

# The Hope of Heaven

Brookside Church

16<sup>th</sup> February 2014

**A few odds and ends...**

- **The Joy of the Gospel**



APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION  
*EVANGELII GAUDIUM*

OF THE HOLY FATHER  
FRANCIS

TO THE BISHOPS, CLERGY,  
CONSECRATED PERSONS  
AND THE LAY FAITHFUL  
ON THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL  
IN TODAY'S WORLD



1. THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. With Christ joy is constantly born anew. In this Exhortation I wish to encourage the Christian faithful to embark upon a new chapter of evangelization marked by this joy, while pointing out new paths for the Church's journey in years to come.

Surprised by Joy

CS Lewis



Surprised by Hope

Tom Wright



# Heaven and the future – the Bible's teaching

Prophetic references in OT  
300+ references in the NT

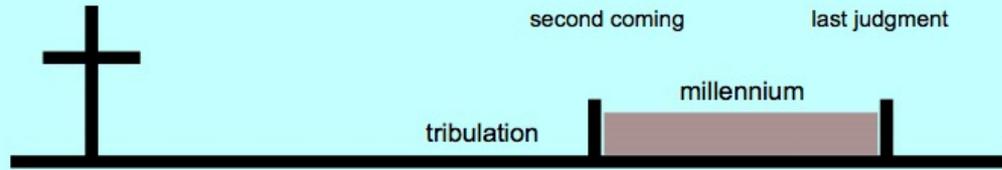
- Matt 24
- Mark 13
- Acts 1 v 11, 17 v 31
- 1 Cor 15 (v 51-52)
- 1 Thess 4 v 13 – 5 v 11
- 2 Peter 3
- Rev 1 v 7, 5,
- Rev 21/22

Note:

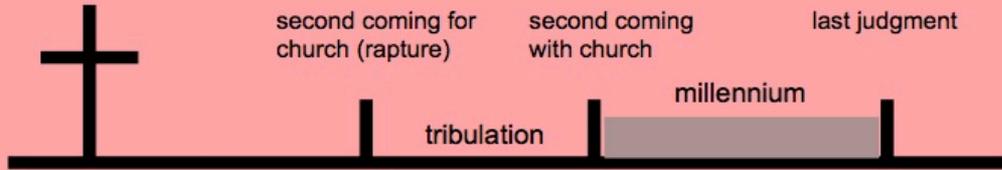
- All inspired by God, but
  - written at different times
  - by many authors
  - in multiple genre
  - for diverse people
  - in varied situations
  - for various reasons
  - sometimes as answers to questions unknown to us

# Eschatology views

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*1. Post-tribulational Premillennialism*



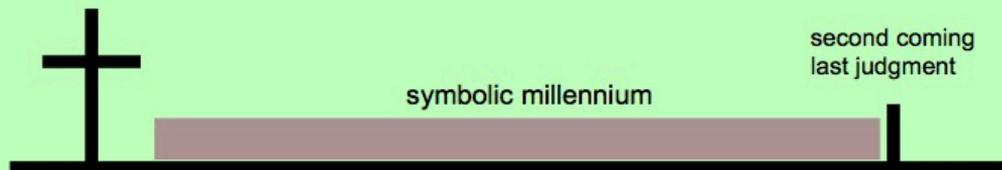
*2. Pre-tribulational (dispensational) Premillennialism*

First Coming of Jesus

Eternity

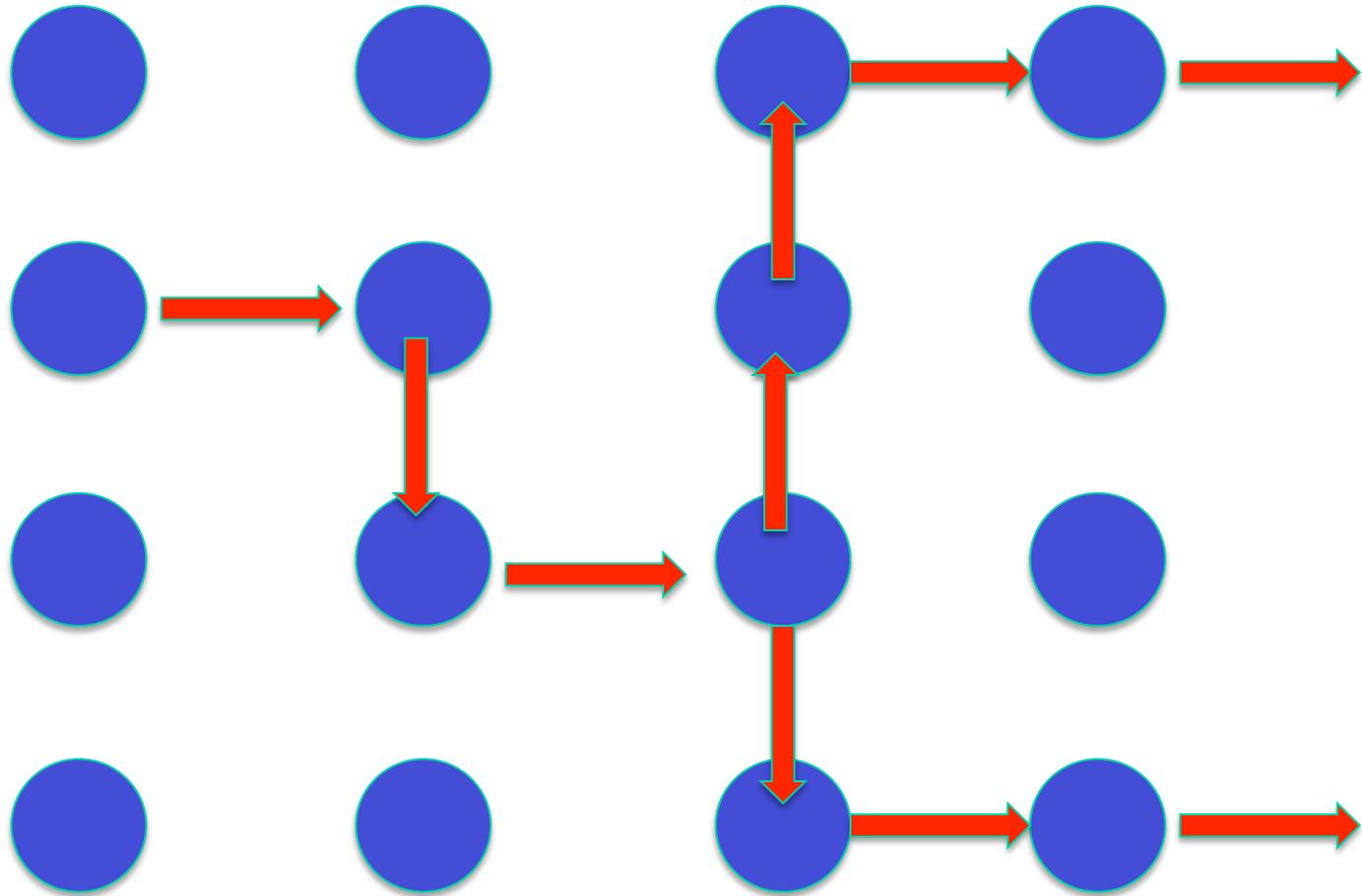


*3. Postmillennialism*

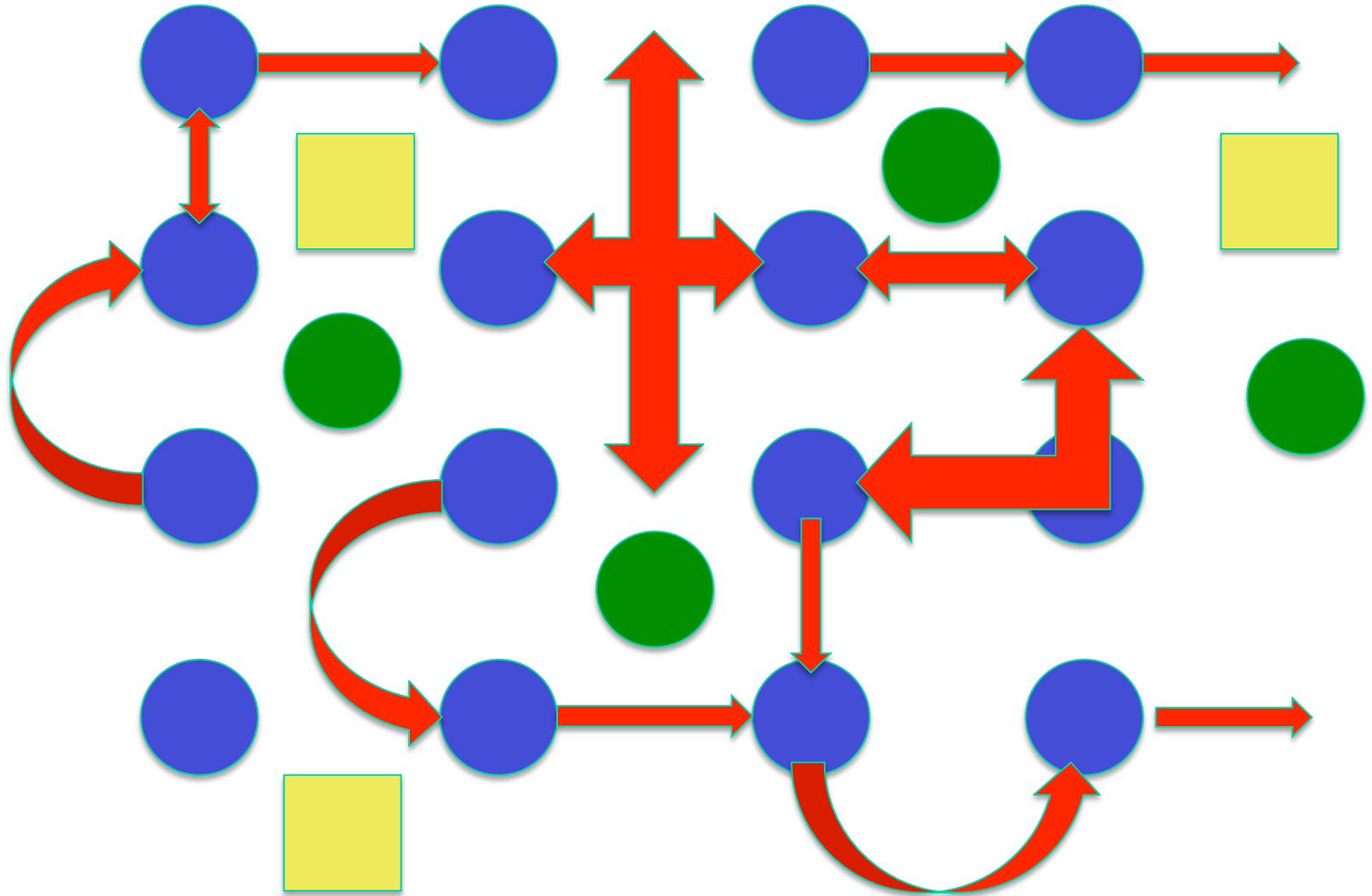


*4. Amillennialism*

# Connecting the dots



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Creation

Jesus'  
incarnation

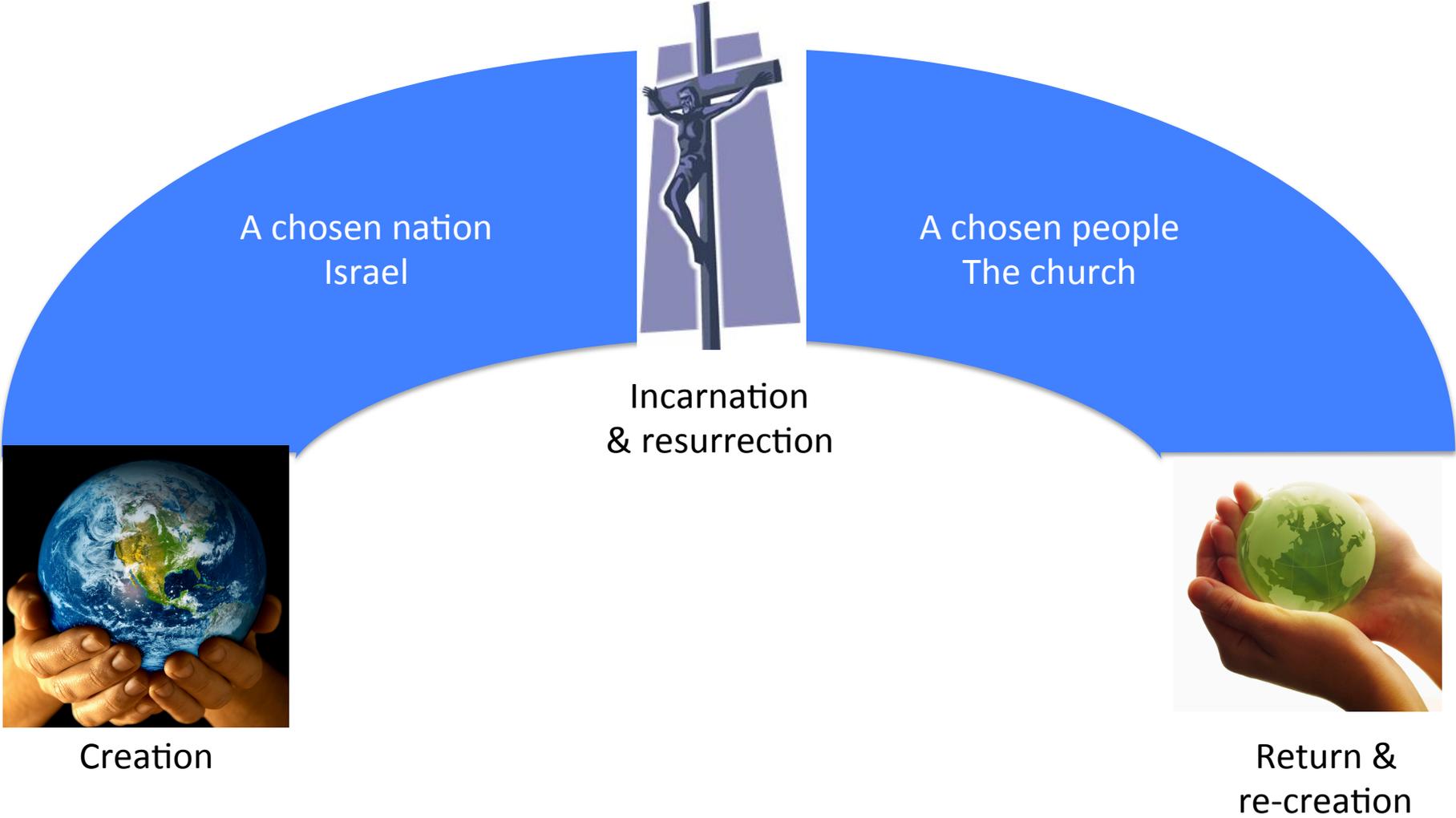
Jesus'  
return

History of the World

Re-creation

New Heaven  
& New Earth

# God's big story



# The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, The only Son of God, Eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, Begotten, not made, Of one Being with the Father Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven:

By the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

# New heaven and a new earth

- Hope & Joy?
  - Hope is fulfilled
  - Joy is complete
- Re-creation
  - Bride and the groom
- Resurrected and transformed bodies
  - Incorruptible - no more sickness; recreated in God's image and un-fallen because redeemed
- Lost in wonder love and praise?
  - what kind of worship?
- Citizens of the newly joined heaven and earth
  - With work to do: creative, imaginative, fulfilling, absorbing, God-empowered, God-centred

# So what?

- 2 Peter 3 v 3 – 14, 18
- ‘How shall we now live?’
  - In Hope
  - With Joy
  - Live in the big picture
  - Live in the light of eternity
- ‘Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven...’