

"A LOOK AT THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS CHRIST"
HEBREWS 9:27,28

INTRO: One of the **MAJOR THEMES** of the Christian Faith is the **SECOND COMING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST...WHICH COULD OCCUR AT ANY MOMENT!** From the time that I was a child I have been hearing about Christ's return, and I never get tired of hearing about it. It is very important for every one of us to be watching and ready for His return, and so for a few minutes let's consider this great future and imminent event today.

NOTE: Down through the years, many have predicted a date concerning Christ's Second Coming.... **BUT IN TRUTH, ONLY GOD THE FATHER KNOWS WHEN THE SECOND COMING WILL OCCUR – MATTHEW 24:36 – "BUT OF THAT DAY AND HOUR KNOWETH NO MAN, NO, NOT THE ANGELS OF HEAVEN, BUT MY FATHER ONLY." THAT IS AN UNDISPUTABLE FACT!**

BUT LET'S CONSIDER SOME BIBLICAL FACTS ABOUT CHRIST'S SECOND COMING...AND MAY THE WORD OF GOD ALWAYS BE OUR AUTHORITY!

OBSERVATIONS:

- **THERE ARE 8 TIMES** as many references to Christ's Second Coming in the Bible than there are references to his First Coming. 1841 times the Second Coming of Christ is mentioned in the Bible.
- **IN THE NEW TESTAMENT,** 1 out of every 30 verses is a reference to the Second Coming of Christ.
- **JESUS HIMSELF** spoke of His Second Coming 21 times in His teaching.
- **THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST** is second **ONLY TO SALVATION** as the most dominant subject in the New Testament.
- **THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST** is important to God and thus it should be important to us as well.

I. THE PROMISES OF THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

- A. Given By God through Moses – Deuteronomy 30:3-5
- B. Given By God through Isaiah – Isaiah 9:6,7
- C. Given By God through Zechariah – Zechariah 14:3-5
- D. Given By Jesus Christ – John 14:1-3; Revelation 1:7; 22:7,12,20.
- E. Given By the Angels – Acts 1:11
- F. Given By Paul – 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
- G. Given By Peter 2 Peter 3:4-9
- H. Given By John 1 John 3:2,3

ILLUSTRATION: David Barger questioning the reality of the Second Coming

APPLICATION: 2 Corinthians 1:20

II. THE PURPOSE OF THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

- To Take Born Again Believers into the Eternal Presence of the Lord
- John 14:3; 1 Thessalonians 4:17

ILLUSTRATION: Me going off to Bible College and needing my parents to come for me to be with them...watching out my window for their car to pull up.

APPLICATION: 1 Thessalonians 5:4-6

III. THE PROCESS OF THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

- Titus 2:13
 - **"LOOKING FOR"** – **"To continually expect in a favorable way without fear."**
- A. The Blessed Hope – The Rapture – 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
 - B. The Glorious Appearing – The Return – Revelation 19:11-16

ILLUSTRATION: Nana and Poppa coming for me...

APPLICATION: We should look for the rapture today!

IV. THE PREPARATION FOR THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

- 1 John 3:2,3

A. Prepare by Personal Anticipation – Vs. 2

“HE SHALL APPEAR”

B. Prepare by Personal Purification – Vs. 3

“PURIFIETH HIMSELF”

1. Prepare through Personal Salvation – John 3:3-6

-Jesus’s Admonition to be Born Again by His message to Nicodemus

2. Prepare through Personal Service – Matthew 25:21

-Jesus’s Admonition to be Ready for His return by the parable of the master who traveled into a far country who gave his servants talents to invest while he was away – **“WELL DONE THOU GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT”**

ILLUSTRATION: My parents giving me things to do while they went away for the day...if done, I could go to Kennywood with my friends. I put off doing what they asked and did not get rewarded by going to Kennywood.

APPLICATION: ARE YOU REALLY PREPARED FOR LORD’S RETURN? NOW IS THE TIME TO GET PREPARED. **DO NOT DELAY!**

V. THE PRAYER FOR THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

- Revelation 22:20 – After the Lord Jesus revealing to John that He was going to **“SURELY COME QUICKLY,”** John responded by praying to the Lord, **“EVEN SO COME, LORD JESUS.”**

QUESTION: **WHY SHOULD WE PRAY FOR THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST?**

- A. To enable our focus on Christ’s Return
- B. To encourage us in the face of trials
- C. To motivate us for Christian service
- D. To motivate us for personal holiness

ILLUSTRATION: Barb Andrews daily asking the Lord to return...she said, **“MY PRAYER FOR THE LORD’S RETURN HELPS GET ME THROUGH THE DAY.”**

APPLICATION: Make your prayer for the Lord’s return a part of your daily prayer life and watch how God will encourage you for that day.

LESSON AND APPLICATION

CHRIST REALLY COULD COME AGAIN TODAY. ANTICIPATING HIS RETURN WILL KEEP US FOCUSED ON LIVING A GODLY LIFE.