



The Second Coming of Christ – Jesus is Coming Back!

We believe that the second coming of Christ is personal and imminent (1Thessalonians 4:16-17) (more detailed explanation on reverse side)

1. The Necessity and Certainty

A. Necessity

1. Jesus must come back again. His work of redemption on earth will not be done until He puts all things under His feet (1Cor.15:27). When He returns He will raise the dead, resurrect the saints, judge the devil and institute the Kingdom of God in all of its fullness and glory.
2. A gospel without the Second Coming is incomplete and without hope.

B. Certainty

1. The second coming of Jesus is referred to over 300 times in the New Testament.
2. Jesus said many times that He would return: *"And 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 14:3)*
3. Confirmation at His ascension: Angels said to those gathered: *"Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will **so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.**" (Acts 1:10-11)*

2. Timing & Signs: When will Christ Return? (this question has been on believer's hearts & minds always)

A. Jesus gave some specific and some general insights: (Matthew 24)

1. Specific & clear

- a. *And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come. (Mat 24:14)*
 - b. *And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. (Lu 21:24)*
- ##### 2. More general, but of great significance
- a. Revival and outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:17-21); Wars, famines, pestilences (Mat.24:4-13).
 - b. Problematic Jerusalem (Zech 12:2,3); Increase in lawlessness, love of many growing cold (Mt.24:12)

B. When will Jesus return?

1. *But of that day and hour **no one knows**, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. (Mat 24:36)*
2. Jesus said, *"Quickly"* (Rev 22:7, 12, 20); *Maranatha!* (1Cor 16:22)

3. How should we then live in view of Christ's impending return?

A. Be on guard, be alert and pray...

1. *"**Take heed, watch and pray**; for you do not know when the time is. "It is like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch. "**Watch** therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming; in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning; lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!" (Mark 13:33-37)*
2. *'Do business (occupy) till I come.'* (Luke 19:13)

B. Be ready.

1. *"Therefore you also **be ready**, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. (Mat 24:44)*

C. Live soberly (self-controlled), righteously (upright) and godly – loving God and loving & serving others.

1. *For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, (Titus 2:11-13)*
2. *And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. (Heb 10:24-25)*



THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

We believe that the Second Coming of Christ is personal and imminent; that He will descend from Heaven in the clouds of glory with the voice of the archangel and with the trump of God; and that at this hour, which no man knows beforehand, the dead in Christ shall rise, then the redeemed that are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air, and that so shall they ever be with the Lord; that also seeing that a thousand years is as a day with the Lord, and that no man knows the hour of His appearance, which we believe to be near at hand, each day should be lived as though He were expected to appear at even, yet that in obedience to His explicit command, "Occupy till I come," the work of spreading the gospel, the sending forth of missionaries, and the general duties for the upbuilding of the church should be carried on as diligently, and thoroughly, as though neither ours nor the next generation should live in the flesh to see the glorious day.

- Aimee Semple McPherson - 'This we Believe'