - **R - Rom. 1:18-20 God’s design of all things** (heaven and earth) declares:
 - **His existence**
 - there is a **judgment** – there is no excuse
 - there is **eternity** – **rf - Ec. 3:11**

- **- R - Rom. 1:16 if you believe in God,** as demonstrated through creation, **not ashamed of gospel - obey**
 - **illus.:** Tyler and Taylor: if believed in the man, that he’d give \$100b, they’d make the call - 555-1241
 - **if you believe in God, you believe in eternity,** and the **significance** in it’s existence

- **If God is real to you, Jesus and the Holy Spirit are real to you.**
 - **R - Jn. 10:25, 37-38 if believe in God, must believe in Jesus** – **works, miracles, God testified**
- **- rf - Col. 1:16-17; Heb. 1:2-3 all things created** by through and for Jesus, **sustained** by power of His word
 - **rf - Jn. 1:1 Jesus is the Word**

- **- R - Heb. 2:4 if believe in Jesus, must believe in Holy Spirit** – **Jesus miracles performed through H.S.**
 - **them must also believe in the Bible, word of God** – **result: obedience**
- **- rf - 2 Pet. 1:20-21** no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but **men moved by the Holy Spirit** spoke from God
 - **sometimes it’s like brethren don’t really believe** in the **Holy Spirit**
 - **afraid to sing #615, vs. 3, Spirit I adore You, Lay my life before You, How I love You!**

- **illus.:** if you believe in Alan Crim, must believe that Evan, Alisa, and Nolan are his children
 - **because he said they were, has legal documents to prove it** – if not believe. . . .
 - **if believe God, must believe in Jesus, H.S., His word** – **because He has testified** – if not believe. . . .

- **If God is real to you, death is real to you. – physical, spiritual death in hell**
 - **R - Heb. 9:27** die once, physical death – hardly seems real when young, gets more real as age
 - saying: two things in life can't avoid: death and taxes
 - **illus.:** every think about your funeral, what if will be like, pretend you attend own funeral – **paint**

- **- R - Rev. 20:6, 14-15 2nd death, hell**
- **- choice one death or two: - rf - Rom. 6:23** wages of sin is death, but gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus
 - **illus.:** Dennis, man lives where Elbert and William live, visited here time or two
 - this week, asked me if he was going to heaven, **tearfully** said, **“I don't want to go to hell”**
 - **death , hell was real to him**
 - **Is death and hell real to you?** – how often do you think about it

- **If God is real to you, eternity is real to you!** – live forever after physical death, Christ's coming, judgment, heaven, hell
 - **Christ's coming – expect every day**
 - **R - Heb. 9:27-28** appear 2nd time for salvation, to those who **eagerly wait** for Him
 - **- rf - Acts 1:9-11** Jesus come again, in same manner as ascended into heaven
 - **- rf - 1 Th. 4:13-18; 2 Th. 1:6-10** Jesus' return - reward and punishment
 - #386, **Jesus Is Coming Soon** – chorus
 - #473, **When He Comes In Glory By And By** – vs. 1, chorus, vs. 3a
 - **- judgment – know it's coming, reality**
 - **R - 2 Cor. 5:7, 10** walk by faith = know you'll stand before Christ in judgment
 - #297, **Prepare To Meet They God** – vs. 1, chorus
 - #283, **There's A Great Day Coming** – vs. 1, chorus
 - **- heaven – expect to be in heaven** (2nd death, hell discussed earlier)
 - **R - Rev. 22:1-5** eternal life, serving and worshiping God in heaven, throne, see face
 - #191, **Heaven Hold All To Me** – vs. 1, chorus
 - #194, **When We All Get To Heaven** – vs. 1, chorus
 - #436, **I'll Fly Away** – vs. 1, chorus

- **Does your life reflect that eternity is real to you?**
 - **Are you obeying the gospel of Jesus Christ?**
 - **R - 2 Tim. 1:9-10** salvation real to you – faithful Christian

- **- Are you growing as a Christian?** – holy in all your conduct - abstaining from evil, fleeing lusts, denying self, taking up cross daily
 - **R - 2 Pet. 1:5-8, 10-11** (Bible Drill) **growing** as a Christian
- **- R - 2 Pet. 3:11-13** holy in conduct, **awaiting Christ's return**
- **- R - 2 Pet. 3:18** ready for eternity

➤ **Summary / Inv.**

- **Is eternity real to you?** (God, Jesus, H.S., death, hell, Christ's return, judgment, heaven)
- **Does your life reflect that it's real to you?**
- **Are you a faithful Christian? - inv.**