

The Second Coming of Christ – Pt. 2

The Signs of His Coming

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I. Introductory Remarks.

There are many questions that come into peoples' minds when the subject of the Second Coming of Christ comes up. Questions such as, How will we know He has come? Will His coming be evident to all? What can we expect when He comes? Will there be signs before He comes, and is it possible that He will come, and some will not be aware of it? These are just a few of the questions that arise in the hearts and minds of both believers and unbelievers alike.

Many have tried to deceive people about His coming, and many more will yet try, but the Bible has all of the answers concerning the Second Coming of Christ and even warns us of those who would try to deceive.

Matthew 24:23-27 *"Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe it. ²⁴ 'For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. ²⁵ 'See, I have told you beforehand. ²⁶ 'Therefore, if they say to you, 'Look, He is in the desert!' do not go out; or 'Look, He is in the inner rooms!' do not believe it. ²⁷ 'For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.*

II. How Will We Know.

1. Everyone will Be Aware of His Appearing.

Revelation 1:7 *Behold, **He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.***

Matthew 24:29-31 *"Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ³⁰ "Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and **they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.** ³¹ "And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.*

2. He Shall Appear When He Is Not Expected.

Luke 21:34-36 *"But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. ³⁵ "For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ "Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man. "*

1 Thessalonians 5:1-4 *But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. ² For you yourselves know perfectly that **the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night.** ³ For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. ⁴ But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief.*

3. He Shall Come in the Same Body He Left In.

Acts 1:9-11 *Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, ¹¹ who also said, "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.** "*

4. He Will Come In All The Power And Glory of the Godhead.

Matthew 16:27 *"For the Son of Man **will come in the glory of His Father** with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.*

Daniel 7:13-14 *"I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. ¹⁴ **Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom,** that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed.*

5. A Great Host Will Come With Him.

Matthew 25:31 *When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.*

Matthew 16:27 *For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.*

2 Thessalonians 1:7 *and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels,*

Jude 1:14 *Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints,*

Revelation 19:14 *And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.*

6. He Will Come in the Clouds of Heaven.

Acts 1:9-11 *Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, ¹¹ who also said, "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.** "*

Matthew 26:64 *Jesus said to him, "It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the power, and **coming on the clouds of heaven.**"*

Luke 21:27 *"Then they will see the **Son of Man coming in a cloud** with power and great glory.*

Revelation 1:7 *Behold, **He is coming with clouds**, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.*

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*appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the **Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven** with power and great glory. ³¹ "And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.*

7. He Shall Come with a Great Shout & the Sound of a Trumpet.

His appearing won't be kept in a corner. There is going to be a proclaiming trumpet and a great shout.

1 Thessalonians 4:16 *For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a **shout**, with the voice of an archangel, and with the **trumpet of God**. And the dead in Christ will rise first.*

1 Corinthians 15:52 *In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, **at the last trumpet**. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.*

8. Father God sets the Time of the Second Coming.

Acts 17:31 *says, "Because **He has appointed a day** on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead. "*

The Father, the first person of the Godhead, is the only one who knows the day and the hour of the Second Coming of Christ. Jesus Himself doesn't even know.

Mark 13:32-33 *"But of that day and hour **no one knows**, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but **only the Father**. ³³ "Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is.*

Acts 1:6-7 *Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ And He said to them, "**It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority.***

III. The Signs of His Coming.

Even though we won't know the day or the hour of His return, I believe God expects us to be aware of the season. Jesus rebuked the Pharisees and the Sadducees for not being able to discern the signs of the times.

Matthew 16:1-3 *Then the Pharisees and Sadducees came and testing Him asked that He would show them a sign from heaven.² He answered and said to them, "When it is evening you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red';³ "and in the morning, 'It will be foul weather today, for the sky is red and threatening. 'Hypocrites! **You know how to discern the face of the sky, but you cannot discern the signs of the times.***

Jesus wants us to be like the sons of Issachar in 1 Chronicles 12:32, who understood the times and knew what Israel ought to do. The Church needs individuals who understand the current times and know how to prepare for the future.

With this in mind, let's look at some of the signs that will be evident before He appears.

1. False Christs Shall Come and Try to Deceive Many.

Mark 13:6 *says, "For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am He,' and will deceive many."*

Mark 13:22-23 *"For false christs and false prophets will rise and show signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.²³ "But take heed; see, I have told you all things beforehand.*

The seeds of deception are already at work in our culture and world in mass proportion.

2. Wars, Rumors of Wars, Earthquakes, Famines with Trouble Abounding.

Mark 13:7-8 *"But when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be troubled; for such things must happen, but the end is not yet.⁸ "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be earthquakes in various places, and there will be famines and troubles. These are the beginnings of sorrows.*

Luke 21:9-11 *"But when you hear of wars and commotions, do not be terrified; for these things must come to pass first, but the end will not come immediately. "¹⁰ Then He said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. ¹¹ "And there will be great earthquakes in various places, and famines and pestilences; and there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.*

3. The Whole Gospel Shall Be Preached with Evidence to the Nations.

Matthew 24:14 *"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.*

4. Christians Shall Have Tribulation and Persecution.

Mark 13:9-13 *"But watch out for yourselves, for **they will deliver you up to councils, and you will be beaten in the synagogues.** You will be brought before rulers and kings for My sake, for a testimony to them. ¹⁰ "And the gospel must first be preached to all the nations. ¹¹ **"But when they arrest you and deliver you up,** do not worry beforehand, or premeditate what you will speak. But whatever is given you in that hour, speak that; for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. ¹² "Now brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. ¹³ **"And you will be hated by all for My name's sake.** But he who endures to the end shall be saved.*

5. There Shall Be A Great Falling Away of Christians From the Truth.

Matthew 24:11-12 *"Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. ¹² "And because lawlessness will abound, **the love of many will grow cold.***

2 Thessalonians 2:1-3 *Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, ² not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. ³ Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless **the falling away comes first,** and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition...*

6. There Shall Be Great Fear And Distress in Men's Hearts and Minds.

Luke 21:25-26 *"And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; ²⁶ **"men's hearts failing them from fear** and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of heaven will be shaken.*

7. The Body of Christ Will Come Into the Stature of the Fullness of Christ.

Ephesians 4:11-13 *And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, ¹³ **till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;***

Ephesians 1:22-23 *And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.*

Ephesians 5:27 *that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.*

Obviously, by looking at the events taking place in our world today, we can discern that the Lord's coming is drawing nearer and nearer. We can also discern the nearness of His coming by detecting how the Church is measuring up to the stature of the fullness of Christ.

8. A One World Antichrist Government and a False World-wide Church.

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 *Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and **the man of sin is revealed**, the son of perdition, ⁴ who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that **he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.***

The revealing of the antichrist shall be an eminent sign of the Second Coming of Jesus. Notice it says very clearly that Jesus will not return until this man is revealed for who he is. The beast or the antichrist shall have power and great authority.

Revelation 13:1-9 *Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name. ² Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority. ³ And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast. ⁴ So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?" ⁵ And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. ⁶ Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. ⁷ It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. (See Also Revelation 17)*

9. A Sense of Peace and Security Comes Over the World.

The world will be deceived into thinking they are secure with a lasting peace.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-3 *But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. ² For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. ³ For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.*

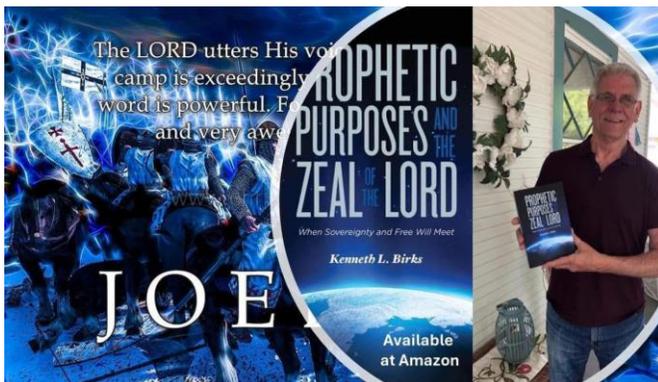
10. The Great Tribulation will be a Remarkable Sign

Mark 13:24-25 *"But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; ²⁵ "the stars of heaven will fall, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken."*

11. There Will Be Signs in the Heavens.

Mark 13:24-25 *"But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; ²⁵ "the stars of heaven will fall, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.*

Acts 2:19-21 *I will show wonders in heaven above And signs in the earth beneath: Blood and fire and vapor of smoke. ²⁰ The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD. ²¹ And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the LORD Shall be saved.'*



For a complete study on this subject and much more, please see the book listed below:

Aside from complete teaching on the Second Coming of Christ and the Great Tribulation, the essence of this book considers that God has sovereign purposes in the earth that He will yet fulfill through His sovereignty. Amid performing them, He uses imperfect vessels like you and me to do so. How does our free will work together with God's sovereignty to bring forth His purposes as He fulfills them

from one generation to another? This book explores these questions and much more. We discover that one of the Father's most significant traits—His patience, combined with our obedience - allows us to be involved with Him.

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