# THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS CHRIST

Acts 1:11

#### THE SECOND COMING

"...When the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:8)

Jesus asked a rhetorical question. The answer is "Yes":

"For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep." (1 Thessalonians 4:15)

The question each of us should ask ourselves is:

"If I am among those who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will He find faith in me?"

#### THE SECOND COMING

THE CERTAINTY OF HIS COMING

Taught by Jesus:

"Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also." (John 14:1-3)

#### THE SECOND COMING

THE CERTAINTY OF HIS COMING

Taught by the angels:

"And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. They also said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven."" (Acts 1:10-11)

#### THE SECOND COMING

THE CERTAINTY OF HIS COMING

Taught by James:

"Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious produce of the soil, being patient about it, until it gets the early and late rains. You too be patient; strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near." (James 5:7-8)

Taught by Peter:

"Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 1:13)

#### THE SECOND COMING

THE CERTAINTY OF HIS COMING

Taught by John:

"Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is." (1 John 3:2)

"Behold, He is coming with the clouds..." (Revelation 1:7)

THE CERTAINTY OF HIS COMING

Taught by Paul:

"For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ..." (Philippians 3:20)

"...so that you are not lacking in any gift, awaiting eagerly the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will also confirm you to the end, blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Corinthians 1:7-8)

#### THE SECOND COMING

THE CERTAINTY OF HIS COMING

Taught by Paul:

"For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes." (1 Corinthians 11:26)

Jesus has given us the Lord's Supper as a weekly reminder that He is coming again!

The Bible assures us that the second coming of Jesus Christ is absolutely certain. So, what does the Bible say about the manner of His coming?

#### THE SECOND COMING

THE MANNER OF HIS COMING

His coming will be PERSONAL:

"This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven." (Acts 1:11)

He will appear in a GLORIFIED body:

"Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is." (1 John 3:2) (cf. 1 Corinthians 15:35ff)

#### THE SECOND COMING

THE MANNER OF HIS COMING

His appearance will be AUDIBLE:

"Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment." (John 5:28-29)

"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first." (1 Thessalonians 4:16)

#### THE SECOND COMING

THE MANNER OF HIS COMING

His appearance will be VISIBLE:

"Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen." (Revelation 1:7)

Consider the description of the Lord in the 104<sup>th</sup> psalm: "Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, You are very great; You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering Yourself with light as with a cloak, stretching out heaven like a tent curtain. He lays the beams of His upper chambers in the waters; He makes the clouds His chariot; He walks upon the wings of the wind..." (Psalms 104:1-3)

#### THE SECOND COMING

THE MANNER OF HIS COMING

He will be accompanied by A MULTITUDE OF ANGELS:

"But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne." (Matthew 25:31)

He will be accompanied by the resurrected DEAD IN CHRIST:

"For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first." (1 Thessalonians 4:14-16)

WHEN IS THE TIME OF HIS COMING?

The TIME of His coming is UNKNOWN:

"But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be." (Matthew 24:36-39)

## THE SECOND COMING

THE TIME OF HIS COMING

The TIME of His coming will be UNEXPECTED:

"Now as to the times and the epochs, brethren, you have no need of anything to be written to you. For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night."
(1 Thessalonians 5:1-2)

Because His coming will be unexpected, <u>we must be</u> ready at all times.

Jesus said, "Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour." (Matthew 25:13)

## THE SECOND COMING

THE TIME OF HIS COMING

The TIME of His coming will be THE END OF THE AGE:

"The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man, and the field is the world; and as for the good seed, these are the sons of the kingdom; and the tares are the sons of the evil one; and the enemy who sowed them is the devil, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels. So just as the tares are gathered up and burned with fire, so shall it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness, and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear." (Matthew 13:37-43)

#### THE SECOND COMING

THE TIME OF HIS COMING

Christ ASCENDED at the BEGINNING of the Gospel Age:

"And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. (Acts 1:9)

Christ will DESCEND at the END of the Gospel Age:

"Then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power." (1 Corinthians 15:24)

#### THE SECOND COMING

THE PURPOSE OF HIS COMING

He is NOT COMING TO OFFER A SACRIFICE FOR SINS; He did that the first time:

"And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment, so Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him." (Hebrews 9:27-28)

#### THE SECOND COMING

THE PURPOSE OF HIS COMING

He is NOT COMING TO SET UP HIS KINGDOM:

"And Jesus was saying to them, 'Truly I say to you, there are some of those who are standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power."" (Mark 9:1)

"Truly I say to you, there are some of those who are standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom." (Matthew 16:28)

According to Jesus, His kingdom came into existence during the lifetime of some who heard Him speak. We can read about its establishment in Acts chapter 2.

THE PURPOSE OF HIS COMING

He is NOT COMING TO SET UP HIS KINGDOM:

Paul wrote concerning an already existing kingdom:

"For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." (Colossians 1:13-14)

John wrote concerning an already existing kingdom:

"...and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father – to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen." (Revelation 1:6)

#### THE SECOND COMING

THE PURPOSE OF HIS COMING

He is NOT COMING TO OFFER A SECOND CHANCE to anyone:

"And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment..." (Hebrews 9:27)

The account of the rich man and Lazarus teaches us that there are NO SECOND CHANCES! (Luke 16:19ff)

## THE SECOND COMING

THE PURPOSE OF HIS COMING

He is coming to JUDGE ALL PEOPLE:

"But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats..." (Matthew 25:31-32)

"Then the King will say to those on His right, 'Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."" (Matthew 25:34)

"Then He will also say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels..." (Matthew 25:41)

#### THE SECOND COMING

THE PURPOSE OF HIS COMING

He is coming to JUDGE ALL PEOPLE:

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea, and gathering fish of every kind; and when it was filled, they drew it up on the beach; and they sat down and gathered the good fish into containers, but the bad they threw away. So it will be at the end of the age; the angels will come forth and take out the wicked from among the righteous, and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." (Matthew 13:47-50)

#### THE SECOND COMING

THE PURPOSE OF HIS COMING

He is coming to JUDGE ALL PEOPLE:

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad." (2 Corinthians 5:10)

#### THE SECOND COMING

THE PURPOSE OF HIS COMING

He is coming to JUDGE ALL PEOPLE:

This includes TAKING VENGEANCE ON THE WICKED.

"For after all it is only just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed – for our testimony to you was believed." (2 Thessalonians 1:6-10)

THE PURPOSE OF HIS COMING

He is coming to JUDGE ALL PEOPLE:

This includes THE SALVATION OF THE RIGHTEOUS.

"These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." (Matthew 25:46)

"...Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life." (Revelation 2:10)

WHAT IS OUR DUTY UNTIL JESUS COMES AGAIN?

#### THE SECOND COMING

OUR DUTY UNTIL CHRIST COMES

CHRISTIANS need to REMAIN OBEDIENT TO CHRIST!

"And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation..." (Hebrews 5:9)

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven is who will enter." (Matthew 7:21)

"...that you should remember the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior spoken by your apostles." (2 Peter 3:2)

## THE SECOND COMING

**OUR DUTY UNTIL CHRIST COMES** 

CHRISTIANS need to REMAIN OBEDIENT TO CHRIST!

"So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling..." (Philippians 2:12)

"But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God..." (2 Peter 3:10-12a)

## THE SECOND COMING

OUR DUTY UNTIL CHRIST COMES

Those OUTSIDE OF CHRIST need to OBEY THE GOSPEL!

"Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ – this Jesus whom you crucified. Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, 'Brethren, what shall we do?' Peter said to them, 'Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'" (Acts 2:36-38)

"For it is time for judgment to begin with the household of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?" (1 Peter 4:17)

## THE SECOND COMING

"...When the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?" Luke 18:8

IF JESUS COMES IN YOUR LIFETIME, WILL HE FIND FAITH IN YOU?

## HOW TO OBEY THE GOSPEL

- Hear the word (2 Thessalonians 2:14-15; James 1:21)
- Believe the gospel (Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24)
- Repent of sins (Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30-31)
- Confess Jesus Christ (Romans 10:10; Matthew 10:32-33)
- Be Baptized (Galatians 3:26-27; Romans 6:3-4; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38)
- Remain Obedient (Matthew 7:21; Revelation 2:10; Hebrews 3:12)