



The Glorious Return

15

The truth about the Second Coming

No other event in human history measures us to the importance of the return of Jesus. Since the entrance of sin and suffering men and women have been desperately looking for hope. Loneliness and disease abounds. Sin and death have held the earth captive for thousands of years. The wealthy and the poor share the same fate—the grave. However, it has never been the plan of God for humanity to endure the endless sting of death, the painful experience of loss, and the overwhelming impact of disease. Apart from the hope of the return of Jesus, there is no other light that continues to shine in this dark world.

The doctrine of the Second Coming of Jesus has been misrepresented by false teachers and false prophets. Millions believe in a secret rapture while the Bible teaches a physical, literal, and visible return of Jesus. Before Jesus returned to heaven he told his disciples that he would come again to receive them so that where He is they will also be there. He said he was going to prepare a dwelling place for them.

Jesus also recorded the signs that would precede the second coming. As you study this outline you will discover that the Bible is a reliable guide. Your heart will be thrilled to know that the signs of the soon return of Jesus being fulfilled before our eyes. The words of Jesus and the prophets all forecast that soon Jesus will return to take us to our eternal home. God will bless you as you prepare for His *Glorious Return*.

THE PROMISE OF CHRIST'S RETURN

- John 14:1-3** - Jesus promised to return and take us to heaven.
- Revelation 22:12** - Everyone will receive a reward when Jesus returns.
- Titus 2:13** - The return of Jesus is called the blessed hope.
- Isaiah 65:17, 18** - God promised he will make a new heaven and a new earth.
- Colossians 1:27** - The return of Jesus is the hope of glory.
- Hebrews 9:28** - Jesus said He will appear a second time without sin.
- 2 Thessalonians 2:1** - Jesus will gather us to Himself at His return.
- Mark 13:26, 27** - Jesus will gather His saints from the earth when He returns.

THE SIGNS OF CHRIST'S RETURN

- Matthew 16:27** - Jesus will return with all of His holy angels.
- Matthew 24:4** - Deception will be rampant just before Jesus returns.
- Matthew 24:5** - Many claim to be the Christ before He returns.
- Matthew 24:6** - The world will be gripped by the climate of war.
- Matthew 24:7** - There will be international unrest between the nations.
- Matthew 24:7** - There will be abundant disease, earthquakes, and famines.
- Matthew 24:11, 24** - False prophets and deception will be universal.
- Matthew 24:21, 22** - It will be an unimaginable time of trouble such as never was.
- Matthew 24:26** - There will be false reports that Jesus has returned.
- Luke 17:28-30** - The immorality of the world will be like Sodom and Gomorrah.
- Matthew 24:37, 38** - The world will be indulged in unbelief and the cares of life.
- Luke 21:25** - There will be signs in the sun, moon, stars, and roaring seas.
- Luke 21:26** - It will be great fear among the inhabitants of earth.
- Luke 17:24** - The return of Jesus will be as visible as the flash of lightning.
- 2 Timothy 3:1** - World will be a dangerous place before Jesus returns.
- 2 Timothy 3:2** - Men will love themselves more than they love God.

THE MANNER OF CHRIST'S RETURN

- Acts 1:11** - Jesus' return will be as visible as when He ascended.
- Revelation 1:7** - Everyone will see Jesus return even his persecutors.
- Psalms 50:3** - The return of Jesus will be audible, fiery, and tempestuous.
- Matthew 26:64** - Jesus' return will be with power and great glory.
- 2 Peter 3:10-12** - The heavens will disappear and the elements will melt.
- Isaiah 13:13** - God will mightily shake the heavens and the earth at His return.
- Revelation 16:18** - There will be thunder, lightning, and a great earthquake.
- Revelation 6:14** - This sky will separate; mountains and islands will disappear.

THE PURPOSE OF CHRIST'S RETURN:

- Isaiah 25:9** - Jesus will save His people from the presence of sin.
- Revelation 19:19, 20** - Jesus will destroy the systems of deception and darkness.
- Revelation 21:1-2** - Jesus will create a new heaven and a new earth.
- Revelation 21:4** - Jesus will end death, sorrow, crying, suffering, and pain.
- 1 Corinthians 15:26** - Jesus will destroy death and the grave forever.