



The Return of Jesus

Lesson 10

For believers who find themselves weary and discouraged, this good news remains: Christ is returning!

The Stages of Jesus' Return

In this lesson, we will assume and argue for a pretribulational view of the rapture, that is, the rapture comes before the tribulation.

A. The _____ and tribulation.

Teaching about the end of time is scattered throughout our Bibles, and so pulling it all together requires a careful reading of many different passages and a piecing together of the many issues.

1. Statements about the _____ of Christ (Matt. 25:36-44).

When Jesus comes, it will be unexpected.

2. The focus on _____ during the tribulation.

Jeremiah describes the tribulation as “the time of Jacob’s trouble” (Jer. 30:7).

3. The promise of preservation from God’s _____ (Rev. 3:10).

Believers will be spared God’s judgment on the earth, and so removing the church before the tribulation makes sense.

B. The _____ coming and Armageddon (Rev. 19:11-21)

When will the big, bold signs take place? The best answer is that these signs will take place at the second coming of Christ, when destroys those who rebel against him and persecute his people.



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The Preparation for Jesus' Return

The return of Christ should motivate us to be ready for when he comes back, and it should give us hope when we feel hopeless.

A. The _____ of Christ's return should motivate holy living (Matt. 24:36-25:13).

When Christ returns, people will be going about their normal life. So live in such a way that when he comes you are ready.

B. The _____ of Christ's return should motivate right living.

At the return of Christ two very important things will happen: we will be freed from our sin and we will be free from our suffering.

1. The hope for freedom from _____ (1 John 3:2-3).

Becoming more like Jesus is a grueling and difficult process as we deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow him. When he comes, and we see him, that process will be over!

2. The hope for freedom from _____ (Rom. 8:18-23).

We groan with the disappointments, frustrations, and sorrow of living on a planet ravaged by the consequences of our sin.

But suffering ends when Jesus comes back! When tragedy strikes and we find ourselves low on hope, we can remind ourselves of the wonderful truth that Christ is returning and when he does he will end our sorrows.

The second to last verse of our Bible concludes with a prayer "He that testifieth these things saith, Surely, I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Rev. 22:20). May the prayer of all of our hearts be for Christ's return, and may the hope of his coming fuel our worship, our holiness, and our joy. Hopefully, after ten weeks of studying Jesus we all have a more intense desire to see this One who has done more for us than we could ever repay. May we all join the apostle John and in our hearts cry out "Even so, come, Lord Jesus!"

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