

## “THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST”

### **Lesson 51**

1. There are 8 verses concerning the SECOND COMING of Christ, to every ONE verse concerning His FIRST COMING.
2. There are 320 references in the NEW TESTAMENT concerning the second coming of Christ.
3. The second coming of Christ is one of our greatest incentives for:
  - A. RIGHTEOUS LIVING Titus 2:11-13
  - B. SERVING Christ Luke 19:12-23
  - C. EVANGELIZING John 9:3-5
4. The second coming of Christ is TWOFOLD
  - A. The RAPTURE (Christ coming for His own) IN THE AIR!  
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Corinthians 15:50-52
  - B. His SECOND COMING (to judge the world and to RULE and REIGN) Jude 14;  
Zechariah 14:3-5; Acts 1:10 & 11
5. Only BELIEVERS are taken at the Rapture. 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17
6. There are some OLD TESTAMENT PICTURES of the rapture:
  - A. ENOCH: Genesis 5:21-24; Hebrews 11:5
  - B. NOAH: God removed him from JUDGMENT by the ark BEFORE the flood.  
Genesis 6 & 7; Hebrews 11:7; and Luke 17:26 & 27
  - C. LOT: God did not destroy Sodom UNTIL Lot LEFT THE CITY. Genesis 19:21 & 22;  
Luke 17:29
7. NO SPECIAL EVENTS must PRECEDE the rapture. As believers we must be ready to expect Christ AT ANY MOMENT. We must be LOOKING FOR HIM. 1 Cor. 15:52; John 14:2 & 3; Phil. 3:20; Titus 2:13 and Hebrews 9:28 Note that you don't look for a person unless you expect them AT ANY MINUTE.
8. Before ANTICHRIST can come to power, THE CHURCH must be REMOVED in the rapture. 2 Thessalonians 2:5-8
9. One of the marks of a GENUINE believer in Paul's day is that they WAITED for the SON FROM HEAVEN. 1 Thessalonians 1:8-10
10. The rapture of the church is CLEARLY an event that could create a WORLDWIDE panic that could cause man to welcome a WORLD DICTATOR like Antichrist.

11. The rapture of the church REMOVES her to fulfill the PROMISE of God to keep her from the WRATH TO COME which will be poured out on the UNGODLY. 1 Thessalonians 1:10 & 5:9

**\* How is the second phase of Christ's return different from the rapture?**

When Jesus returns at His second coming, several things will be true that are not true of the rapture.

12. When He comes again He will NOT BE ALONE. Jude 14
13. He will come TO JUDGE. Jude 15
14. When Jesus returns He will return VISIBLY and IN THE CLOUDS. Acts 1:10; Daniel 7:13 & 14; Rev. 1:7; and Matthew 24:30, 26:64
15. He will return TO the MOUNT OF OLIVES. Acts 1:9-12
16. His return to the Mount of Olives results in a MASSIVE EARTHQUAKE. Zechariah 14:4 & 5
17. He will come as KING over the WHOLE EARTH. Zech. 14:9; Rev. 19:16; Luke 1:32 & 33
18. He will come to DO BATTLE against a FINAL ATTACK on Jerusalem by ALL THE WORLD. Zech. 14:1-3; Rev. 19:11-21
19. This is only a few of MANY things which SEPARATE the rapture and the second coming. Others include:
  - A. REBUILDING the temple to prepare for the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION. 2 Thess. 2:4; Malachi 3:1-3
  - B. Antichrist MUST be in place BEFORE the second coming. 2 Thess. 2:8
  - C. There must be a TEN NATION confederacy IN PLACE. Daniel 2:31-35 and 41-45
  - D. A joining of ALL RELIGIONS together under the FALSE PROPHETS. Rev. 13:13 & 14
  - E. The CHURCH must be gone. 2 Thess. 2:8-12
  - F. He must come in POWER and GREAT GLORY like LIGHTNING. Matthew 24:27

### **Conclusion**

Again we remind you that we can only scratch the surface of this multi-faceted doctrine and would encourage further personal study. Let me conclude with these thoughts:

The second coming of Christ is a fact. The *first promise* after the fall of man is concerning *His coming*. The *last promise* in the Old Testament (Malachi 4:2) is concerning *His coming*. The first announcement in the New Testament was given by the angel to Joseph (Matthew 1:18-23) and to Mary concerning *His coming* in the flesh: “the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David: and He shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of His Kingdom there shall be no end” (Luke 1:32-33). The last words of Jesus before the cross were, “I will *come again*” (John 14:3). The first announcement at the ascension of Christ was, “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” (Acts 1:11). The last promise of Scripture is, “Surely I come quickly” (Revelation 22:20).

He is coming secretly, as a thief, to take unto Himself His church, His body. He will come in the clouds -- the sign of the glory of God.

He shall come openly to reign as a King over all the earth. The saints, believers, will come with Him to reign with Him in His Kingdom. (The subject of the next lesson).

“Even so, come, Lord Jesus.”