

Pentecostal Assembly Church
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The Second Coming of Christ

Looking for the Return of the Lord

In Luke 12:35-40 Jesus teaches His disciples a parable of His return.

- These are the servants of a Master who is away at a wedding.
- They are to be anticipating his return, that they may answer immediately when he comes to knock at the door.

Luke 12:36 And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately.

Luke 12:39-40

*39 And this know, that **if the goodman of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched**, and not have suffered his house to be broken through.*

40 Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.

1. Watch diligently and be ready for His return
2. The Lord's return will be as a thief in the night

A Conversation with Jesus about the End of the World

- Jesus has an encounter in Matthew 23 with leaders of Jerusalem in which Jesus speaks seven woes against them. These are followed by a lament over Jerusalem, “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together” (**Matthew 23:37**). Jesus tells them that their house is left desolate. He declares one last thing before He leaves the temple, “Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord” (**Matthew 23:39**). This powerful and prophetic statement closes Matthew chapter 23.
- The opening of Matthew 24 begins a very important conversation between Jesus and His disciples as He leaves the temple. Parallel texts are Mark 13 and Luke 21.

Matthew 24:1 And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple.

- The disciples show Him the buildings of the temple and their greatness. Mark records it this way, “*And as he went out of the temple, one of his disciples saith unto him, Master, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here*” (**Mark 13:1**). Jesus tells them of the complete destruction of the Temple. “*There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down*” (**Matthew 24:2**).

- The disciples then asked Him questions that all of us would ask.

Matthew 24:3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?

1. When will these things (temple destroyed) come to pass?
2. What sign will be of your second coming?
3. What sign will we know of the end of the world?

- The beginning verse of Jesus' response gave the utmost perspective of His intention.

*Matthew 24:4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, **Take heed that no man deceive you.***

- Without doubt, deception is the greatest work of the enemy concerning any subject of God's Word. “Hath God said?”

The rejection of Christ's return for any reason will be a work of deception.

- A Beginning of Sorrows. **Matthew 24:5-8**

- Many false christs (verse 5)
- Wars and rumors of war (verse 6)
- Nation against nation, kingdom against kingdom (verse 7)
- Famines, pestilences, earthquakes in divers places (verse 7)

Matthew 24:6... but the end is not yet.

Matthew 24:8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.

- He that endures to the end shall be saved. **Matthew 24:9-13**

- Affliction of believers (verse 9)
- Persecuted and hated for the name of Christ (verse 9)
- Offense because of disappointment will cause betrayal (verse 10)
- False prophets (verse 11)
- Abundant iniquity (temptation) will cause love for Christ to wain (verse 12)

Matthew 24:13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

- Then shall the end come.
Matthew 24:14 *And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.*
- The Abomination of Desolation. *Matthew 24:15-28*
 - A hateful or abominable destroyer of Jerusalem
Luke 19:44 *And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation.*

Luke 21:20 *And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh.*
 - Great affliction (verses 16-20)
 - Great tribulation that has never been or ever will be (verses 21-22)
Luke 21:24 *And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.*
 - False christs and false prophets with great signs and wonders (verses 23-26)
- The Coming of the Son of Man. *Matthew 24:29-31*
 - Immediately after those days (until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled) (verse 29)
 - Sign of the Son of Man in Heaven (verse 30)
 - All the tribes of the earth mourn (verse 30)
 - Son of Man coming in the clouds (verse 30)
Revelation 1:7 *“he cometh with clouds” “every eye shall see him”*
 - Great sound of a trumpet and the gathering of His elect (verse 31)
- The Parable of the Fig Tree. *Matthew 24:32-25*
 - When you see all these things (verse 33)
 - This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled (verse 34)
 - The Word of God is sure (verse 35)
- No one knows the hour or the day of His Coming. *Matthew 24:36-51*
 - As it was in the days of Noah (verses 37-39)
 - One shall be taken, the other left (verses 40-41)
 - Watch and be ready (verses 42-51)

- While not every detail is given to us in these three parallel passages, they are a fundamental beginning of our understanding of the Second Coming of Christ.
- Let no man deceive you of His return.

The best interpretation of Scripture is additional Scripture.

The Rapture Detailed

1 Thessalonians 4:14-17

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

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.*

- The coming of the Lord to gather His saints
- The Lord will descend Himself with a shout
- Dead in Christ shall rise first
- Living saints caught up together
- **From this moment on the saints will forever be with the Lord**

1 Corinthians 15:51-53

51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

- The trumpet shall sound
- The timing of our changing will be in the twinkling of an eye
- Our corruptible bodies will be made incorruptible

Specific Detail concerning Jesus Return

- John 14 tells us Jesus is preparing a place for us to receive us unto Himself.

John 14:3 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.

- Titus declares the second coming as a blessed hope to the believer.

*Titus 2:13 **Looking for that blessed hope**, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;*

- 2 Thessalonians clarifies the second coming as...

2 Thessalonians 1:6-7

6 Seeing it is a **righteous thing** with God to **recompense tribulation** to them that trouble you;

7 And to **you who are troubled rest with us**, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,

- Righteousness Fulfilled
 - Recompensing Godly tribulation against evil tribulation
 - Rest for the troubled saint
- 2 Thessalonians corroborates detail concerning the Second Coming recorded in Matthew 24, “when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels” (2 Thessalonians 1:7).
 - 2 Thessalonians describes the judgement of the Second Coming.

2 Thessalonians 1:8-10

Looking for the Return of Jesus

- Paul writes in Romans of the expectation of the creature. **Romans 8:18-23**
- Paul writes a testimony in 2 Timothy as he deals with the time of his departure to be with the Lord.

2 Timothy 4:6-7

6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

- Paul then tells us of a great promise. “Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day:” (2 Timothy 4:8). This great promise is also awaiting a people who will be living at the end. He gives clarity to their expectation. “And not to me only, but unto **all them also that love his appearing**” (2 Timothy 4:8).
- Everything we gather from the book of Revelations points to the prophetic events surrounding the second coming of Christ and the events thereafter.
- When John reaches the end of these visions and specifically the testimony given to him, John records the word of the Lord, “He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly” (Revelation 22:20).
- If we allow our imagination to help us, we can hear John reply with a longing heart, “Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus” (Revelation 22:20).