

FALSE TEACHINGS OF CHRIST'S COMING

Matthew 24:24-28 & 2 Peter 3:2-4

"False prophet will arise...if they say, Behold he is in the secret chamber, believe it not." Matthew 24:24-28
"Scoffers will come saying where is the promise of His coming?" 2 Peter 3:2-4

There are in the Christian community today great differences in views of the Coming of the Lord. None is so dangerous as the belief that the Lord has ALREADY come. Jehovah's Witnesses have championed this nonsense for years. Now there is a new movement among evangelicals to claim that the Lord's Second Coming is already past. This however is not new. The Apostle Paul battled against such rumors doctrines that changed the truth of God into a lie. We today need to be just as tenacious in our defense of the literal coming of Jesus Christ. Jude 1:3 exhorts us "It is needful that I write unto you, and exhort that you should earnestly contend for the faith once delivered to the saints." We need to be skillful in our knowledge of the Word of God and sharp in our interpretation skills to avoid falling into error and heresy.

In this lesson we will explore some of the false teachings concerning the Second Coming of Christ, and give you solid biblical evidence with which to defend this historical and foundational truth.

FALSE TEACHERS

One of the signs of the Lord's coming is false teachers (prophets) who say the Lord already came. "Look, he is here, or look he is in the secret chamber" Jesus affirmed, "BELIEVE IT NOT!" Sometimes these teachers are way out and their teachings to us are apparent and clearly heretical. Other times however they are quite sinister and cleverly devised so that even the average bible reader might be allured into this trap. Here are some of the false teachings.

- FALSE ALARMS (See The Rapture Report)
- JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES: (See Walter Martin's Kingdom of the Cults)
- THE JOY OF THE LORD: (Quote from the tract - Preterist Theory.)

WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO GOD

1. Literal fulfillment of Scripture

"When the first sense makes good sense, seek no other sense."

"Add not to it... take not away from it..." Rev. 22:18-19

"Not on jot or tittle shall pass, my word shall not pass away 'til ALL be fulfilled." Mat 5:18/ Mat 24:35

2. The Sure Promises of God

"All the promise of God in him are Yes and Amen." 2 Corinthians 1:20

"Not one word failed of all his good promises." Joshua 23:14

"I will come again and receive you unto myself..." John 14:1-3

3. Israel's Future

Acts 1:6 "Will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?"

Romans 11:1-2 God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew.

Romans 11:25-26 blindness is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in.

Romans 11:29 For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

Matthew 24:34 "this generation."

FALSE PROPHECIES OF THE END

There are few subjects of Scripture that cause more controversy and confusion than that of PROPHECIES OF THE END TIMES. Myriads of books are written each succeeding generation that purport to shed new light or revelation on the events surrounding the second coming of Jesus.

There are two most recently published and circulated that I will mention here. The first was a few years ago by a man who believed that he had broken the numerology of the Scriptures and figured out the exact date of the coming of Jesus. It was so blatant an attempt to corner the market on Prophecy that I kept it for later illustration of well meaning error. The title of his booklet THE DAY AND HOUR JESUS WILL RETURN. (subtitle: no scripture tells us we cannot know when the rapture will occur... the exact month and day Jisus will return was recorded by Moses 3,500 years ago. It was followed after 1988 by a sequel entitled THE FINAL SHOUT RAPTURE REPORT, published to explain "What went wrong in 1988 - and why?"

The second is a booklet most recently produced, (and wisely not published) by a correspondence friend of mine from New York State. He meticulously studied Scriptural prophecies comparing them to Apocryphal prophecies to come up with the Antichrist appearing in June to the end of 1990! He believes(d) Antichrist to be the resurrected John F. Kennedy, who he still believes to be alive and held in Poland.

It is just such prophetic gymnastics (tom foolery) that makes a mockery of the real coming of Jesus Christ. Perhaps that is part of the fulfillment of prophecy which says "Many shall say 'Here he is, or There he is!'" Or perhaps the prophecy of many mocking his coming when they hear so many false reports!

God has not revealed these prophecies of the END TIMES for us to play guessing games, number games, or write books guessing the date. In fact Jesus made it very clear that NO MAN knows the day or the hour not even THE SON OF GOD! His emphasis is that HE WILL COME, not When He Will Come! The prophecies serve to support the truth of God's word that when these things come to pass men might believe. Furthermore, they serve as warnings to THE CHURCH to be ready for in the hour that you least expect it he will come.

It is not our purpose then in this study to second guess the time of the Second Coming of Christ. It is rather to expose the reality of his SOON appearing that you may warn the world to be ready. It is good for the saints of God to have a handle on these prophecies and the chronology of events of HIS COMING so that you can share Christ in the midst of a terrorized world.

In this series I want to bring you an outline of human history so as to avoid an exhaustive series of 24 consecutive messages on the end times (which would not be inconceivable if we would deal with all the theories and view.) Instead I think it important that you have a thumbnail sketch of THINGS TO COME, and we will leave the rest for you to pursue in smaller study groups or on your own.

Daniel 2:28

- "There is a God in heaven that reveals secrets, and makes known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days."

Isaiah 42:9 "...the new things I declare; before they spring into being I announce them to you."

- Isaiah 46:9-13 "I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure...I have spoken it, I also will bring it to pass; I have purposed it, i will also do it... My salvation shall not tarry: and I will place salvation in Zion."

Deuteronomy 29:29 "The secret things belong unto the Lord our God; but those things which re revealed belong unto us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of the Law."

THE LITERAL RETURN OF JESUS

These things must precede and accompany the Coming of Christ.

1. Will be when Christians are persecuted Matt 24:9
2. Will be after Gospel is in all world Matt 24:14
3. Will bring the wrath of God on the earth. Matt 24:21-22
4. Will be after lying work of Satan Matt 24:24/ 2 Thess 2:9
4. Will be NOT be in "secret" or invisible or spiritual. Matt 24:26
5. Will be physical and visible Matt 24:27-28
6. Will be like the days of Noah Matt 24:37-38
7. Will be as lightning, quick - Matt 24:40
8. Some will be left behind - Matt 24:40-41
9. Everyone will see Him. - Matt 24:40-41
10. Will be delayed! Matt 24:48/ 25:1-13/ 24:14
11. Will be when many say he is NOT coming Matt 24:48
12. Will be after the "time of the Gentiles" is complete. Luke 21:24
13. Will be redemptive, that is, will rescue us. Luke 21:32
14. Will be just as he went away. Acts 1:11
15. The dead will rise first. 1 Thess 4:15-16
16. Will be with a loud shout & trumpet of God 1 Thess 4:16
17. Will be the Lord HIMSELF! 1 Thess 4:16
18. We will meet the Lord IN THE AIR. 1 Thess 4:17
19. Will be as a thief w/o warning 1 Thess 5:2
20. Will be when all say "Peace and safety." 1 Thess 5:3
21. Will be after a falling away of believers 2 Thess 2:3
22. Will be after Anti-Christ is revealed 2 Thess 2:3
23. We will be changed in a moment. 1 Cor 15:51-52
24. Will bring the end (within 7 years). 2 Peter 3:19-11

All of these promises must accompany His Coming. Jesus warned us that he gave us these promise that we would not be deceived. Test the spirits and see if they are of God. Test the Scriptures, the theology and reasonings of men to see if they measure up to what the bible says.

INFALLIBLE SIGNS OF HIS COMING

FROM MATTHEW'S GOSPEL

1. False cults Matthew 24:5, 11
2. Wars and rumors of wars Matthew 24:6
3. Earthquakes Matthew 24:7
4. Famine Matthew 24:7
5. Pestilence Matthew 24:7
6. Sexual sins Matthew 24:12, 38 / 2 Tim 3:3
7. Persecution Matthew 24:9
8. Preaching of Gospel in World Matthew 24:14
9. Abomination of Desolation Matthew 24:15
10. Signs & Wonders by false messiahs Matthew 24:24
11. As in the days of Noah Matthew 24:37-38
12. False Prophets Matthew 24:11
13. Love shall grow cold Matthew 24:12
14. False Messiahs Matthew 24:24

FROM LUKE'S GOSPEL

15. Israel surrounded by armies Luke 21:20
16. Time of the Gentiles fulfilled - Matthew 21:43, Luke 21:24 Rom 11:25
17. Men's hearts failing them from fear. Luke 21:26

FROM EPISTLE TO TIMOTHY

18. Apostasy 1 Tim 4:1
19. Worldliness 2 Tim 3:1-4
20. Disrespect to Parents 2 Tim 3:3
21. Lovers of pleasures more than God 2 Tim 3:2
23. Religiousness but denying God's power 2 Tim 3:5
24. Ever learning but finding not TRUTH 2 Tim 3:7

FROM PETER'S EPISTLE

25. Immorality 2 Peter 3:34

ALL THE PROPHECIES OF THE END TIMES

Second Coming Passages to Read and Study

1. Daniel 2 Vision of the Great Image
2. Daniel 7 Vision of Four Animals & interpretation
3. Daniel 8 Vision of the Ram & Goat
4. Daniel 9 Vision interpreted by Gabriel - 70 WEEKS
5. Daniel 10-11 Vision interpreted by angel

6. Ezekiel 37 Israel restored
7. Ezekiel 38 Northern Enemy

8. Zech. 12-13 Israel's war & salvation
9. Zech. 14 The Last Battle

10. Joel 2:1-11 Battle arrayed against Israel
11. Joel 2:18-32 God's pity on Israel & Victory for them
12. Joel 3:1-21 Valley of Jehoshaphat War

13. Matt. 24:3-41 Signs Of His Coming
14. Mark 13:1-37 Signs of His Coming
15. Luke 21:7-28 Signs of His Coming

16. Acts 1:11 Shall return AS HE WENT
17. I Cor 15:50-55 Kingdom is not Flesh & Blood we will be changed

18. I Thess 4:13-5:6 The dead will rise first, then living in air

19. II Thess 2:1-12 Antichrist shall appear
20. II Peter 3:1-14 Lord is not delayed! Elements will melt!

Revelation 6-18

- Opening of the 7 SEAL ch 6-7
- Blowing of 7 TRUMPETS ch 8-9
- The DRAGON and the BEAST ch 12-14
- Coming of 7 PLAGUES ch 15
- Pouring out of 7 BOWLS of WRATH ch 16
- Destruction of Babylon ch 17-18
- Marriage of the Lamb ch 19:1-10
- The Final Victory ch 19:11-20:15

ALL SCRIPTURES RELATED TO THE SECOND COMING

Scriptures Related to the Second Coming

There is hardly a biblical doctrine that is more clearly witness to in the scriptures than that of the Second Coming of Christ. There are 300 Old Testament prophecies concerning the first coming of Christ, but there are more than 500 prophecies concerning the Second coming in both the Old and New Testaments. Every New Testament book except four speak of the Second Coming and of those four three are one chapter letters .

- Matthew 24-25 The Olivet Discourse v 14 "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all nations, and then the end will come."
- Mark 13 The Olivet Discourse v 30-31 "Assuredly I tell you that this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will by no means pass away."
- Luke 17 The Coming Kingdom v 34-36 "There will be two men in one bed: the one will be taken and the other will be left. Two women will be grinding together: the one will be taken and the other left. Two men will be in the field, the one shall be taken and the other left."
- Luke 21 The Olivet Discourse v 28 "When you see these things begin to happen. Look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."
- John 14:1-3 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 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 1:11 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.
- Acts 3:19-20 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you:
- Romans 11:25-26 ...blindness in part is happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob.
- Corinthians 16:22 If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema Maranatha.
- 1Corinthians 1:14 As also ye have acknowledged us in part, that we are your rejoicing, even as ye also are ours in the day of the Lord Jesus.
- Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.
- Ephesians 1:14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.
- Philippians 3:20 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.
- Philippians 4:20 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:
- Colossians 3:4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.
- Thessalonians 1:10 And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.
- Thessalonians 2:19 For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?
- Thessalonians 3:13 To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.
- 1Thessalonians 4:13-18 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 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. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.
- Thessalonians 5:2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

- Thessalonians 5:23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Timothy 4:1-5 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; 2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; 3 Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. 4 For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: 5 For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.
- Titus 2:12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;
- Hebrews 9:28 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.
- Hebrews 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.
- James 5:8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.
- Peter 1:5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
- 1Peter 5:4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. (2 Peter 3:10)
- John 2:28 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. (1 John 2:28)
- John 3:2-3 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. 3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.
- Jude 1:14-15 And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, 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.
- Revelation 1-22 The Revelation of Jesus Christ
 - ◊ 1-3 Jesus Speaks warning the 7 CHURCHES
 - ◊ 4-5 A Door opened in heaven
 - ◊ 6-7 Opening the 7 SEALS
 - ◊ 8-9 Blowing of the 7 TRUMPETS
 - ◊ 8-10 The 7 ANGELS
 - ◊ 11 Measuring the Temple in Heaven
 - ◊ 12-14 The Dragon and the Beast
 - ◊ 15 Coming of 7 LAST PLAGUES
 - ◊ 16 The 7 BOWLS OF WRATH
 - ◊ 17-18 The Destruction of Babylon
 - ◊ 19:1-10 The Marriage Supper of the Lamb
 - ◊ 19-22 The Final Victory

Other Old Testament Prophecies Concerning the End Times

- Daniel 2 Vision of the great Image
- Daniel 7 Vision of Four Animals
- Daniel 8 Vision of the Ram and Goat
- Daniel 9 Vision interpreted by Gabriel - 70 Weeks
- Ezekiel 37 Israel Restored
- Ezekiel 38 Israel's Northern Enemy
- Zech 12-13 Israel's War and Salvation
- Zech 14 The Last Battle
- Joel 2:1-11 Battle Arrayed Against Israel
- Joel 2:18-32 God's Pity on Israel and Victory for Them
- Joel 3:1-21 Valley of Jehoshaphat War

