

IS JESUS COMING?

Revised 22:12, 11-20

Scripture:

Matthew 24:3

I Thessalonians 5:1-6

Introduction

There has been much discussion in the past few years as to whether the doctrine of Christ's Second Coming is correct. To many it is nothing more than a fable. To others it is a moment that is anxiously awaited.

If Christ is coming soon, then there is much work to be done—a gigantic task confronts us, leaving no time for apathetic behavior. If not, then why bother to inconvenience ourselves with church or anything related to it.

Christ himself plainly stated that he would return. He did not state when, but he gave signs which would precede his coming.

I. Signs of his return

A. Rejection of eminence of rapture

II Pet 3:3-5

- 1. Rapture is a little known subject
- 2. **Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.**

Matthew 24:44

The problem is not that people don't think Christ is coming, it's that they don't think he's coming soon

- 3. All things will continue as usual
 - a. Business on Sunday
 - b. 10% of Americans in church Sunday morning, 2% on Sunday night.

B. Outpouring of Holy Spirit

- 1. **And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:**

Joel 2:28

in the onslaughts of the enemy as at their greatest, God sent his spirit to counteract it

I. Signs of his return

B. Outpouring of the Holy Spirit

- 1. And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

Joel 2:29

- 2. Charismatic revival in nominal churches

C. Fact of great wealth

Opportunities take advantage of chance to make money & have no time for God

- 1. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days.

James 5:3

- 2. Lack of desire for Christ's return

D. Return of Jewish nation to Palestine

for first time in 1900 years Israel is in possession of the site of the ancient temple.

- 1. For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an ephod, and without teraphim:

See Yehood Pagan

Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the Lord their God, and David their king; and shall fear the Lord and his goodness in the latter days.

last load of Vermont White Marble has already been shipped to Israel for the temple

Hosea 3:4-5

- 2. Nineteen years of borrowed time

E. Much travel--Knowledge increased

But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: Many shall run too and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

Daniel 12:4

- 1. Easy travel--always going somewhere
- 2. Knowledge being doubled each 10 years
 - a. Knowledge too vast to be remembered
 - b. Computers store facts--available in a moment

II. Results of his coming

A. Period of confusion and chaos, and terror

And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in dens and in the rocks of the mountains;

And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

Revelation 6:15-17

B. A time of unbridled crime, vice, and sin

1. A prostitute Church
2. No godly influence--All Christians martyred
3. Unsafe to live

III. Prepare for his Coming

A. Receive Christ as your Saviour

1. Some feel no need for a Saviour
2. Illustration

Nathan, a Southwesterner, was anti-religious at a religious school, trapped, and felt no need for a saviour.

Three people began playing trumpet, at 3:00 am. He awakened in a cold sweat, fell to his knees, and made things right with God.

- B. Receive his Spirit for power
- C. Work diligently till he comes

Sis Copeland's Vision