



The Second Coming of Christ

Key Doctrines for Starting and Finishing Strong

LESSON 8 | Part 2



"Christ will come when He pleases, to show His sovereignty, and will not let us know when, to teach us our duty."

MATTHEW HENRY

In this lesson, we will study one essential subject:

- **What biblical reasons are there for a confident expectation of the return of Christ?**

Are the following statements true or false? (circle one)



- When Jesus returns, He will save unbelievers. T F
- Between His resurrection and ascension to heaven, Jesus appeared only to believers. T F

Be on the lookout for the answers to these questions as we study the Word of God.

Review

There are nine reasons from Scripture by which we know that Jesus Christ is coming again. In our previous lesson, we studied four of them:

- A. The *promise of God* demands it.
- B. The *teaching of Christ* demands it.
- C. The *testimony of the Holy Spirit* demands it.
- D. The *plan for the church* demands it.

Now let's pick it up where we left off and consider five additional reasons by which we know Jesus Christ is coming again.

- E. The *corruption in the world* demands it.

1. Read John 5:25-29. What two things will Christ do when He comes again?

- a. _____
- b. _____

2. What does Jude 14-15 indicate that Christ will do to unsaved people when He returns?

3. How does 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10 describe those who are unsaved?

4. What is their fate if they remain unsaved?

F. The *future of Israel* demands it.

1. What prophecy does the Bible give concerning Israel that involves the Second Coming? (Read *Zech.12:10, 13:1*) _____
2. What future reality does Paul describe that involves Israel and the Second Coming? (Read *Rom.11:25-27*) _____

G. The *vindication of Christ* demands it.

The last public view that the world had of Christ was that of a *bleeding, dying, crucified criminal*, covered with blood, spit, and flies, hanging naked on a cross. Do you realize that after His resurrection, He never appeared in a public way before unbelievers (*1 Cor.15:5-8*)? However, at the Second Coming, "...every eye...and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him" (*Rev.1:7*).

H. The *destruction of Satan* demands it.

Satan is already a defeated foe, as far as Christians are concerned, but he still exercises dominion over this world (*John 12:31; 2 Cor.4:4; Eph.2:2,6:12; 1 John 5:19*). Because of Christ's death and resurrection, the Father gave Christ "*a name that is above every name*" (*Phil.2:9*) and the right as the only rightful ruler of this world. But when will Christ take over? Read Revelation 5:1-5.

- What does the book represent?
- Who is worthy to unfold it?

Chapters 6-19 of Revelation describe the process that Christ will execute to take back His rightful rule over the earth from Satan. This involves coming again to destroy His enemies.

I. The *hope of the saints* demands it.

1. What comfort did Peter give for God's people in their times of trial? (Read *1 Pet.1:7*)

2. What hope did Paul give the Thessalonian believers concerning the Second Coming of Christ? (Read *2 Thess.1:4-7*) _____

Key Questions Concerning the Second Coming

A. Is Christ's return imminent? (1 Pet.4:7; James 5:7-9; Heb.10:24-25; 1 John 2:18-28, 3:2; Titus 2:11-13; Rom.13:11-14)

B. Will the tribulation precede Christ's second coming? (Matt.24:1-31; Rev.19:6-19)

C. Does anyone know when Christ will return? (Mark 13:32-33) _____

What Practical Duties Does This Doctrine Place on Us?

- James 5:8: _____
- James 5:9: _____
- 1 Peter 4:7: _____
- Hebrews 10:24-25: _____
- 2 Peter 3:11: _____
- 1 Peter 1:13: _____
- 1 John 3:2-3: _____

How Do We Prepare for the Second Coming?

- Make sure you are *saved*.
- Humble yourself and keep *servicing*.
- Get your house in order as a *steward*.
- Make a commitment to be a *soul-winner*.

Closing:

Application questions: Being a Doer of the Word

- **2 Timothy 3:16**—*“All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching [what is right], for reproof [what is not right], for correction [how to get right], for training in righteousness [how to stay right]; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.”*
1. What did I learn (“teaching”)?
 2. Where do I fall short (“reproof”)?
 3. What do I need to do about it (“correction”)?
 4. How can I make this a consistent part of my life (“training”)?

Answer Key:

Are the following statements true or false?

- F
- T

Why Christ Must Return

E.

1.
 - a. execute judgment
 - b. claim those who are His
2. judge and convict
3. those who do not know God; those who do not obey the Gospel of our Lord
4. eternal destruction

F.

1. they will repent and be saved
2. all of Israel will be saved

I.

1. that their faith would be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ
2. eternal

Key Questions Concerning the Second Coming

- A. yes
- B. yes
- C. the Father alone

What Practical Duties Does This Doctrine Place on Us?

- James 5:8: to be patient
- James 5:9: to not complain
- 1 Peter 4:7: to be of sound mind
- Hebrews 10:24-25: to stimulate one another to love and good deeds
- 2 Peter 3:11: to be godly and holy in conduct

- 1 Peter 1:13: to fix our hope on Jesus
- 1 John 3:2-3: to purify ourselves

Holy Habits Weekly Devotion



This week's memory verse: **1 Peter 1:7**—"So that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by the fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ."

This week's holy habit: **Meditation**

Biblical meditation brings us closer to a more experiential knowledge of God. Continually filling ourselves with His word assists us in calling to mind His statutes as well as His promises in times of need. Contemplating His marvelous attributes and glorious characteristics deepens our affection for Him, as we see what being a recipient of His love entails.

DAY 1 Read James 4:1-15.

- How has meditating on God's will kept you from being enticed by certain sins? What scriptures do you find to be helpful in keeping you from being carried away by your lusts?

DAY 2 Read Colossians 4:5-6.

- How can you be a better witness to unbelievers? What are some everyday thoughts you can dwell on to help you do this?

DAY 3 Read Psalm 63:6.

- Make it a point to meditate during your night watch to counter anxieties and worries from the day.

DAY 4 Read Psalm 143:5.

- Choose one of God's attributes that you would like to emulate more. Meditate on how you can draw closer to Him in this way.

DAY 5 Read Philippians 4:8.

- Truth is found in God; it is God. How does this truth bring you peace? What does it mean to you to be in harmony with His divine standard of holiness?

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