

Global Good

<u>News Literature</u>

Basic Christianity



Part III

"All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-17



"The entrance of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple." Psalm 119:130

*Note: All Scriptures in this study are either from NIV or NKJV

Lesson ELEVEN The Second Coming of Christ

1 Corinthians 15:3-8, which is considered to be the central message of the Gospel tells us about the death, burial and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

After Jesus told his disciples that they would be his witnesses, he was lifted up in a cloud of Glory while they were looking at him. (Mark 16:19, Acts 1:9). While the disciples were gazing at his ascension in amazement, two angels in white cloth appeared to them and said to them, ""Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven." (Acts 1:11)

When Jesus was standing before the high priest he spoke of his own second coming. "And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven." (Mark 14:62)

After the ascension of Christ, the disciples started preaching and teaching the resurrection and the second coming of Christ. His second coming is considered to be the 'Blessed Hope' for Christians.

"For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for **the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ**, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good." (Titus 2:11-14)

The Day of the Lord's Second Coming

- Will come suddenly like a thief in the night. (Matthew 24:43-44)
- 2. No one knows the day or the hour (1 Tess. 5:1, Matt. 24:36-39)
- **3.** All eyes shall see him. (Matt. 24:26-27)

Signs of His second coming

The signs of his second coming mentioned in Matthew 24 and other passages are:

- 1. False prophets and false Messiah's would come saying that they are the Christ.
- 2. People would rise against people; nation would rise against nation.
- 3. Hunger and pestilence would be rampant in diverse places.
- 4. Earthquakes would occur in many places.
- 5. Persecution of believers
- 6. Many believers would fall away from the Faith.
- 7. Evil would be multiplied and as a result the Love of many believers would turn cold.
- 8. The Gospel of the Kingdom would be preached to all people groups as a sign and a witness. (Matt. 24:14)
- 9. It would be as the days of Noah. People being lovers of themselves instead of lovers of God.
- 10. Perilous times would come. (2 Tim. 3:1-5, Luke 21:25-26)
- 11. There would be abundance of knowledge. (Daniel 12:4)
- 12. The anti-Christ would be revealed. (2 Tess. 2:3-4)

Maybe the only sign that we can say remains to be fulfilled is what is mentioned in #8 & #12. The Word of God gives us the reason why the coming of the Lord is delayed.

"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead, he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." 1 Pet 3:9)

How is Jesus revealed when he comes back?

- 1. He will come in the Clouds (Mark 14:62)
- 2. In Glory (Matt 4:30)
- 3. With His Angels (Matt 24:31)
- 4. With Fire (1 Tess. 1:7)
- 5. With the Voice of the Arch Angel and the Trumpet of God. (1 Thess. 4:16)

These things shall occur when He comes.

A. For Believers

- 1. The dead in Christ shall rise first. (1 Thess. 4:16)
- 2. Those that are alive shall be caught up in the air to meet the Lord. (1 Thess. 4:17)
- 3. Believers shall be with Him forever. (1 Thess. 4:17)
- 4. Jesus shall reign on earth for one thousand years (Rev. 20:4-6)
- 5. He will be Glorified by his saints. (2 Thess. 1:9)
- 6. His Saints would be marveled by His Glory (2 Thess. 1:10)
- 7. Believers will be glorified in Him (1 Thess. 1:10-12)

B. For Unbelievers

- 1. God's vengeance would be executed upon them for what they did against His saints. (2 Thess. 1:7)
- 2. They would be banished from His Glory. (2 Thess. 1:10)
- They would receive their eternal punishment. (2 Thess. 1:6-9)

If this is how his appearance would occur, we believers should be always prepared to receive Him.

How can we be prepared?

- 1. Forsaking worldliness and sin. (Titus 2:12, 1 Thess. 1:10)
- 2. By Self Control and Righteousness. (Titus 2:13)
- 3. By being pure and blameless. "And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God." (Philippians 1:9-11)

What meaning does His Second Coming have for us?

1. He comes to see how much we have multiplied our Talents. When we read the story of the talents in Matthew 25:14-30, He gave 5 talents to one, 2 talents to the other and 1 talent to the last one and left for another country.

When he came back, he asked each one to give him an account of what they did with what he gave them. You can read the whole story there. The lesson for us is that he will ask us the same thing one day when he comes back. What have we done with whatever he has given us? It would be payday, according to what we have done. If we have done well, we will hear those pleasant words. "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!"" Matt. 25:21,23

2. He only takes those who are ready.

Jesus told his disciples in Luke 12:35-40.

"Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks, they can immediately open the door for him. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night or toward daybreak. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."

When we read the parable of the ten virgins in Matthew 25:1-13, we find that 5 were foolish and the other 5 were wise. Only the 5 virgins were ready to meet the bridegroom and went into the wedding. The door was closed on the 5 foolish virgins.

When we wait for His Second Coming in holiness and selfcontrol, he would not withhold from us any spiritual gift and He himself would keep us blameless before Him.

"Therefore, you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. ⁸He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Cor. 1:7-8

May the Lord help us to always be ready for His Second Coming!

Lesson 11 – The Second Coming - Quiz

(Please give your answers on a separate piece of paper)

Student ID #:	
Student Name:	
Address:	

- 1. Why do we need to know about His Second Coming?
- 2. What does the Word of God say regarding the Day of His Coming?
- 3. Mention five of the signs that would occur before His Second Coming.
- 4. What would happen to believers when he comes? What about unbelievers?
- 5. How can a believer prepare for His Second Coming?
- 6. What does His Second Coming mean to you?
- 7. How prepared are you for His Second Coming?