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The Manner of Christ's Coming

Hope for the 21st Century



As the world races into this new millennium, have you ever considered what our greatest need is? What do men and women living in the twenty-first century need most? If you were starving to death, it might be food. If you were homeless, it might be a place to live. If disease ravaged your body, it might be medicine. If you were lonely and discouraged, it might be love. Is there one thing if you had it that could take you through any difficulty you might face in life? Is there one thing that can make the human spirit soar? All over the world people are desperately looking for hope. Someone has well said, "What oxygen is to the lungs, hope is to the human spirit." Hope buoys up our spirits. It lifts our vision from what is to what will be. It is a candle in the darkness. It provides encouragement for the future. The Bible is filled with the best hope of all—the hope of our Lord's return.

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1. What hopeful promise did Jesus give in John 14:1-3?

The Bible answer: _____

_____

Just before Jesus ascended to heaven, He assured His followers, "I will come again." The fact that Jesus is coming to the world a second time is as certain as the reality that He lived on this earth 2,000 years ago. There is hope on the way.

2. What does the apostle Paul call the second coming of Christ? Titus 2:13

The Bible answer: _____

_____

3. Have Bible prophets predicted the coming of Christ throughout the centuries? Psalm 50:3; Jude 14

The Bible answer: _____

_____

Bible writers down through the ages have predicted the coming of the Lord. For every prophecy in the Old Testament predicting the first coming of Jesus as a babe in Bethlehem's manger, there are eight on the second coming of Christ. His coming is mentioned in every book of the New Testament except the little book of Philemon.

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14. What event does Jesus liken His coming to? Why? Matthew 24:42, 43

The Bible answer: _____

_____

Jesus likened His coming to a thief breaking into a house. This does not mean Christ will come secretly. It means He will come swiftly, quickly, at a time we least expect Him.

15. Since Jesus is coming unexpectedly, what counsel does He give us? Matthew 24:44

The Bible answer: _____

_____

To be ready for the coming of Jesus means to eagerly anticipate His coming. It means a heart-longing for His return. It involves a life committed to doing His will. Love for Him leads us to long to be with Him throughout eternity.

MY DECISION

❒ *I accept Jesus as my personal Saviour and today surrender my life to Him. I long to see Him come soon. I believe Jesus' coming is the brightest hope for our world.*

MY PRAYER

"Dear Father, take my life just now and make it fully Yours. I know You desire to save me, and I desire to live with You forever. In Jesus' name, amen."

4. How will Christ return when He comes to this earth? Will His coming be a real, literal event or simply a spiritual coming into our hearts? Acts 1:9-11

The Bible answer: _____

_____

Jesus' ascension to heaven was a real, literal event. His return will again be a very real, literal event.

VISIBLE

5. How many will see Jesus when He comes? Revelation 1:7

The Bible answer: _____

_____

Both the righteous and the wicked will see Jesus coming in the clouds of the sky when He returns again the second time. Every living inhabitant of our globe will witness the Second Advent. Christ's return will overshadow every other event on Planet Earth. No one will need to tell you when Jesus returns. You will see His coming!

6. What does the Bible compare Jesus' coming to? Matthew 24:27

The Bible answer: _____

_____

AUDIBLE

7. Will Christ's return be a secret, silent coming? I Thessalonians 4:16, 17

The Bible answer: _____

Jesus' coming will be like a mighty blast of a trumpet. Everyone everywhere will hear it.

8. Who will return with Jesus when He comes? Matthew 16:27

The Bible answer: _____

_____

Jesus' second coming will be the mighty climax of all the ages. He will be surrounded by all His holy angels. Try to imagine what that glorious scene will be like.

9. How does the Bible describe the awesome majesty of our Lord's return? Matthew 24:30; Matthew 16:27

The Bible answer: _____

_____

Jesus came silently once. Although angels sang "Glory to God in the highest" in shepherds' fields outside of Bethlehem, only a few had any idea the baby born in Bethlehem was the eternal Son of God. When He comes the second time, He will come in "power and great glory" in spectacular splendor visible to the entire world.

10. If someone tells you Christ's coming will be in secret, should you believe it? Matthew 24:23

The Bible answer: _____

_____

11. What thrilling climactic event will take place when Christ returns? 1 Corinthians 15:51-53; 1 Thessalonians 4:16 (last part), 17

The Bible answer: _____

_____

12. Everyone on earth will have one of two reactions when Jesus comes:

A. What will be the reaction of the lost? Revelation 6:14-16

The Bible answer: _____

_____

Filled with guilt and fear, the unsaved run from the Christ who loves them and longs to save them. They have rejected His mercy and turned their backs on His love. Now frightened, they flee to shield themselves from His glory. What a tragic ending.

B. What will the reaction of the righteous be? Isaiah 25:9

The Bible answer: _____

_____

The saved long for His return. Their hearts are filled with joy. He is their Friend, their Saviour, their Lord, and their King. They delight in His presence here and will delight in it through all eternity.

13. When is the time to prepare for the coming of the Lord? 2 Corinthians 6:2

The Bible answer: _____

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