

Second Coming of Christ

- **Appearances**
- **Why**
- **How**
- **Clouds**
- **Time**

The lesson is entitled the “*Second Coming of Christ*”.

There are many false theories, but the Second Coming of Christ, is a reality.

A vital and comforting Bible doctrine is [Rev 22:20](#).

- “He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.”

Notice with me, the Contrast between,

I. His Two Advents or Appearance, INTO This World

<p>Christ CAME in the first century, From the Manger as a Babe (Lk.2:7 reads)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary “brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.” 	<p>Christ will COME again in the future, To the King Throne (Matt.25:31 reads)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “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.” <p>We’ll note later, that this is NOT an earthly throne.</p>
<p>Christ CAME in the first century, In The Likeness of men.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bible says that Christ “made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:” (Phil.2:7) 	<p>Christ will COME again in the future, In the Glory of God the Father (Mk.8:38 reads)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of Me and of My Words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when He COMETH in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.”
<p>Christ CAME in the first century, As a Servant (Matt.20:28 reads)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “even as the Son of man CAME not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many.” 	<p>In the future, Christ will COME again, As, Lord of lords (1Tim.6:14-15 admonishes us all to)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep His commandment, “without spot, unrebukeable, until the APPEARING of our Lord Jesus Christ: ¹⁵ which in His times, He shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;”
<p>Christ CAME in the first century, As a Sin-offering.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bible says, “He appeared, to put away sin, by the sacrifice of Himself.” (Heb.9:26b) 	<p>In the future, Christ will COME again, Without sin.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bible says, “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.” (Heb.9:28)

We are studying the “*Second Coming of Christ*”, but...

II. Why Will He Come Again?

A. To be Glorified in His saints

- “when He shall **COME** to be glorified in His saints (AS we reflect His Glory), and to be admired in all them that believe” ([2Thess.1:10a](#))
- “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.” ([1Jn.3:2](#))

Christ will come again,

B. To Raise the Dead, and Change the Living

- “Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be **CHANGED**,⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be **CHANGED**.⁵³ For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.” ([1Cor.15:51-53](#))
...that is, the faithful will exchange their fleshly body, for a spiritual body.

Why will Christ come again?

C. To Judge the World

- “because He hath appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that man Whom He hath ordained; whereof He hath given assurance unto all men, in that He hath raised Him from the dead.” ([Acts 17:31](#))
- “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.” ([Jude vs.15](#))

...Christ will judge, according to works.

- “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.**” ([Matt.16:27](#))
- “And, behold, I **COME quickly**; and **My REWARD** is with Me, to **GIVE every man according as his WORK** shall be.” ([Rev.22:12](#))

The Bible says that, Christ WILL COME again,

D. To Receive His own

- “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.**” ([1Thess.4:17](#))
- “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.**” ([Phil.3:21](#))

Why will Christ come again?

E. To End the World

- “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.
¹¹ Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation (manner of living) and godliness,” ([2Pet.3:10-11](#))

The Second Coming of Christ,

F. Proves He's NOT coming to establish an earthly, physical kingdom But rather, He will conclude His earthly Reign

- "every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's, at His **COMING**.
²⁴ Then **cometh the end**, when He shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when **He shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.**" ([1Cor.15:23-24](#))

Christ IS Coming, but...

III. How Will He Come?

A. His Arrival will be Sudden, Startling, and Glorious

- "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:" ([1Thess.4:16](#))

How will Christ come?

B. With His Mighty Angels

- "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:" ([Matt.25:31](#))
- "to you who are troubled, **REST** with us,
WHEN the Lord Jesus shall be **REVEALED** from heaven, **WITH** His Mighty angels," ([2Thess.1:7](#))

How will Christ come?

C. In Flaming Fire, to the Disobedient

- [2Thess.1:8-9](#) reads, "**In Flaming FIRE, Taking VENGEANCE** on them, that **know NOT** God, and (taking vengeance on them) that **obey NOT** the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:
⁹ who shall be **PUNISHED** with everlasting **DESTRUCTION** (that is, destruction without end), **FROM** the presence of the Lord, and **FROM** the glory of His **POWER**;"

How will Christ come?

D. In Clouds of Heaven

- "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." ([Rev.1:7](#))

Deity is often associated with,

IV. Clouds

A. In the OT, Clouds were a token of Divine presence and majesty.

God went before Israel in a cloud by day

- [Ex.13:21](#) tells us that, “the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of a **CLOUD**, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night:”

God met Moses in a cloud at Sinai

- [Ex.24:15-16](#) says that, “Moses went up into the mount, and a **CLOUD** covered the mount. ¹⁶ And the glory of the Lord abode upon mount Sinai, and the **CLOUD** covered it six days: and the seventh day **He called unto Moses out of the midst of the CLOUD.**”

God was in the cloud, upon the Mercy Seat of the tabernacle.

- [Lev.16:2](#) reads, “the Lord said unto Moses, Speak unto Aaron thy brother, that he come not at all times into the holy place within the vail before the mercy seat, which is upon the ark; that he die not: for **I will appear in the CLOUD upon the mercy seat.**”

Thus, the Jews came to think of God, as using the clouds for His chariot.

- “Bless the Lord, O my soul.
O Lord my God, thou art very great;
Thou art clothed with honour and majesty.
² Who coverest Thyself with light, as with a garment:
Who stretchest out the heavens, like a curtain:
³ Who layeth the beams of His chambers, in the waters:
Who maketh the CLOUDS, His chariot:
Who walketh upon the wings, of the wind:” ([Psa.104:1-3](#))

B. In the NT, likewise, Clouds were Used for God’s Presence

God was present in a bright cloud, at the transfiguration.

- The Bible says that, “after six days, Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, ² and was transfigured before them: and His face did shine as the sun, and His raiment was white as the light.
³ And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with Him.
⁴ Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.
⁵ While he yet spake, behold, **a bright CLOUD overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the CLOUD, which said, This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased; hear ye Him.**” ([Matt.17:1-5](#))

The Son of God, Left this earth in a cloud.

- [Acts 1:9b](#) reads, “...while they beheld, **He was taken up; and a CLOUD received Him out of their sight.**”
- The OT prophesied about, “**one like the Son of man (one of flesh), came with the CLOUDS of heaven, and CAME to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before Him.**
¹⁴ And there was given Him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should **SERVE** Him:
His dominion is an **EVERLASTING** dominion (that is, a spiritual dominion), which shall **NOT** pass away, and His kingdom, that which, shall **NOT** be destroyed.” ([Dan.7:13-14](#))

The Son of God Will Return in a Cloud.

- [Acts 1:10-11](#) reads, “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.” ([Acts 1:9](#) tells us of the Cloud)

C. The Clouds Should have an Emotional meaning to each of us:

Some day one of them will be the Lord's chariot!

And then our chariot to Heaven!

- [1Thess.4:17](#) reads, “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.” ([1Thess.4:17](#))

The old African-American spiritual song, fittingly reads,

- “Swing low, sweet chariot
Coming for to carry me home
- “I looked over Jordan and what did I see
Coming for to carry he home
A band of angels coming after me
Coming for to carry me home”
- “Swing low, sweet chariot
Coming for to carry me home”

We are studying the “*Second Coming of Christ*”.

Now notice,

V. The Time of His Coming

His Second Coming is mentioned often in Scripture.

A. Even in His Weekly, Memorial Supper

- “For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord’s death **TILL HE COME**.” ([1Cor.11:26](#))

B. But the date is wrapped in secrecy

- As the Bible says, “that the day of the Lord, so cometh **AS a THIEF in the NIGHT**.” ([1Thess.5:2](#))

...and so the Emphasis, is on,

C. The Importance of Being Prepared

- “ye, **BRETHREN** (implies faithfulness), are **NOT** in darkness, that, that day should overtake you **AS a THIEF**.
⁵ Ye are all the children of **LIGHT**, and the children of the **DAY**:
we are **NOT** of the night, **NOR** of darkness.⁶ Therefore let us not sleep, as do others;
but let us **WATCH** and Be **SOBER**.” ([1Thess.5:4-6](#))

VI. IN-CLOSING

Are we ready, if Christ should COME today?
Is our name written in the Book of Life?

Have we demonstrated our Belief ([Heb.11:6](#)),
to Repentance ([Lk.13:3](#)), Confession ([Acts 8:37](#)), and Water Immersion INTO Christ ([Gal.3:26-27](#); [Rom.6:3-4](#))?

We Should Always live in expectation of His COMING.

- Jesus said, “what I say unto you. I say unto all, **WATCH.**” ([Mk.13:37](#))

Hardened hearts, do NOT!

- “there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,
⁴ and saying, Where is the promise of His **COMING**? for since the fathers fell asleep,
all things continue as they were, from the beginning of the creation.” ([2Pet.3:3-4](#))
- “**BUT** and **IF** that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth His **COMING**;
and shall **BEGIN** to beat the menservants and maidens, **AND** to eat and drink, and to be drunken;
⁴⁶ the lord of that servant **WILL COME** in a day, when he looketh **NOT** for Him,
and at an hour, when he is **NOT** aware, and **WILL** cut him in sunder,
and **WILL** appoint him, his portion (or inheritance), **WITH** the **UN**believers.” ([Lk.12:45-46](#))

We Need to LEARN to Serve (or wait) watchfully,

- For Him, “Who gave Himself for us,
that He might redeem us from all iniquity,
and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.” ([Titus 2:14](#))
- “For they themselves shew of us, what manner of entering in, we had unto you,
and how ye turned to God from idols, to **SERVE** the living and true God;
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.” ([1Thess.1:9-10](#))

Don't become complacent, just because we don't know WHEN He is **COMING**.
GET ready, and **STAY** ready!

Do we Need to fix anything, spiritually, to be READY?

Make things RIGHT with the Lord.
COME without delay, while we stand and sing.

Source: Sermon Outline by Derrel Shaw
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