

THE ADVENTS OF CHRIST

INTRODUCTION

There has been much conjecture and differences of opinion regarding the advents of Christ. Only an in depth study of the Bible can give us enough light to reveal what the Bible really says about the this subject. I will endeavour to piece together enough scriptures to bring some clarity to those who desire to gather the information necessary to help them understand the timing of the advents.

Most Bible students recognize that the Word of God shows us that there are three separate appearances of Christ.

THE FIRST COMING OF CHRIST

Born of a virgin in Bethlehem. His virgin birth and place of that birth was prophesied hundreds of years before this advent.

Isa 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, **a virgin shall conceive**, and bear a son, and shall **call his name Immanuel**.

Mic 5:2 But thou, **Bethlehem** Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet **out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel**; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

Whereupon He lived in human form (AS A PROPHET – Deut 18:15) for a period of 33 years until He was crucified in Jerusalem. (Heb 9:26).

Note* “Hath HE appeared”

Deu 18:15 The LORD thy **God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee**, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken;

Jer 23:5 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a **righteous Branch**, and a **King shall reign** and prosper, and **shall execute judgment and justice in the earth**.

Zec 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, **O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass**, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

The main mandate of Christ's birth and life as King of Kings was to be crucified that "SALVATION" could be made possible for ALL MANKIND. Christ offered Himself on the CROSS as the sacrificial LAMB for SIN of mankind.

Heb 9:25 Nor yet that **he should offer himself** often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others;

Heb 9:26 For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world **hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.**

Calvary was seen by Isaiah. I believe that Isaiah chapter 53 is the greatest descriptive chapters concerning Christ's death in the Old Testament. This chapter describes in great detail the way it was done and the reason and purpose of His suffering.

Isa 53:1 Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?

Isa 53:2 For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: **he hath no form nor comeliness;** and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.

Isa 53:3 **He is despised and rejected of men;** a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; **he was despised, and we esteemed him not.**

Isa 53:4 Surely he ***hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows:*** yet **we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.**

Isa 53:5 But **he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities:** the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and **with his stripes we are healed.**

Isa 53:6 ***All we like sheep have gone astray;*** we have turned every one to his own way; and **the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

Isa 53:7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he **is brought as a lamb to the slaughter,** and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

Isa 53:8 He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: **for the transgression of my people was he stricken.**

Isa 53:9 And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

Isa 53:10 Yet **it pleased the LORD to bruise him**; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

Isa 53:11 He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for **he shall bear their iniquities**.

Isa 53:12 Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because **he hath poured out his soul unto death**: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

1Co 5:7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. **For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:**

Christ's crucifixion coincided with the feast of PASSOVER. (One of the Jewish high holidays) It is amazing that God has ordered all of major eschatological events past, present and future to coincide with the feasts of Jewish Israel. Recently we saw the "blood moons" spoken of in the book of Revelation. These also appeared during feasts. There is nothing just by chance with God.

Rom 10:16 But they have **not all obeyed the gospel**. For Esaias saith, Lord, **who hath believed our report?**

Isa 53:1 Who hath believed our report?

If we don't believe the first advent of His birth, His life and His death we cannot receive His salvation.

Jesus Christ spoke of His own death and resurrection from the dead.

Joh 16:4 But these things have I told you, **that when the time shall come, ye may remember that I told you of them**. And these things I said not unto you at the beginning, because I was with you.

Joh 16:5 But **now I go my way to him that sent me**; and none of you asketh me, Whither goest thou?

Joh 16:6 But because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your heart.

Joh 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; **It is expedient for you that I go away:** for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but **if I depart, I will send him unto you.**

Joh 16:13 Howbeit when he, **the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth:** for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

Joh 16:14 **He shall glorify me:** for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

Joh 16:16 **A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me, because I go to the Father.**

Joh 16:17 Then said some of his disciples among themselves, What is this that he saith unto us, A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me: and, **Because I go to the Father?**

Joh 16:18 They said therefore, What is this that he saith, A little while? we cannot tell what he saith.

Joh 16:19 Now Jesus knew that they were desirous to ask him, and said unto them, Do ye enquire among yourselves of that I said, **A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me?**

Joh 16:22 And ye now therefore have sorrow: but **I will see you again,** and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.

Joh 16:32 Behold, **the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own,** and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me.

The scattering happened after the day of Pentecost.

Christ foretold the ascension; see John 14. This would be the close of His first advent.

Joh 14:1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

Joh 14:2 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.**

Joh 14:3 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.

Joh 14:4 And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.

Joh 14:5 Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?

Joh 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Jesus foretold the day of Pentecost. (Joh 14:26) The comforter (the Holy Spirit) This would usher in another advent of God (for the Gentiles) which would last 2000 years.

Joh 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and **he shall give you another Comforter**, that he may abide with you for ever;

Joh 14:17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: **but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.**

Joh 14:18 I will not leave you comfortless: **I will come to you.**

Joh 14:19 Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also.

Joh 14:24 He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and **the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.**

Joh 14:25 These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you.

Joh 14:26 **But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost**, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Joh 14:27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Joh 14:28 Ye have heard how I said unto you, **I go away, and come again** unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I.

Joh 14:29 And now **I have told you before it come to pass, that, when it is come to pass, ye might believe.**

Note the two advents (v.28) "I go away". The first advent closed.

V. 28 "and come again". Second advent for the Jews.

Act 1:8 **But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:** and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Act 1:9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

The Holy Spirit baptism was the last thing that Jesus talked about before His ascension.

Let us go back to the Events that led to Christ's crucifixion.

Luk 23:20 Pilate therefore, willing to release Jesus, spake again to them.

Luk 23:21 But **they cried, saying, Crucify him, crucify him.**

Luk 23:22 And he said unto them the third time, Why, what evil hath he done? **I have found no cause of death in him:** I will therefore chastise him, and let him go.

Luk 23:23 And they were instant with loud voices, requiring that he might be crucified. And **the voices of them and of the chief priests prevailed.**

Luk 23:24 And Pilate gave sentence that it should be as they required.

Luk 23:25 And he released unto them him that for sedition and murder was cast into prison, whom they had desired; but he delivered Jesus to their will.

Jesus foretold the 7 year tribulation on His way to the cross. He saw His own people, the nation of Israel in great torment of body and soul. (Luk 23:29-30)

Luk 23:26 And as they led him away, they laid hold upon one Simon, a Cyrenian, coming out of the country, and on him they laid the cross, that he might bear it after Jesus.

Luk 23:27 And there followed him a great company of people, and of women, which also bewailed and lamented him.

Luk 23:28 But Jesus turning unto them said, **Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves,** and for your children.

Luk 23:29 For, behold, **the days are coming,** in the which they shall say, Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bare, and the paps which never gave suck.

Luk 23:30 Then shall they begin to say to the mountains, Fall on us; and to the hills, Cover us.

Luk 23:31 For **if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?**

Luk 23:32 And there were also **two other, malefactors, led with him to be put to death.**

The dry tree was a life without the “Holy Spirit” (Luk 23:31)

THE CRUCIFIXION

Luk 23:33 And when they were come **to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him**, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.

Luk 23:34 Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

Luk 23:35 And the people stood beholding. And the rulers also with them derided him, saying, He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God.

Luk 23:36 And the soldiers also mocked him, coming to him, and offering him vinegar,

Luk 23:37 And saying, **If thou be the king of the Jews, save thyself.**

Luk 23:38 And a superscription also was written over him in letters of Greek, and Latin, and Hebrew, **THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.**

THE RESURRECTION

Luk 24:1 Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

Luk 24:2 And **they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre.**

Luk 24:3 And they entered in, and **found not the body of the Lord Jesus.**

Luk 24:4 And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, **two men stood by them in shining garments:**

Luk 24:5 And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, **Why seek ye the living among the dead?**

Luk 24:6 **He is not here, but is risen:** remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee,

Luk 24:7 Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.

Luk 24:8 And they remembered his words,

Luk 24:9 And returned from the sepulchre, and told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest.

Luk 24:10 It was Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them, which told these things unto the apostles.

Luk 24:11 And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not.

Luk 24:12 Then arose Peter, and ran unto the sepulchre; and stooping down, he beheld the linen clothes laid by themselves, and departed, wondering in himself at that which was come to pass.

After the resurrection Jesus appeared to two believers on the Road to Emmaus.

Luk 24:13 And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem about threescore furlongs.

Luk 24:14 And they talked together of all these things which had happened.

Luk 24:15 And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, **Jesus himself drew near, and went with them.**

Luk 24:16 But their eyes were holden that they should not know him.

Luk 24:17 And he said unto them, What manner of communications are these that ye have one to another, as ye walk, and are sad?

Luk 24:18 And the one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answering said unto him, Art thou only a stranger in Jerusalem, and hast not known the things which are come to pass there in these days?

Luk 24:19 And he said unto them, What things? And they said unto him, Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people:

Luk 24:25 Then **he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken:**

Luk 24:26 **Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?**

THE ASCENSION – OLIVET

Act 1:10 And **while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;**

Act 1:11 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.**

One of the men in white apparel was probably Elijah. He had already experienced ascension. (2 Kin 2:11) He foretold Christ coming for the Jews after the tribulation.

2Ki 2:11 And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and **Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.**

THE DAY OF PENTECOST

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

This event foretold by Joel.

Joe 2:28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that **I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh**; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

Joe 2:29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

Peter certainly had studied the Word of God that was available at that time. Peter was no longer a fisherman studying the waters of Galilee; he was an Apostle studying the Word of God.

Act 2:16 But **this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel**;

Act 2:17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, **I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy**, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

Act 2:18 And on **my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy**:

The gifts of the Holy Spirit come with the infilling.

Act 2:1 And when the day of **Pentecost was fully come**, they were all with one accord in one place.

Fifty days after Christ's ascension.

Act 2:2 And suddenly there came **a sound from heaven** as of a rushing mighty wind, and **it filled all the house** where they were sitting.

Act 2:3 And there appeared unto them **cloven tongues like as of fire**, and it sat upon each of them.

Act 2:4 And **they were all filled with the Holy Ghost**, and **began to speak with other tongues**, as the **Spirit gave them utterance**.

THE WAITING CHURCH

Jesus the Great High Priest

Heb 4:14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.

Tit 2:13 Looking for that blessed hope, and **the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ**;

Tit 2:14 **Who gave himself for us**, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, **zealous of good works**.

Tit 2:15 These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. **Let no man despise thee**.