

The Second Coming of Jesus Christ

Note: The purpose of this lesson is to show the Bible's clear teaching of Christ's return, not to debate various theological systems (dispensational versus covenant theology), eschatological nuances (pre-tribulation versus mid or post-tribulation), or to attempt to define what is meant by "all Israel" in Romans 11:26.

1) What is the second coming of Jesus Christ?

The second coming of Jesus Christ refers to our Lord's visible and triumphant return.

2) What are some of the purposes of Christ's return?

To complete the salvation of believers – Hebrews 9:28, 1 Peter 1:4-5

To be admired and glorified in His saints – 2 Thessalonians 1:10

To bring to light the hidden things of darkness – 1 Corinthians 4:5

To destroy death – 1 Corinthians 15:25-26

To judge – Psalm 50:3-4, John 5:22, 2 Timothy 4:1, Jude 15, Revelation 20:11-15 *

To reign forever – Isaiah 24:23, Daniel 7:14, Revelation 11:15

* Note: Judgment will come to both believers at the judgment (*bema*) seat of Christ (1 Corinthians 3:12-15, 2 Corinthians 5:10), and unbelievers at the great white throne judgment (Revelation 20:11-15)

3) Will there be signs before Christ returns?

Matthew 24:3-51

4) Do we know exactly when Christ will return? Is His return imminent (any moment)?

Matthew 24:36,44, Mark 13:32, 1 Thessalonians 5:2-3, 1 Corinthians 1:7, Philippians 3:20, James 5:7-9

5) In what manner will Christ return?

Acts 1:11, Mark 8:38, 1 Thessalonians 4:16, Revelation 1:7

6) Is there anything we should do to prepare for Christ's return?

Matthew 25:1-13, Matthew 24:45-46, Luke 12:37-38, 1 Corinthians 15:58, 1 Thessalonians 5:6-11

7) What will happen to the saints when (and after) Christ returns?

We shall see Him as He is – 1 John 3:2

We shall be like Him – 1 John 3:2, Philippians 3:21

We shall be blameless – 1 Corinthians 1:8, 1 Thessalonians 3:13, 5:23, Jude 24

We shall not be ashamed – 1 John 2:28

We shall appear with Him in glory – Colossians 3:4

We shall receive a crown of glory – 2 Timothy 4:8, 1 Peter 5:4

We shall reign with Him – Daniel 7:27, 2 Timothy 2:12, Revelation 5:10, 20:6, 22:5

Summary: The Bible clearly and repeatedly declares that Jesus Christ will physically return. At His Second Coming, the Lord will raise the dead, judge the world, destroy death, and then reign forever with His saints. Christ's second coming will be much different from His first. He will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17) While the Scriptures tell us there will be signs, no man knows the day or the hour that Christ will return. One thing is clear though – He wants us to be ready, soberly and anxiously anticipating His return, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation until He comes back. We should comfort each other, edify each other, be steadfast, immovable and always abounding in the work of the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:58, 1 Thessalonians 5:8-11).



Minimum suggested Scripture reading on this subject: Daniel, Matthew 24-25, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, and Revelation