

The story is told of a middle-aged man who clung precariously to the railing of a bridge while looking at the swift waters a hundred feet below. A policeman approached cautiously and gently tried to persuade the man not to jump. “Leave me alone!” the man shouted. “Life isn’t worth living. It’s too much for me.”

“Well,” replied the officer calmly, “you tell me why life isn’t worth living, and I’ll tell you why I think it is. If I can’t convince you, then go ahead and jump.”

At the end of the conversation, so the story goes, the policeman climbed over the railing, took the man’s hand and they both jumped!

The quality of life in the immediate future certainly is cause for concern. With the multiplied problems facing mankind today, many people are asking, “Is the world coming to an end? Is the future worth living for? Is there hope for a permanent solution to the crisis facing us? Why not jump?

Does Planet earth have a solution to terminal illness, or can we prevent the projected dooms day? The future seems so fragile! Environmentalists hold out



slim hope. The world's military leaders predict Armageddon. Politicians are trying to patch up ailing planet – with band-aids. A spirit of pessimism and cynicism is sweeping the world. Is there no answer? Do we have to just sit and wait for the inevitable? People from all walks of life are asking “How will it all end?”



What did Jesus say about the political condition of the world in the last days? Shortly before Jesus left the earth, he told us signs for the last generation of the earth. “... and ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars, see that ye be not troubled, for all these must come to pass but the end is not yet,” for nation shall rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom and there shall be famines and pestilences, and earthquakes in divers places, all these are the beginning of sorrow ...And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold” Mat 24:6-13.

The United Nations was organized to keep peace, but wars had never ceased since it started. There is economic, physical and spiritual warfare. Will these continue forever?

What will be the behaviour of the people as the world comes to an end gradually? 2Tim. 3: 1-5 (NIV) shows us, “But mark this: that there will be terrible times in the last days” and that people will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self control, brutal, not lovers of good, treacherous, rash, lovers of pleasures rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying it's power.

Friends, the political, economic and social conditions of the world are fast degenerating; man has invented destructive weapons such as nuclear bombs that could destroy planet earth seven times over. People are afraid that a single button pressed by a mad man can cause a nuclear war that will destroy the earth. Will God allow this? How will it all end? The return of Christ is the Ultimate Victory for the children of God, and the solution of this world's crises.

The return of Jesus to gather His people from this earth is the grand theme of the



Bible. One verse out of every eleven in the New Testament, and 2,500 in the entire Bible speak of this momentous event. Some refer to this as the rapture, although the term does not appear in the Bible.

This earthshaking event is the ultimate goal of Bible prophecy and is more evident in Revelation than in other books of the Bible. To study Revelation is to become acutely aware of Jesus' return and the gathering of His saints. No wonder Satan tries to keep people from reading Revelation.

It is shocking to recall that at Jesus' first coming, as a babe of Bethlehem, the people were surprised and unprepared. This was true in spite of the fact that hundreds of Old Testament prophecies described His first coming with detailed accuracy. But the people were mistakenly applying the prophecies of His second coming, and ignoring those that applied to His first advent. Thus, they rejected His appearance as the infant son of a poor family.

History has a way of repeating itself. It is shocking to consider, but could it be possible that Christians may be misapplying the hundreds of Bible prophecies concerning Jesus' second return?

Could some be setting themselves up for one great mind-boggling surprise? Jesus solemnly warned of this when He spoke of His return. He said in Matthew 24:4, "Take heed that no man deceive you." He further stated that false ideas regarding His return would be so powerful and convincing that, "If it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect." Matthew 24:24. Then He capped it with, Behold, I have told you before." We would say today, "You have been warned." In the light of this solemn warning by Jesus, let us now prayerfully see what the prophecies reveal regarding this blessed event.

JESUS WILL RETURN

1. How did the angels refer to Jesus' return? Acts 1:9 - 11.

Note:

- a. They saw Him depart – He will be visible*
- b. He left in a cloud – He will return in cloud.*



c. He left bodily – He will appear bodily. Therefore, His ascension was literal, bodily and visible. His return will be the same.

2. Does Revelation say how Jesus will return? Rev. 1:7.

3. What are these clouds? Psalm 104:3, 68:17

Note: In Matthew 25:31, Jesus said all the angels would come with Him. Then myriads of bright shining angels will cover the sky like clouds of today.

4. Who will see Jesus when He comes? Rev. 1:7

Note: This is too plain to misunderstand. Every one living on earth will see Jesus at His return. This includes both the saved and unsaved. Matt. 24:30 says all the tribes of the Earth shall mourn at His appearing.

5. What will the angles do at Jesus' return? Matt. 24:31



INVASION FROM SPACE

6. Does Jesus teach a secret rapture?

a. In Matt. 24:27 His return is compared with the lightning

Note: There is nothing secret about lightning!

b. In I Thess. 4:16 and I Cor. 15: 52 Paul says.

The Lord will descend with a shout with the voice of the archangel with the trump of God.

Note: Again there is nothing quiet or secret about this event, in fact, Jeremiah declares the Lord shall make a mighty roar, He shall give a shout and a noise heard to the end of the earth when He returns from heaven, Jeremiah 25:30-33.



7. What happen to the righteous when Christ returns?

b. I Thess. 4:16: "The dead in Christ shall rise first."

c. I Thess 4: 17: "we which are alive shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air."

Note: When Jesus returns, the dead are resurrected with new, never dying bodies, and the living righteous are caught up with them to meet the Lord amidst the clouds of angels that fill the entire sky with indescribable glory.

8. What kind of bodies will the glorified saints have?

a. Phil. 3:20, 21 Bodies like His glorious body

b. Luke 24:36-43, Acts 1:11 they will have bodies with flesh and bones

9. Does Jesus come to earth or remain in the air? 1 Thess. 4:17.

Note: Jesus promised to return to take His people to heaven to be with Him. John 14: 1-3. He did not promise that at His second coming, He would immediately reign over the earth in its sinful condition. John sees the redeemed before the heavenly throne where Jesus take them after they meet Him in the air. Revelation 7:9, 10.

FALSE CHRIST WILL APPEAR

How can you identify an imposter? Suppose that in Jerusalem a glorious being suddenly appeared who claimed to be Christ and fit the description of Jesus in Revelation 1:3-17. Suppose he preached beautiful Bible truths with power, called fire down from Heaven, healed the sick, helped stop wars, read minds, blessed the children, etc. What would be your reaction?

10. How will we know he is a false Christ?

Because Jesus at His coming makes a sky appearance and not an earth appearance. 1 Thess. 4: 16, 17 tells us Jesus remains in the air.



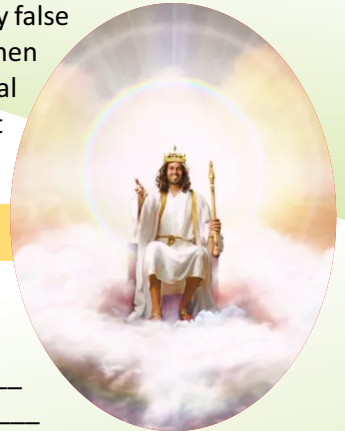
11. Does Satan have power to look like Christ?

Yes – we need to remember that the devil:

- a. Appears as an angel of light. II Cor. 11:14
- b. Works miracles. Rev. 16:14 II Thess. 2:9
- c. Can call fire from heaven. Rev. 13:13
- d. Will use scripture Matt. 4:6
- e. Is wise and beautiful. Ezekiel 28:12

12. Would it be safe to go see a false Christ? Matt. 24: 23-26.

Jesus clearly commanded that we should not go see any false Christ. When we disobey a direct command of Jesus, then we place ourselves in jeopardy, and the devil has usual advantage over us. If you go when Jesus says, “Go not forth,” then you are in grave danger of being deceived.



THE KING IS COMING

13. What will the wicked do at the time of Christ’s return? Rev. 6:14-16

14. What happens to the wicked when Jesus returns? II Thess. 1:7,8, 2:8, Is. 11:4.

15. Why doesn’t God give the wicked another chance? II Thess. 2:10-12.

Note: Another opportunity would also be spurned by the lost. They would rebel all over again because of their wicked hearts. They have defiantly chosen to be



disobedient even after God revealed His wonderful love to them through His Son Jesus Christ. In reality, they would be miserable in Heaven, for their lives are out of harmony with God's love and truth.

16. Whose glory is visible at Christ's return? Luke 21:27.

Note: The glory of one lone angel caused the entire Roman guard to fall as dead men when he appeared at Jesus' tomb. Matt. 28:2-4, So try to comprehend the glory of millions of angles plus that of God the Father and Jesus the Son. Yes, Jesus is coming with power and great glory!

17. What will Christ and his armies do to the nations? Rev. 19: 11-16

Note: All the wicked powers of the earth will be destroyed.

OH, GLORIOUS DAY!

18. What is the main purpose of Christ's return? John 14: 2, 3.

Note: Jesus and His Father long for all of us to come home. Oh, the joy of that wonderful day!

Here are some exciting things we will experience:

- a. Reunion of loved ones and friends. 1 Thess. 4: 16-18.
- b. The blind see, the deaf hear, the lame walk, the dumb sing. Isa. 35:4-6.
- c. No more death, sorrow, tears or pain. Rev. 21: 4.

19. What does Paul call Christ's coming? Titus 2:13.

Note: Jesus' return is indeed, the "Blessed Hope" of God's people.

20. Can anyone know the time of Jesus' return? Matt. 24:36.



21. What can we know for sure about Jesus' appearing? Matt. 24:32, 33.

Note: Read Matthew 24 and discover some of the signs or world conditions that Jesus said would clearly identify the time which He would return. Truly these signs are being fulfilled today! So, Jesus' coming must be very near. He is just outside the door.

wars and rumours of wars, nation rising against nation, kingdom against kingdom, famines, pestilences, earthquakes, death, many false prophets shall rise, iniquity shall abound, love of many shall wax cold...

YOUR ETERNAL REWARD

22. How will people be rewarded at Jesus' coming? Rev. 22:12.

Note: The Bible is clear. People are rewarded according to their works.

23. What warnings did Jesus give in Matt. 24:44?

24. If Jesus should come tonight, would you be ready?

If You Have Questions/Comments Regarding This
Bible Study Or You Want To Be Prayed For, Please
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