

Much has been preached and written concerning the Second Coming of Christ. Some has been truth, but sorry to say, much has been in error. By God's Holy Word and Spirit to guide us, we will attempt to bring out the solid truth on this subject.

First, you must believe in His First Coming or it will do you no good to believe in His Second Coming. The Prophet Micah prophesied approximately 700 years before the birth of Christ that He would be born in the city of Bethlehem (Micah 5:2). The Prophet Isaiah prophesied nearly 735 years before Christ's birth took place that He would be born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14). Zechariah the Prophet prophesied close to 518 years before His birth came to pass that the Son of God would come as a king and with salvation for all that would accept Him (Zechariah 9:9).

We take great pleasure in saying that according to the Bible, every one of these prophecies has been fulfilled, right down to the finest detail. Praise our God!

Every born-again child of God believes with all his heart that Jesus Christ came the first time into a sin-cursed world to teach the ways of God to a lost-and-dying people. He came to redeem mankind from sin and an everlasting hell. He came to shed His precious blood upon Calvary's Cross for the atonement of our sins, so that we might have eternal life and have it more abundantly (John 10:10). Yes, friend, these are just a few of the things that we born-again believers believe concerning the First Coming of Christ.

The question is, Will Jesus Christ come again? Christ Himself said that He would in John 14:2-3: "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. 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." Yes, according to the Scriptures, Jesus taught that He would come again.

When Jesus' mission here on earth was completed, He told His disciples that they were to wait in Jerusalem

until they were baptized with the Holy Ghost (and this is one thing we all need if we are ever going to have power over sin and the devil and be a true soldier of Jesus Christ). The Bible tells us in Acts, Chapter 1, that He was taken up and a cloud received Him out of their sight. Verses 10-11 read: "And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; 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." So, we can see by these writings that Luke (the writer of the Book of Acts) and the two angels believed in the Second Coming of Christ.

The Apostle Paul believed in Christ's Second Coming. He told the church at Corinth in 1 Corinthians 11:26, "For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till he come." Paul was telling the saints at Corinth that as long as they partook of the Lord's Supper, they were showing themselves and the world that they believed Christ died for the sins of all and that someday He would return to take His

church home to Heaven. James 5:8 tells us, "Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh."

The Apostle Peter also believed that Christ would come again when he said in 1 Peter 5:4, "And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away." We believe that we have given ample proof by the Scriptures that Christ will come again. We also believe that the Bible tells us how He will come and what will take place at His coming, provided we rightly divide the Word of Truth. Jesus is not coming to set up an earthly kingdom as some would teach. He sent the twelve disciples out, telling them, And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand." (Matthew 10:7). In so many words, He was telling

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them the Kingdom of God was there for them at that present time.

Jesus also told the Pharisees (the religious leaders of that day) a few things concerning the Kingdom of God as recorded in Luke 17:20-21: "And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation [because it is not a literal kingdom, but a spiritual kingdom]: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you." Jesus did not mean that the Kingdom of God was in those ungodly Pharisees, but rather it is in every blood-bought child of God. Isn't it glorious to know that when one becomes a child of God through the new birth, God comes and dwells in that temple of clay? You can be sure that when God is within that person, His kingdom is there also.

The Bible speaks of two types of resurrections: a spiritual resurrection and a literal resurrection. The spiritual one is recorded in Revelation 20:6, which states, "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power." When one is resurrected from a dead life of sin to a new life of righteousness, this resurrection makes a person blessed and holy. The literal resurrection will take place when Jesus comes the second time. The Apostle Paul tells us in Acts 24:15 that "there shall be a resurrection of the dead [the literal dead], both of the just and unjust." Nowhere in God's Holy Word does it tell us there will be more than two resurrections.

John's Gospel says the saints and the sinners will be resurrected at the same time. Since this is so, then I am sure everyone would have to agree there will be no time for a millennial period. John 5:28-29 tells us: "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves [saints and sinners] shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." No matter how hard some try to distort the Word of Truth, God says in His Word that saints and sinners will be resurrected at the same time (not a thousand or so years apart), and it will take place at Jesus Christ's Second Coming.

Paul gave the saints a comforting thought when he told them in 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17: "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: 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." We must keep in mind that Paul

was not dealing with sinners at this time, but rather he was encouraging the saints and giving them a glimpse of what it would be like for them at the Second Coming of Christ.

In 2 Peter 3:9-10 God has this message for the poor lost sinner: "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. 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."

Some would attempt to teach others that when Jesus comes, He will take the saved out of the world without the sinners knowing it, but the Bible plainly shows us that this teaching is false. When Peter said the Lord would come as a thief, he did not mean in quietness, but rather when people would least expect Him.

Dear sinner friend, if you are not ready when Jesus Christ comes the second time, you will be lost forever in a devil's hell, because you will not have any more time to repent of your ungodliness. The Bible does not teach a third, fourth, etc. coming of Christ, but it does teach a second and final coming.

The modern preachers of this day would like people to believe they will still have another chance if they are not ready when Jesus comes again, but God's Word lets us know this is nothing more than a trick of Satan himself, so that he might deceive many into thinking they have plenty of time to make preparations for their eternity-bound souls.

Saint of God, if you are under the false teachings of a millennium, God wants you to separate yourself from those teachings and come home to Zion (the church of the Living God) where the true Word of God is taught. God wants you to come out of the denomination, cult, or sect that you are in and assemble yourself with the true saints of God and His church, which is the Church of God, as recorded in Acts 20:28, 1 Corinthians 1:2, and other Scriptures. Denominations, cults and sects cause division, and God's Word lets you know that division is sin (1 Corinthians 1:10). In Revelation 18:4 God says, "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her [denominations, sects, and cults], my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."

God is calling the sinner to turn from his evil ways and turn to Jesus Christ. The Bible says in Romans 3:23, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Romans 6:23 tells us, "For the wages of sin is

death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

No matter who you are or where you humble yourself before God, He will save you when you cry out to Him for mercy and pardon. When you put your faith in the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ and trust Him as your own personal Savior, He will make you a new creature (2 Corinthians 5:17). God's Word says in Romans 10:13, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Revelation 22:20 declares, "He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

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