

*Simply Good News*

Chapter 6: "Wrong Future, Wrong Present"

1. On page 107 Wright explains that the way the biblical writers used language was, in fact, about political situations, like the fall of Jerusalem, rather than the end of the space-time universe. Do we use language that way today? If so, what is it? How doesn't this understanding help us to read the New Testament better and how does it impact our expectations?
2. Wright speaks about the myth of progress; that everything is getting better. How has that cultural philosophy impacted theology you have learned?
3. Should we engage in social justice struggles? If so, why? If not, why not? Does doing so deny that God brings his kingdom, not us? If they do, how do the two, divine and human, work together?
4. How does understanding the *sporadic* (118) nature of the kingdom establishing help us wrestle with the present and the future?
5. On page 121 Wright gives a robust description of Christian spirituality. How does that description compare with spirituality born out of an articulation of the gospel centred around something like the bridge diagram or the four spiritual laws? (For those who did Luke in the Fall McKnight described the difficulty of making people Christians and then convincing them to become disciples).
6. What do you think is the right balance between human Christian endeavour to build the kingdom and God's promise to give the kingdom?