

Our King Is Coming!

Part 4

Introduction.

1. This is the 4th lesson, in this series of four lessons, on the theme “Our King Is Coming.”
 - a. Christianity is not for this life only.
 - b. Paul taught if Christianity is for this life only then we should “Eat, drink and be merry.” (1 Cor. 15:32).

1 Cor 15:32 If from human motives I fought with wild beasts at Ephesus, what does it profit me? If the dead are not raised, LET US EAT AND DRINK, FOR TOMORROW WE DIE.
 - c. Christians are taught to look forward to the glorious coming of Christ.
2. We have studied the fact Jesus is coming suddenly at some unknown time (Matt. 24:36), and He will come with all His angels in all His glory. (Matt. 25:31).
3. We have learned that the signs of Matthew 24 pertained to the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple by the Romans in A.D. 70.
 - a. Jesus taught “this generation” [some of the people living at that time] would not pass away before all the signs including the destruction of Jerusalem would be fulfilled. (Matt. 24:34).

Matt 24:34 "Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.

- b. Jerusalem and the temple were destroyed about 40 years after Jesus' death.
 - c. His second visible coming would come without warning “as a thief in the night.” (Matt. 24:36-44).
4. There are many other facts the Bible reveals in regard to the coming of our King.

End Of Preparation

1. Christ's coming will be the end of preparation.
2. The time to prepare is now. (2 Cor. 6:2).
 - a. We do not know how long we will live. (Prov. 27:1).
 - b. We do not know the future condition of our hearts. (Heb.3:12-13).

Heb 3:12 Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.

Heb 3:13 But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is {still} called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

3. There will be no time for preparation when Christ comes.

- a. As earlier stressed, He is coming without warning “as a thief in the night.”
 - 1) **At His coming it will be too late to make any preparation.**
 - 2) In view of this fact the only sensible way to live is to daily stay prepared.
 - b. There is nothing to keep Christ from coming any time the Father chooses to send Him.
 - c. This could be today or hundreds or even thousands of years from now!
 - d. It is vital that we be ready for death or the coming of Christ every day.
 - 1) This does not mean we gaze into the sky every day thinking this might be the day of His coming.
 - 2) It means each day we seek to please God with our words and actions.
 - 3) It means each day we put our trust in the blood of Jesus and not in our own righteousness.
 - e. It is utter folly to attempt to figure out when Christ is coming again and think we can make preparation just before He comes.
4. The passing of time causes many to doubt or be unsure the Lord is really coming again, but the passing of time means nothing to the eternal God. (2 Pet. 3:8).

2 Pet 3:8 But do not let this one {fact} escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day.

- a. As mortals time has importance.
- b. Time means nothing to our God who has always existed.
- c. Time will mean nothing to us in heaven.
- d. Time pertains to this life only.

Beginning Of Supreme Joy For Some

- 1. Christ’s coming will be the beginning of supreme joy for those who have been eagerly awaiting His coming.

“Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘**Come, you blessed of My Father**, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’” (Matt. 25:34.)

Heb 9:27 And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this {comes} judgment,
 Heb 9:28 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.**

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.

1 Thess 4:17 Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

1 Thess 4:18 **Therefore comfort one another with these words.**

- a. Imagine our immense excitement and joy when we see Jesus and hear “the trumpet of God!”

1) The Bible teaches at Jesus' coming that Michael the archangel will also come along with all the angels.

2) Michael is the archangel. (Jude 9).

3) He will blow the trumpet of God. (1 Thess. 4:16).

4) Those alive in Christ and those raised at His coming will ascend together to be with God forevermore.

5) His angels will gather all the saints - none will be left behind from the least to the greatest.

b. Imagine the excitement of seeing Christ and all His millions of angels.

c. Imagine the excitement of knowing there will be no more persecution, disease, pain, heartaches, death, etc.

d. Imagine the excitement of ascending to be with Christ forever in heaven. (1 Thess. 4:17).

e. Imagine the excitement of seeing heaven and all its beauty and knowing this is our home forever and ever.

2. The Bible promises that all will witness His second coming. (Rev. 1:7).

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.

a. "Every eye" includes the faithful and unfaithful of every age.

b. Those who rejected Christ [in the past and in the present] will witness His coming, but for them this will be a time of terror and futile hiding.

c. Those outside of Christ will know eternal punishment awaits them

2. What immense joy shall fill the hearts of believers especially those who suffered persecution and death for Christ.

a. We will "see God." (Matt. 5:8; Rev. 22:4).

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

Rev 22:4 they will see His face, and His name {will be} on their foreheads.

1) No one has seen God as He is [Spirit] in this life. (Exod. 33:20; Jn. 4:24).

2) No one can see God, as He is, and live. (Exod. 33:20).

Ex 33:20 But He said, "You cannot see My face, for no man can see Me and live!"

3) All the redeemed will see God and be with Him forever.

b. We will have a new spiritual body. (1 Cor. 15:51-53).

1 Cor 15:51 Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed,

1 Cor 15:52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

1 Cor 15:53 For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality.

c. This new spiritual body will be like the spiritual body of Jesus. (Phil. 3:20, 21).

Phil 3:20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;
Phil 3:21 who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.

1) We will not be like Christ in every way.

2) Christ is King and we are His servants. (Rev. 22:3).

3) We will have a spiritual body - not a physical body. (1 Cor. 15:50).

d. The new spiritual body will never grow old or suffer pain or death. (Rev. 21:4).

Rev 21:4 and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be {any} death; there will no longer be {any} mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away."

e. Believers who have died in the Lord will be raised first and then all the living saints along with them will ascend to be with the Lord forevermore. (1 Thess. 4:13-18).

f. Heaven is forever. (Matt. 25:46; Jn. 3:16, 36; 1 Thess. 4:18; Rev. 22:5).

Beginning Of Great Sorrow For Others

1. Christ's coming will be the beginning of great sorrow for others.

Matt 25:30 "Throw out the worthless slave into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Matt 25:41 "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;

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

a. Hell is not the grave - extinction.

1) There would be no reason to fear unconsciousness.

2) If we cease to exist at death, there is no logical reason to fear a state of no consciousness, pain, etc..

b. It is a place of conscious suffering where there is the "weeping and gnashing of teeth." (Matt. 25:30).

c. Mark adds this fearful description of the misery of hell. (Mk. 9:45,46).

Mark 9:45 "If your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame, than, having your two feet, to be cast into hell,

Mark 9:46 [where THEIR WORM DOES NOT DIE, AND THE FIRE IS NOT QUENCHED.]

2. Many people reject Christ and the fact He will come again, but they will be shocked when Christ returns and they stand before the judgment seat of Christ. (2 Cor. 5:10).

2 Cor 5:10 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.

- a. We must give account for all unforgiven sins to the One who knows even the secrets of the heart. (Rom. 2:16).
- b. We will not give account of forgiven sins. (1 Jn. 1:7,9; Heb. 8:12).

1 John 1:7 but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Heb 8:12 "FOR I WILL BE MERCIFUL TO THEIR INIQUITIES, AND I WILL REMEMBER THEIR SINS NO MORE."

3. Many foolishly believe they will be saved without Jesus because of their good moral lives or good works or both.

- a. No one can earn salvation. (Rom. 6:23; Eph. 2:8-10).

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Eph 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, {it is} the gift of God;

Eph 2:9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Eph 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

- b. Only those who trust in the blood of Christ and keep His commandments will be saved. (Heb. 9:22; Matt. 7:21-23).

Heb 9:22 And according to the Law, {one may} almost {say,} all things are cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

Matt 7:21 "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 {will enter.}

Matt 7:22 "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?'

Matt 7:23 "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'

4. Many do not really believe in Jesus and believe He is coming again, but there will be no doubters at His coming.

- a. All will know Jesus is Lord and worship Him. (Phil. 2:9-11).

Phil 2:9 For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name,

Phil 2:10 so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

Phil 2:11 and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- b. The righteous will all bow down to Jesus the Lord of lords.

c. Even the wicked who rejected or hated Jesus or both, will acknowledge Jesus as “Lord.”

d. This confession will be too late for salvation. (Mk. 8:38; Matt. 25:41; 2 Thess. 1:8-9).

Mark 8:38 "For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

Matt 25:41 "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;'"

2 Thess 1:8 dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

2 Thess 1:9 These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

Conclusion.

1. We can be absolutely sure Jesus is coming again.

2. We can be absolutely sure we all must stand before the judgment seat. of Christ. (2 Cor. 5:10; 2 Tim. 4:1).

2 Cor 5:10 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 Tim 4:1 I solemnly charge {you} in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom:

a. The books will be opened and we must give account for the way we have lived. (Rev. 20:12).

Rev 20:12 And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is {the book} of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds.

b. Only those who have their names written in the Lamb's book of life will be saved. (Rev. 3:5).

Rev 3:5 'He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

1) Our names are not in the Lamb's book of life because of wealth, power, education, appearance, fame, family, etc..

2) Our names are in this book because we have trusted in Christ and obeyed Him.

3. We can be absolutely sure that all who trust and obey Christ will enter His eternal kingdom and will reign forever and ever. (Rev. 22:5).

Rev 22:5 And there will no longer be {any} night; and they will not have need of the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God will illumine them; and they will reign forever and ever.

