

## THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

Before I begin the subject of the second coming of Christ, I need to state what is meant by “the Millennium”. The millennium is the 1000 year period of the earthly reign of Christ. This period is the fulfillment of the Abrahamic, Davidic and New Covenants of the Bible.

The Millennium (1000 years) is the final earthly dispensation before eternity.

The Bible states it is also known as the kingdom of heaven. (Matt 6:10);

The kingdom of God (Luk 19:11),

The kingdom of Christ (Rev 11:15),

The regeneration (Mat 19:28),

The times of refreshing (Acts 3:19) and

The world to come (Heb 2:5)

At the head of this Millennium government (or Kingdom) will be Christ (Rev19:16)

The character of His reign will be peace, equity, justice, prosperity and glory. (Isa 11:2-5)

The Bible says that Satan will be bound for this 1000 year period, hence there will be no interference by war or any other contrary spiritual force of evil. (Isa 35:7-10)

**The timing of Christ’s Second Coming has always had three thoughts, known as:-**

**Postmillennial view.** Their belief is that the second coming of Christ occurs after the Millennium, after this Christ will come; after which follows resurrection, judgment and eternity.

**Amillennial view.** Their belief is that there is no earthly millennium and that the second coming occurs after the church age. They believe that the church age will end after a time of trouble; then Christ will return followed by resurrection, judgment and eternity.

**Premillennial view.** Those that hold this view see Christ coming before the millennium. The church age ends in the time of tribulation. Christ returns to earth and sets up His government and begins His rule and reign of His kingdom for 1000 years. The general resurrection and judgment of the unsaved takes place and then eternity.

Pre-millennialism is the normal interpretation of scripture as literal and historical.

They believe that Revelation chapter 20 is literal.

The writer holds to the premillennial view. The following pages are filled with scripture references based on the premillennial view.

## PREMILLENNIUM VIEW

There are also three different thoughts of timings held by those who believe in the pre-millennium return of Christ. We have all heard or asked the following question at some time. Will Christ return be pre-tribulation; mid-tribulation or post-tribulation?

Those that are in the pre-millennium camp also have three views on the exact timing of Christ's return. Some believe that Christ will return before the tribulation; some say he returns in the middle and yet others say he returns at the end of the 7 years of God's wrath (tribulation).

The following textual study should give enough **bolded** scriptural references to help in the process of bringing clarification to this subject.

**This 7 year tribulation period** spoken of in the book of Revelation **finishes immediately before the millennium.**

This tribulation is the outpouring of God's wrath on the unrighteous living on earth at that time. The church (the Bride of Christ) is exempted for they have been raptured to be with Christ at the very beginning of this 7 years period of tribulation. The church age will come to an end when those who are waiting and watching for Him will be caught away (raptured) in a moment of time. The scripture says, "In the twinkling of an eye".

WHAT WILL BE THE MANNER OF HIS RETURN? (Act 1:11, Rev 1:7, Mat 16:27)

**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.**

**Rev 1:7** Behold, **he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him,** and they *also* which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

**Mat 16:27** For **the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.**

THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST IS IN TWO STAGES.

The first stage is called the Rapture. (Where Christ comes for the saints)

The second stage is called the Revelation. (Where Christ comes with the saints)

The time between these events is the seven year period of the tribulation. Whilst the Church now removed to the heavens is being judged for their works and attending the marriage supper of the Lamb, **the great tribulation** is taking place on the earth for those who did not believe and live in relationship to Christ.

## THE FIRST STAGE OF THE SECOND COMING.

The scriptural description of the rapture is as follows:-

**1Th 4:14** For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so **them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.**

1Th 4:15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that **we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.**

1Th 4:16 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:**

1Th 4:17 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.

**1Co 15:51** Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but **we shall all be changed,**

**1Co 15:52** In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

1Co 15:53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and **this mortal must put on immortality.**

1Co 15:54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

So, we see that Christ comes for the Church (The Saints). The church is caught away to meet Him in the air, or the heavens. As our bodies are changed, gravity no longer holds us to the earth. The saints will be with Him far away from the terror of the tribulation for that seven year period. (Rev 3:10)

**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.

**2Th 2:1** Now we beseech you, brethren, **by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him,**

**Rev 3:10** Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, **I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation,** which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

Rev 3:11 Behold, **I come quickly:** hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

**1Th 1:10** And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, *even* Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

Note the words “**keep thee** from the hour of temptation”. This refers to the rapture of “The Church”, which is removed from the distress and death of the tribulation. (Mat 24:21) As the book of Revelation is written in order of events, it is noted that there is no mention of the Church after Revelation chapter 3. The Church has already been taken away. The rest of revelation shows the horrendous events that take place in order during this seven year period. It is as if one catastrophe just finishes and another immediately begins.

WILL THE RAPTURE BE ELECTIVE? – Jesus affirmed this:-

**Luk 17:34** I tell you, **in that night there shall be two *men* in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left.**

Luk 17:35 Two *women* shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

Luk 17:36 **Two *men* shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.**

Luk 17:37 And they answered and said unto him, Where, Lord? And he said unto them, Wheresoever the body *is*, thither will the eagles be gathered together.

It is a worldwide rapture; some are working, whilst others are sleeping.

I also believe that the rapture is only for those that are ready, (Rev 19:7-8) waiting for Christ’s appearance. I believe that those that made them ready for Christ’s return and were determined to be part of the Bride of Christ; they are the ones who will be blessed to be caught away to the marriage supper of the Lamb. (Rev 19:9)

**Rev 19:7** Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: **for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.**

Rev 19:8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, **clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.**

Rev 19:9 And he saith unto me, Write, **Blessed *are* they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.** And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

Many will not be included in the raptured Church.

**Mat 22:8** Then saith he to his servants, **The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy.**

**Mat 13:45** Again, **the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls:**

Mat 13:46 Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

Mat 13:47 Again, **the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind:**

Mat 13:48 Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and **gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away.**

Many Bible scholars believe that the papal church is (the harlot church) who will marry with anti-christ. (Rev 17:7) As stated before only those that are totally committed to Christ will be part of the raptured church. All idolatrous religions who bow to images and request cleansing for sins from men (priests) are not included in the rapture.

**Rev 17:4 And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication:**

Rev 17:5 And upon her forehead *was* a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

Rev 17:6 And I saw **the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus:** and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.

Rev 17:7 And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? **I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her,** which hath the seven heads and ten horns.

Rev 17:8 The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and **they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world,** when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

Many men and women will be astonished to find that they were not judged good enough to be found written in the book of life. John, the revelator saw it as a mystery; so many religious people excluded. Note the words in capital letters in Rev 17:5. “the mother of harlots”. This well to do woman dressed in purple and scarlet is the wife of antichrist. She looked good to the world, but she was full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication (Rev 17:4); and not worthy to be included as part of the Bride of Christ.

Jesus put it this way:

**Mat 24:40** Then shall **two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.**

Mat 24:41 Two *women shall be* grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

Mat 24:42 **Watch** therefore: for **ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.**

**Mat 25:7 Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.**

Mat 25:8 And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil;

Mat 25:9 But the wise answered, saying, *Not so*; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.

Mat 25:10 And **while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut.**

Mat 25:11 Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, **Lord, Lord, open to us.**

Mat 25:12 But he answered and said, **Verily I say unto you, I know you not.**

Mat 25:13 **Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.**

Only those of the church body who are ready and waiting for His return will be raptured and taken to a heavenly place to be rewarded for their earthly spiritual works and then attend the marriage supper of Christ.

#### THE PROPOSED MARRIAGE OF THE CHURCH.

Mat 22:2 **The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son,**

Mat 22:3 And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come.

Mat 22:4 Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, **Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner:** my oxen and *my* fatlings *are* killed, and all things *are* ready: come unto the marriage.

Mat 22:5 **But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise:**

Mat 22:6 And the remnant took his servants, and entreated *them* spitefully, and slew *them*.

Mat 22:7 But when the king heard *thereof*, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.

Mat 22:8 Then saith he to his servants, **The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy.**

Mat 22:9 Go ye therefore into the highways, and **as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage.**

Mat 22:10 So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.

**Mat 22:11 And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment:**

Mat 22:12 And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless.

Mat 22:13 Then said the king to the servants, **Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast *him* into outer darkness;** there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Mat 22:14 **For many are called, but few *are* chosen.**

As we can see the Lamb is already ready, but the king was having trouble getting the bride ready or even interested in attending the wedding. This prophetic parable should sound out the alarm to those who think they can just show up with every other believer and expect to partake at the wedding banquet of the Lamb.

The consummation of the marriage of the Lamb: (Rev 19:7-9)

Blessed *are* they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. (Rev 19:9).

**Rev 19:7** Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: **for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.**

Rev 19:8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, **clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.**

Rev 19:9 And he saith unto me, Write, **Blessed *are* they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.** And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

The word for “righteousness” is a plural word. It should read “righteousnesses” of saints. It speaks of the righteous works and acts of the saints. There is such a difference between the harlot wife of antichrist dressed in her purple and scarlet coloured dress and the spotless white garment of the Bride of Christ.

## **THE TRIBULATION**

The tribulation will be God’s way of preparing the Jews for His return. Daniel prophesied that the covenant with antichrist would be for seven years; however the covenant is broken after 3.5 years. (Dan 9:27)

**DAN 9:27** And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make *it* desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

Half of the 7 year period of tribulation is said to be the 1260 days of (Rev 11:2-3). Again we see that Anti-Christ makes a covenant of peace for seven years and then breaks that covenant half way through the tribulation period.

**Rev 11:2** But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and **the holy city shall they tread under foot forty *and* two months.**



Rev 11:3 And **I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days**, clothed in sackcloth.

**2Th 2:1** Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and **by our gathering together unto him**,

Let's look at what Jesus said about the great Tribulation.

**Mat 24:21** For **then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.**

**Rev 6:12** And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, **there was a great earthquake**; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;

Rev 6:13 And **the stars of heaven fell unto the earth**, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.

Rev 6:14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and **every mountain and island were moved out of their places.**

Rev 6:15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;

Rev 6:16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

Rev 6:17 **For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?**

### **Scriptural description of the Tribulation:**

The book of Revelation describes the 3 different consecutive judgments upon the earth;

Firstly: Seals: Rev 6; Trumpets: rev 8-9; Vials or bowls: Rev 16

Secondly: Revelation speaks of the persecution of Israel. Mat 24:9; Rev 12:17

Thirdly: The salvation of multitudes. Rev 7

Fourth: The rise and domination of Antichrist. 2 Thes 2, Rev13

The tribulation concludes when many heathen nations gather against Israel to the battle of Armageddon. At this juncture Christ returns to the earth to rescue the Jewish people.

### **THE SECOND COMING – scriptural proof.**

What Jesus said:



**Mat 16:27** For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

**Mat 25:31** When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

Mat 25:32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth *his* sheep from the goats:

**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 21:22** Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry **till I come**, what *is that* to thee? follow thou me.

What the heavenly beings (men) said:

**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.**

These men were possibly Moses and Elijah.

**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?

It is believed that these men were the two witnesses of Revelation:

Note the power of their ministry in Jerusalem during the first half of the tribulation.

**Rev 11:3** And **I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.**

Rev 11:4 These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.

Rev 11:5 And if any man will hurt them, **fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies:** and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed.

Rev 11:6 **These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.**

Rev 11:7 And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, **and kill them.**

Rev 11:8 **And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city**, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.

Rev 11:9 And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves.

Rev 11:10 And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because **these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth.**

Rev 11:11 And **after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them**, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them.

Rev 11:12 And **they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither.** And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them.

What the Apostles said:

PAUL:

**Php 3:20** For our conversation is in **heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour**, the Lord Jesus Christ:

Php 3:21 **Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body**, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

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

UNKNOWN AUTHOR:

**Heb 9:28** So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and **unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.**

JAMES:

**Jas 5:7** Be patient therefore, brethren, **unto the coming of the Lord.** Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

PETER:

**2Pe 1:16** For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, **when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ**, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

I will now mention the transfiguration of Christ before Peter, James and John. It showed how quickly God could change a physical body. The light of God passed directly through Christ's body. (Mat 17:2) He was very much alive but in a different form. The rapture (of the Church) will have similarities. However, it will be much more dramatic for hundreds of thousands shall leave earth as fast as the blink of an eye.

(1 Cor 15:52)

**Mat 17:1** And after six days **Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother**, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart,

**Mat 17:2** **And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.**

**Mat 17:3** And, behold, there appeared unto them **Moses and Elias** talking with him.

**Mat 17:4** Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.

**Mat 17:5** While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, **This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.**

JUDE: At the end of the of the tribulation

**Jud 1:14** And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, **Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,**

**Jud 1:15** **To execute judgment upon all**, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard *speeches* which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

JOHN:

**1Jn 2:28** And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and **not be ashamed before him at his coming.**

**Rev 1:7** Behold, **he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him**, and they *also* which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

The testimony of the Lord's Supper is a temporary ordinance and will be discontinued at the second coming of Christ.

**1Co 11:26** For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, **ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.**

### WHEN WILL THE SECOND COMING TAKE PLACE

**Mar 13:32** But of that day and *that* hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, **neither the Son, but the Father.**

Mar 13:33 Take ye heed, watch and pray: **for ye know not when the time is.**

**Act 1:7** And he said unto them, **It is not for you to know the times or the seasons,** which the Father hath put in his own power.

We are not to set dates or seasons; for we were asked to watch and pray.

The Jews will return to their land before the millennium. They will worship Christ before the millennium.

**Eze 36:24** For **I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.**

Eze 36:25 Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.

Eze 36:26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

Eze 36:27 And **I will put my spirit within you**, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do *them*.

Eze 36:28 And **ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.**

**Zec 12:10** And **I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced**, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for *his* only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for *his* firstborn.

### CHRIST RETURNS IN A SAME MANNER AS HE WENT.

**Rev 1:7** Behold, **he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him:** and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

**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.**

Christ departed alone, but He returns with many angels.

**Mat 16:27 For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels;**  
and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

Lawrence Gregor