

Our King Is Coming!

Part 1

Introduction.

1. While our Lord was yet among men, He promised, "I will come again." (Jn. 14:1-3).

John 14:1 "Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me.

John 14:2 "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.

John 14:3 "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.

- a. These words were uttered immediately after Jesus had made His shocking statement about leaving them that had greatly saddened His disciples. (Jn. 13:33).

John 13:33 "Little children, I am with you a little while longer. You will seek Me; and as I said to the Jews, now I also say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.'"

- b. Jesus then sought to comfort them and all believers with the words the apostle John records in John 14:1-3.

2. Though many centuries have come and gone, this precious promise still echoes through the ages, bringing comfort to all believers and especially suffering believers - hunger, rejection, persecution, war.

3. The Hebrew writer penned these words about the second coming of Christ. (Heb. 9:28)

Heb 9:28 so Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, **will appear a second [visible] time for salvation** without {reference to} sin, to those who eagerly await Him.

- a. The first appearing of Christ was His birth in Bethlehem of Judea. (Matt. 2:1).

- 1) He was born in Bethlehem as Micah the prophet had prophesied. (Mic. 5:2).

- 2) Jesus' existence did not begin in Bethlehem, but "His goings forth are from long ago, From the days of eternity."

- 3) He was born "when the fullness of time came," that is, when the time was just right. (Gal. 4:4).

- 4) He came to save man (Matt. 1:21; 20:28; Lk. 19:10), and died for all. (Heb. 2:9).

- b. He ascended back to heaven after His death and resurrection (Mk. 16:19; Lk. 24:51), but promised, "I will come again." (Jn. 14:3).

- 1) Just before His ascension into heaven, two men [angels] gave this assurance to the apostles and to believers in every age. (Acts 1:9-11).

Acts 1:9 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 1:10 And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them.

Acts 1:11 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."

2) Jesus left visibly and He will return visibly whenever His Father chooses to send Him. (Matt. 24:36).

Visible Comings Of Jesus

1. The Bible speaks of visible comings of Jesus.
2. His first coming [the incarnation] was a visible coming. He came in the flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. (Jn. 1:14; Lk. 1:26-35; 1 Tim. 3:16).
3. His second coming will also be a visible coming. (Acts 1:11; Rev. 1:7).

Invisible Comings Of Jesus

1. The Bible also speaks of invisible comings of Jesus.
2. Jesus comes into our presence invisibly every time we partake of the Lord's supper. (Matt. 26:29).

Matt 26:29 "But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day **when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom.**"

3. Jesus also comes invisibly into the hearts of those who invite Him into their hearts. (Rev. 3:20).

Rev 3:20 'Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me. See also Gal. 2:20; Col. 1:27.

4. **Other invisible comings of Christ will be discussed later in this series of lessons.**

Second Coming

1. His second visible appearing will come at some unknown time in the future. (Matt. 24:36; 25:13).

Matt 24:36 "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.

Matt 25:13 "Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour."

2. Our Lord made the promise to visibly come again "I will come again." (Jn.14:3).
3. We can live with full confidence our King is coming for us. (Heb.13:5).
 - a. He is not coming to be crowned and begin His reign.
 - b. He is already reigning at the right hand of God. (Acts 2:32-36). See Heb. 1:3

Acts 2:32 "This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses.

Acts 2:33 "Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the

promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear.

Acts 2:34 "For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says: 'THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND,

Acts 2:35 UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET.'"

Acts 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ--this Jesus whom you crucified."

- c. The exalted Christ, reigning at the right hand of God, had already heard His Father speak these words. (Psa. 45:6-7; Heb. 1:8-9).

Ps 45:6 Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Your kingdom.

Ps 45:7 You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of joy above Your fellows.

Heb 1:8 But of the Son {He says,} "YOUR THRONE, O GOD, IS FOREVER AND EVER, AND THE RIGHTEOUS SCEPTER IS THE SCEPTER OF HIS KINGDOM.

Heb 1:9 "YOU HAVE LOVED RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HATED LAWLESSNESS; THEREFORE GOD, YOUR GOD, HAS ANOINTED YOU WITH THE OIL OF GLADNESS ABOVE YOUR COMPANIONS."

- d. He was in heaven when He heard these words, but He was made invisible to human eyes "the Lord of lords" and "the King of kings." (1 Tim. 6:15). He was given all authority in heaven and on earth. (Matt. 28:18).
- e. This invisible coming of Christ arriving back to heaven to reign as "the Lord of lords" and "the King of kings" explains several Scriptures that often confuse Bible students. (Matt. 10:23; Mk. 9:1; Matt. 16:28).

Matt 10:23 "But whenever they persecute you [the apostles] in one city, flee to the next; for truly I say to you, you will not finish {going through} the cities of Israel until the Son of Man comes."

Mark 9:1 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." Acts 1:8: 2:1-4).

Matt 16:28 "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."

- 1) The apostles would not "finish {going through} the cities of Israel until the Son of Man comes."
- 2) He would invisibly begin to reign in heaven at the right hand of God years before He would come invisibly to bring destruction on Jerusalem through the Roman army, but the language could refer to either event.
- 3) Jesus had promised to give the keys of the kingdom to the apostle Peter. (Matt. 16:18).
- 4) Peter used these keys on the day of Pentecost when, as Christ's representative, he commanded those who had come to believe in Jesus to repent and be baptized "for the forgiveness of sins." (Acts 2:38).
- 5) Those who obeyed Peter became a part of God's kingdom by being born of water and the Spirit. (Jn. 3:5).
- 6) Jesus was invisibly present as King on Pentecost and those who obeyed the King of kings by obeying Peter's commandment became citizens of God's kingdom.

4. Christ is now invisible to human eyes, but He still is reigning and has “all authority in heaven and on earth.” (Matt. 28:18).
5. One day Christ is coming again to end His reign and take His followers home to glory. (Jn. 14:3; 1 Cor. 15:24-26; 1 Thess. 4:13-18).
6. Like the patriarchs of old we are looking forward to a heavenly country. (Heb. 11:9-10,16).

Heb 11:9 By faith he lived as an alien in the land of promise, as in a foreign {land,} dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs of the same promise;

Heb 11:10 for he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

Heb 11:16 But as it is, they desire a better {country,} that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them.

- a. The patriarchs were looking beyond this world.
 - b. They were looking for a home in heaven - not just a temporary home in Canaan.
 - c. As pilgrims [aliens] and sojourners on the earth, we also look forward to heaven. (1 Pet. 2:11).
7. Heaven is promised to “the pure in heart” and to those persecuted for “the sake of righteousness” (Matt. 5:8, 10-12).

Matt 5:8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Matt 5:10 "Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matt 5:11 "Blessed are you when {people} insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me.

Matt 5:12 "Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

8. Heaven has been reserved for all believers. (1 Pet. 1:4).

1 Pet 1:4 to {obtain} an inheritance {which is} imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

9. Jesus gave His followers this blessed assurance. (Lk. 10:20).

Luke 10:20 "Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, **but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven.**"

10. Those who have their names “written in the Lamb’s book of life” (Rev. 21:27) will be in heaven forever. (Matt. 25:46; Rev. 22:5).

11. The Bible does not answer every question about His second coming.

- a. It does give us enough information to excite us and motivate us to daily live for Christ and prepare for His coming.
- b. Let us notice some of the amazing and wondrous characteristics of His second coming.

Majestic

1. Christ's second coming will be majestic [with beauty and unlimited power]. (Matt. 25:31).

“When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and **all the holy angels with Him**, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.” (Matt. 25:31.)

a. Christ is coming in “His glory.”

1) He is coming with the clouds and His coming will be visible to all. (Acts 1:9-11; Rev. 1:7).

Acts 1:9 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 1:10 And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them.

Acts 1:11 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."

Rev 1:7 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.

2) He is coming Personally. (1 Thess. 4:16).

1 Thess 4:16 **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.

3) “Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire.” (2 Thess. 1:7).

4) Christ is coming with “all the holy angels.” (Matt. 25:31).

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

5) He will raise **all the dead** when He personally comes visibly the 2nd time before His ascension back to heaven and the ascension of believers into heaven. (Jn. 5:28-29). See 1 Thess. 4:13-18.

6) He will “sit on His glorious throne” when He comes to judge. (Matt. 25:31).

7) This will be for the judgment of mankind. (Matt. 25:31-46; 2 Cor. 5:10; 2 Tim. 4:1).

2. The vast number of the angels is given in the books of Hebrews and Revelation. (Heb. 12:22; Rev. 5:11).

Heb 12:22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels,

Rev 5:11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands,

a. The word “myriad” is from “murias” [moo ree **ahs**] meaning “ten thousand.”

b. The meaning may be “ten thousand times ten thousand.”

c. This would be 100,000,000 plus “thousands of thousands.”

d. The meaning may be that Christ is coming with His innumerable, countless angels.

e. What a glorious and exciting sight this will be!

Matthew 24

1. Many have misunderstood Matthew 24 to mean there will be warnings of His second coming.
 - a. They seek to interpret various events in the world as a sign or indication that Jesus is coming soon.
 - b. This chapter will show it is useless and folly to date the second coming of Christ.
2. In Matthew 24 Jesus answers two questions His disciples asked. (Matt. 24:1-4).

Matt 24:1 Jesus came out from the temple and was going away when His disciples came up to point out the temple buildings to Him.

Matt 24:2 And He said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone here will be left upon another, which will not be torn down."

Matt 24:3 As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "**Tell us, when will these things happen, and what {will be} the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"**

Matt 24:4 And Jesus answered and said to them, "See to it that no one misleads you.

- a. These words of Jesus were shocking to His disciples because the temple was the temple of God and they likely believed it would never be destroyed until the end of the world.
 - b. The disciples immediately wanted to know two things.
 - 1) They wanted to know when the temple would be destroyed.
 - 2) They also wanted to know when Christ would come again, and when the "age" [world] would end.
3. **They may have viewed these two events as the same event**, but Jesus revealed the destruction of Jerusalem and His second coming are two different events.
 4. Jesus prophesied two major observable events in Matthew 24 - the destruction of Jerusalem and His second visible coming.
 5. There would be many observable signs preceding the destruction of Jerusalem, but there would be **no signs** preceding His second coming!

Conclusion.

1. In Part 2 of this lesson on "Our King Is Coming" we will carefully examine the answer Jesus gave His disciples in Matthew 24 in regard to the destruction of Jerusalem and also study the 2nd coming of Christ.
2. These are two separate events, but many have misunderstood this important fact and have interpreted the chapter to refer exclusively to Christ's second coming
3. This misunderstanding and confusion has led to many false doctrines and has led some to reject the inspiration of the Bible and deny the faith.
4. Every generation has sought to apply these signs to their own age causing many to reject the Bible when

Christ does not come.

5. It will be obvious to the honest reader that much of this chapter has absolutely nothing to do with the second coming of Christ at the end of time.

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