

THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

John 14:2-3 (KJV) ² In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 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.

Acts 1:9-11 (KJV) ⁹ And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; ¹¹ Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? 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.

Introduction: There is a truth in history that cannot be denied although many have tried. That is the first coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Yet, those who study the Bible tells us that when Jesus came the first time He did not fulfill all the prophecies of His coming. The reason is that the passages which talk about the *coming of the Lord Jesus Christ* are divided into two different categories. There is a distinction between the "First Coming" and the "Second Coming" in the scriptures. There is a separation between what we call "the Cross" and "the Crown." [See chart by Larkin on "The Mountain Peaks of Prophecy"] We know that there are passages which clearly show events which would accompany the first coming of Jesus Christ. For instance:

Psalms 22:11-18 (KJV) ¹¹ Be not far from me; for trouble *is* near; for *there is* none to help. ¹² Many bulls have compassed me: strong *bulls* of Bashan have beset me round. ¹³ They gaped upon me *with* their mouths, as a ravening and a roaring lion. ¹⁴ I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels. ¹⁵ My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws; and thou hast brought me into the dust of death. ¹⁶ For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: **they pierced my hands and my feet.** ¹⁷ I may tell all my bones: they look *and* stare upon me. ¹⁸ They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture. [Emphasis added.]

Isaiah 7:14 (KJV) Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Micah 5:2 (KJV) But thou, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *though* thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me *that is* to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth *have been* from of old, from everlasting. This is just a few of the passages dealing with the first coming. We find passages which is critical and also verifies the first coming as well as the second coming:

Hebrews 9:24-28 (KJV) ²⁴ For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, *which are* the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: ²⁵ Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; ²⁶ For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. ²⁷ And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: ²⁸ So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

These are passages which verify the first coming and even suggest the second. Now I want to show you some of the testimony of several who give evidence of

the second coming. I have followed the outline by Clarence Larkin in his book *The Second Coming of Christ*. This is also found in his book, *Dispensational Truth* under the chapter, "The Second Coming of Christ."

OLD TESTAMENT BELIEVERS SAW THE SECOND COMING

Enoch: Jude 1:14 (KJV) And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints. Enoch was the seventh from Adam. Folks that was a long time ago.

Moses: Deuteronomy 33:2 (KJV) And he said, The Lord came from Sinai, and rose up from Seir unto them; he shined forth from mount Paran, and he came with ten thousands of saints: from his right hand *went* a fiery law for them.

David: Psalms 102:16 (KJV) When the Lord shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory.

Jeremiah: Jeremiah 23:5 (KJV) Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.

Daniel: Daniel 7:13 (KJV) I saw in the night visions, and, behold, *one* like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

Zechariah: Zechariah 14:4 (KJV) And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which *is* before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, *and there shall be* a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

AS TO THE FACT OF THE SECOND COMING

- 1. The Testimony of Jesus Himself. Matthew 16:27 (KJV)** For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works. **Matthew 25:31-32 (KJV)** ³¹ When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: ³² And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth *his* sheep from the goats: **John 21:22 (KJV)** Jesus saith unto him, *If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me.*
- 2. The Testimony of Heavenly Beings. Acts 1:10-11 (KJV)** ¹⁰ And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; ¹¹ Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? 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. Larkin suggests that these "two men" are the same "two men" who appeared with Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration (**Matthew 17:1-8; Mark 9:1-8; Luke 9:27-36**) who were Moses and Elijah. There were two men at the tomb of Jesus who testified of his resurrection in **Luke 24:4-5** and "two witnesses" in the Tribulation who will give testimony

(**Revelation 11:3-12**). There is a significant testimony from those from the heavenly realms.

3. The Testimony of the Apostles.

- a. **Paul. Philippians 3:20-21 (KJV)** ²⁰ For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: ²¹ Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself. **Titus 2:13 (KJV)** Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Hebrews 9:28 (KJV)** So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.
- b. **James. James 5:7 (KJV)** Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.
- c. **Peter. 2 Peter 1:16 (KJV)** For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. This passage is a reference to the “Transfiguration” which is a type of the second coming.
- d. **Jude. Jude 1:14-15 (KJV)** ¹⁴ And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, ¹⁵ To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.
- e. **John. 1 John 2:28 (KJV)** And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming. **Revelation 1:7 (KJV)** Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

4. The Testimony of the Lord’s Supper. **1 Corinthians 11:26 (KJV)** For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord’s death till he come. Larkin suggests that the Lord’s Supper will be discontinued at the Second Coming of Christ. This is because of the “memorial” nature of the observance.

Larkin: “Paul in all his epistles refers but 13 times to Baptist, while he speaks of the Lord’s return 50 times. One verse in every 30 in the New Testament refers to Christ’s Second Coming. There are 20 times as many references in the Old Testament to Christ Second Coming as to his First Coming.” (*The Second Coming of Christ*, page 9.)

THE FIVE THEORIES OF THE SECOND COMING

1. **That His Coming Again is “SPIRITUAL” and Was Fulfilled at Pentecost.** We need to remember that the “spiritualizing” of scripture began with a fellow by the name of Augustine, a pre-Roman Catholic. He wrote the book *The City of God* which tries to make Rome the “new

Jerusalem.” Jesus Coming will be a “LITERAL” coming as we will see in this study.

2. That the “**CONVERSION OF THE SINNER**” is the Coming of the Lord. This cannot be a Bible doctrine. When a person is saved they come to Christ, not Christ coming to them.
3. That “**DEATH**” is the Coming of the Lord. Many use **Matthew 25:13 (KJV)** *Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh*, to justify this position. The context indicates this is in reference to a “future” coming of Christ. Paul said “...to be absent from the body...present with the Lord” (**2Corinthians 5:8**). We know that Jesus is presently engaged in His “High Priestly” function in heaven. **Romans 8:34 (KJV)** *Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.* **Colossians 3:1 (KJV)** *If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.* **Hebrews 8:1 (KJV)** *Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens.*
4. That the “**DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM**” in A.D. 70 by the **Romans Was the Second Coming of the Lord**. This is held by those who do not believe in a Millennium (1000 year reign of the Lord Jesus Christ). This is clearly seen in **Revelation 20**. These same people see the persecution of the Christians by the Roman Government as the Tribulation and all of that is in the past. We are right now growing to the point of perfection. This is popularly called “Post Millennialism.”
5. That the “**DIFFUSION OF CHRISTIANITY**” is the Second Coming of the Lord. This is another aspect of number 4 above. These people see Christianity gradually growing to the point that everyone on earth is eventually saved and then the Lord comes back. We might need to tell the Muslims about this. The Second Coming of the Lord is a sudden event.

THE SCRIPTURE INCENTIVE OF THE SECOND COMING

1 John 3:2 (KJV) *Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.*