

Lesson 10 – Jesus Returns to Earth



- **Introduction:** The second coming of Jesus was the great theme of the apostles. It is estimated that one in every 25 verses of the New Testament speaks of this event. But Satan has sought to confuse people so that they will not be ready to meet Him. Before Jesus' first coming in Bethlehem, Satan was successful in confusing the Jewish people by causing them to misapply the prophecies of His second coming to His first coming. As a result, few were ready to receive Him. Now He is applying the prophecies of Jesus' first coming-such as the 70th week in Daniel 9-to His second coming. And again it is working effectively to deceive! Let us see what the
- Bible says about Jesus' second coming.





**Jesus said when He returns He will return with
clouds, and every eye shall see Him. Rev. 1:7
The clouds are the angels according to Ps. 68:17**

1. Before Jesus returned to heaven, what did He promise? John 14:1-3

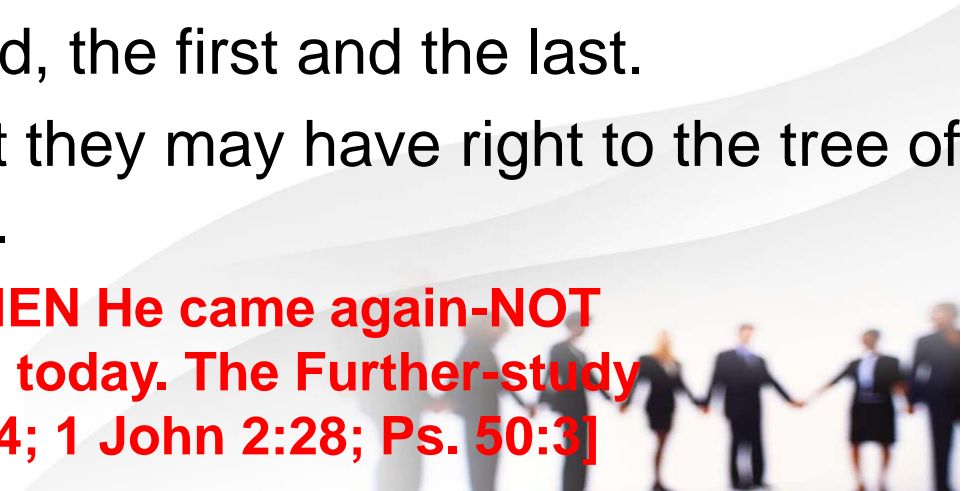
John 14:1 – 3

- Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.
- ² In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.
- ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

Revelation 22:12-14

- ¹² And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.
- ¹³ I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.
- ¹⁴ Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

[Note: Jesus promised that He would receive us to Himself WHEN He came again-NOT BEFORE, in some secret rapture, as some people are teaching today. The Further-study verses are Rev. 22:12-14; Heb. 9:28; 2 Tim. 4:8; 1 Peter 1:13; 5:4; 1 John 2:28; Ps. 50:3]



2. How will Jesus come? Acts 1:9-11 [Matt. 26:64; Mark 13:26; 14:62; Isaiah. 66:15; Ps. 104:3, 4]

Acts 1:9-11

- ⁹ And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.
- ¹⁰ And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;
- ¹¹ Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

Isaiah 66:15

¹⁵ For, behold, the LORD will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire.

Answer: He will come in like manner as ye have seen Him go back to Heaven after His resurrection!



3. Will there be counterfeits of Jesus' second coming? Matt. 24:23-27 and 2 Thess. 2:9, 10

Matthew 24:23-27

- ²³ Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not.
- ²⁴ For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.
- ²⁵ Behold, I have told you before.
- ²⁶ Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not.
- ²⁷ For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

Answer: Yes! False Christ and false prophets shall arise and show great signs and wonders!



4. How can we know when the real Christ has come?

Matt. 24:30, 31

Matthew 24:30, 31

- ³⁰ And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.
- ³¹ And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Revelation 1:7

⁷ Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

[Answer: Everyone will see Him. There are many other identifying characteristics of Jesus' second coming described in the questions and verses below. See if you can list them all. Rev. 1:7]





Revelation 1:7

- ⁷ Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.



5. What work of judgment will Jesus do at His coming? Matt. 25:31-34, 41, 46 Matthew 25:31-34,41, 46

- ³¹ When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:
 - ³² And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:
 - ³³ And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.
 - ³⁴ Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:
- ⁴¹ Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:
- ⁴⁶ And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

[Answer: He will separate the righteous from the wicked and execute judgment upon the inhabitants of the earth. (The chronology of these events will be further detailed in another Lesson.) Matt. 16:27; Ps. 50:3, 4; Isa. 66:15-17]



6. What historical event did Jesus use to illustrate this separation?

Matt. 24:36-41

Matthew 24:36-41

- ³⁶ But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.
- ³⁷ But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.
- ³⁸ For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,
- ³⁹ And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.
- ⁴⁰ Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.
- ⁴¹ Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

[Note: The flood. In this separation, those who were taken were taken away in death by the flood (verse 39), and the others were left alive in the ark. So will it be at Jesus' second coming. While people are doing common things, Jesus will come suddenly in Judgment upon all. 2 Peter 3:3-7]



7. While we cannot know the hour, can we know when Jesus' coming is near? 1 Thess. 5:1-6 [Matt. 24:32, 33]

1 Thess. 5:1-6

- But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.
- ² For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.
- ³ For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.
- ⁴ But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.
- ⁵ Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.
- ⁶ Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

Answer: Yes, watch, be sober and be ready at all times.



8. Will Christ's coming be secret and silent, as a thief in the night? 2 Peter 3:10-12

2 Peter 3:10-12

- ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.
- ¹¹ Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,
- ¹² Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

[Ans. No, it will be a surprise as when a thief breaks in, but it will not be secret or silent-it will terrify the wicked as when a thief wreaks sudden carnage with great noise upon the household. Ps. 50:3; Isa. 66:15, 16]



9. See if you can answer these questions from the following passage: (1) At Jesus' second coming, what will happen to the righteous who have previously died? (2) What will happen to the righteous who are still living? (3) Will His coming be silent? 1 Thess. 4:15-18 [John 5:28, 29; 1 Cor. 15:51-55]

1 Thess 4:15-18

- ¹⁵ For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.
- ¹⁶ For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:
- ¹⁷ Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.
- ¹⁸ Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

John 5:28,29

- ²⁸ Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice,
- ²⁹ And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.





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1 Thess. 4:16 NKJV

**"Then we who are alive
and remain shall be
caught up together with
them in the clouds to
meet the Lord in the air.
And thus we shall
always be with the Lord."
1 Thessalonians 4:17 NKJV**



10. What will happen to the kingdoms of the world when Jesus comes? Dan. 2:44 [Rev. 6:14-17; 16:19-21]

Daniel 2:44

⁴⁴ And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

Revelation 6:14-17

- ¹⁴ And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.
- ¹⁵ And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;
- ¹⁶ And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:
- ¹⁷ For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

Answer: The kingdoms of this world shall be destroyed. However, God shall set up His kingdom that shall never be destroyed!



11. What will happen to the wicked at Jesus' second coming? 2 Thess. 1:7-9: 2 Thess. 2:8; and 2 Peter 2:9

2 Thess 1:7-9

- ⁷ And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,
- ⁸ In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:
- ⁹ Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;
- Chapter 2:8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

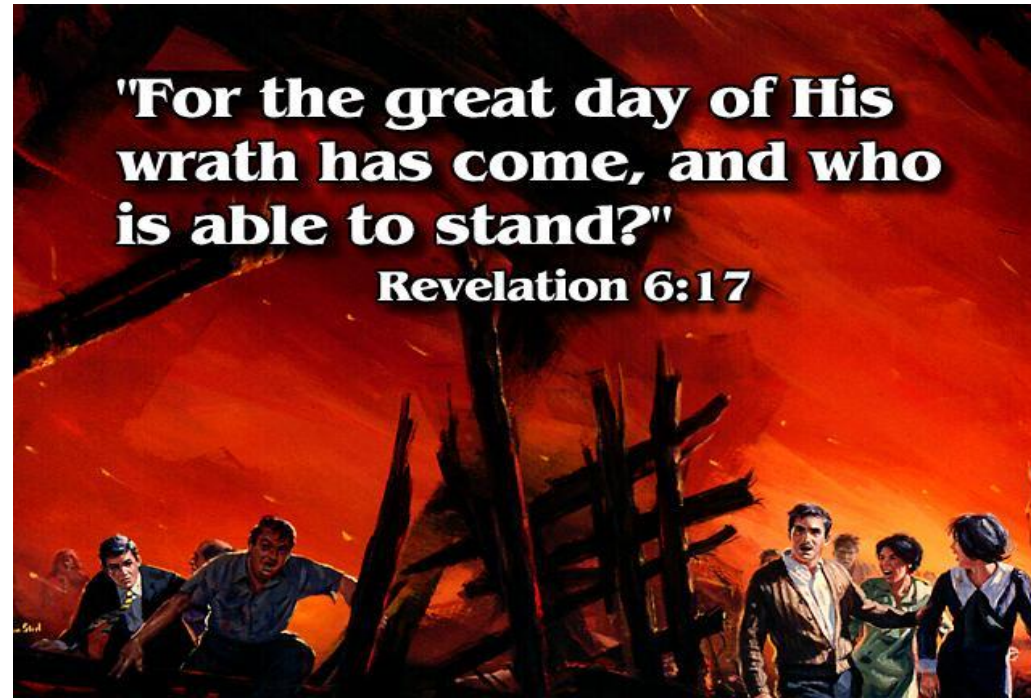
2 Peter 2:9

- ⁹ The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:

Answer: They will be destroyed by the brightness of His coming!



Why doesn't God give the wicked another opportunity to repent after He comes back? II Thess. 2:10-12



- They are lost because they “believed not the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness”
- Even if the wicked were given another chance they would not have a change of heart.



12. Will everyone who claims to be saved, be taken to heaven when Jesus comes? Matt. 7:21-23 [2 Thess. 2:11, 12]

Matthew 7:21-23

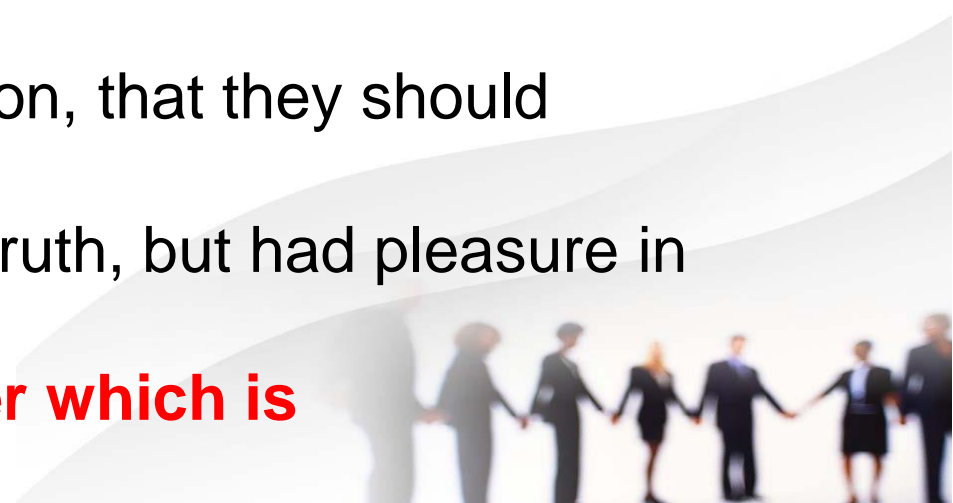
- ²¹ Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.
- ²² Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?
- ²³ And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

2 Thess. 2:11.12

¹¹ And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:

¹² That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Answer: No! Only those who do the will of My Father which is in Heaven!



13. What should we do to be ready for that day? Titus 2:11-14 [Luke 21:34-36]

Titus 2:11-14

- ¹¹ For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,
- ¹² Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;
- ¹³ Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;
- ¹⁴ Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Luke 21:34-36

³⁴ And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.

³⁵ For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth.

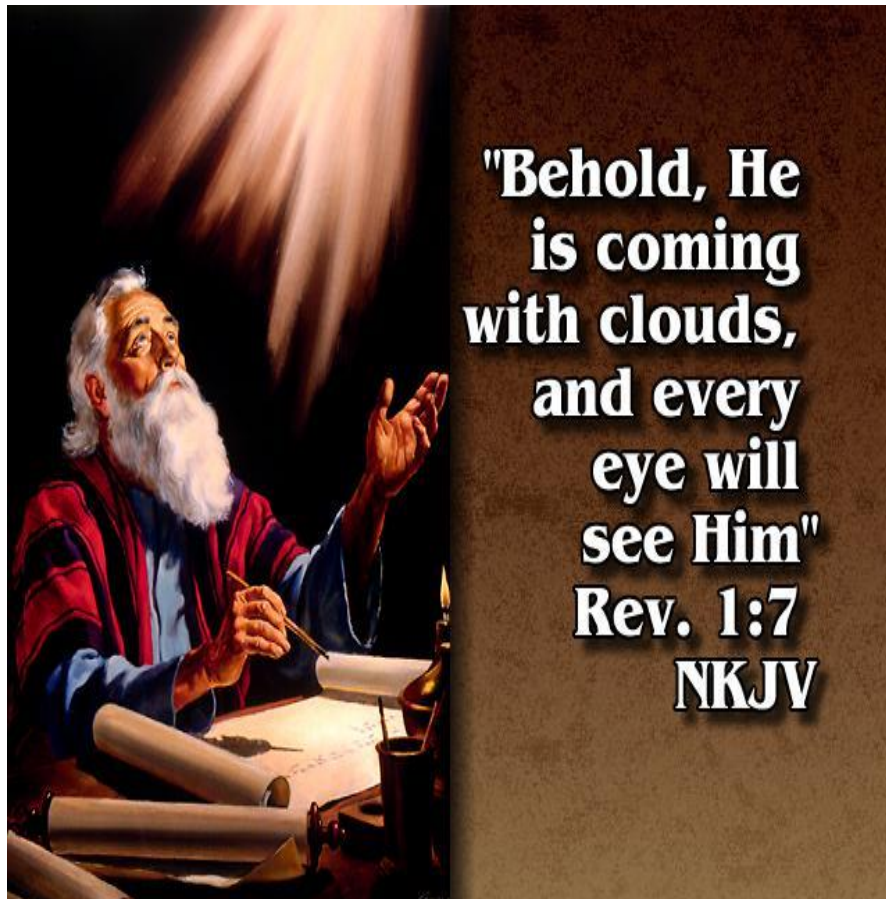
³⁶ Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

Answer: Watch and pray! Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ!



What is the crowning purpose of Jesus' return? John 14:2,3

- To take His children home



- **Commitment:** Jesus' second coming will be a sudden, all-encompassing surprise to the world, at which time all will be eternally separated-some for everlasting destruction and some for eternal life. Is the glorious appearing of Jesus your blessed hope? Do you want Jesus to redeem you from every lawless deed, and to write His law of love and righteousness in your heart, so that you will rejoice to see His face?

