

The Second Coming of Christ Vs. the Rapture [11]

-How Will Jesus Come Back the Second Time? -

**Remember to Pray for Wisdom Before You Begin*

SPECIAL NOTE: The “Secret Rapture” theory is a popular and common teaching in many Christian circles today and it is based on about 8 premises which are listed here.

- A. The rapture is silent.
- B. It is invisible.
- C. After the Rapture, the wicked are still alive.
- D. The righteous are “raptured” away before “the tribulation” so they don’t have to go through it. Supposedly the saints escape persecution.
- E. This theory claims the second coming will be in two stages that will be 7 years apart. (1) the “secret Rapture” itself and (2) and the glorious actual coming.
- F. The “Rapture” takes place before the “Antichrist” who brings about the great tribulation.
- G. After the “Rapture” takes place and leaves the wicked behind, they are supposed to have a second chance to be saved.

NOTE: Isaiah 8:20 says “To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not _____ to this _____, it is because there is no _____ (truth) in them.” **Throughout the scope of this Bible Study, let’s see what the Bible actually teaches and see if the above teaching measures up to God’s Word.**

- 1.) What is the greatest hope that we have to look forward to as Christians? Titus 2:13
Looking for that blessed _____, and the glorious _____ of the great _____ and our Saviour Jesus Christ; NOTE: What greater event could we look forward to than the consummation of all our hopes and a better world to come when the second coming of Jesus to our world takes place? Everything that brings heart-ache, sorrow, pain, suffering and death will forever come to an end! A better world, a vastly far better life is coming! Imagine a brand-new body with no more health problems, handicaps or anything that is defective with the full, perfect functioning of our bodies for all eternity to come! Wow! What amazing things we have to look forward to! Let’s look at what the Bible has to say about this amazing subject and learn about the truth and be safe from deception.
- 2.) What is the main purpose and object of the second coming of Christ? John 14:2, 3
In my Father's house are many _____: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I _____ come again, and receive you _____ myself; that where I am, there ye may be _____. NOTE: One of the main purposes of Jesus’ coming is to take home to a better place all who have chosen Him and His character and would like to be citizens of a new kingdom where righteousness and peace reigns supreme!

- 3.) What role will the angels have in this great future event? **Matthew 24:31** *And he shall send his _____ with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall _____ together his _____ from the four winds, from one _____ of heaven to the other. **NOTE: All the saved will be gathered up –the resurrected dead as well as all the living will meet the LORD in the air. If you are faithful you can enter into this experience and it is most likely that the angel who greets you to bring you to Jesus will be your own guardian angel. What a thrilling experience this will be!***
- 4.) In what manner according to Acts 1:9-11 will Jesus come back to this world? **Acts 1:9** *And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken _____; and a _____ received him out of their sight. **10** And while they looked stedfastly toward _____ as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; **11** Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this _____ Jesus, which is taken up from you into _____, shall so come in _____ _____ as ye have seen him go into heaven. **NOTE: Gravity lost its power where Jesus was standing and He ascended into heaven where a cloud (maybe of angels) received Him out of their sight. Jesus is coming again in a similar manner as His departure, descending to this earth in clouds with glorious angels attending Him. What an amazing day that will be! And it's sooner than most of us realize.***
- 5.) Will Jesus make contact with the earth when He comes? **1Thessalonians 4:17** *Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught _____ together with them in the _____, to meet the Lord _____ the _____: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. **NOTE: This is so important to remember that Jesus' feet will not touch the earth when He comes the second time. We (living and/or resurrected dead) will meet the LORD "in the air."** And then it says "so shall we ever be with the LORD." Only at His third coming will He touch the earth on the Mount of Olives where it will split and become a great plain where the Holy City -New Jerusalem will descend and settle on this site.*
- 6.) If we are told that Jesus has come and is reported by the news media to be in a certain location, teaching wonderful things and performing amazing miracles –should we go to see him or even watch him over TV? What does the Bible say? **Matthew 24:23** *Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is _____, or there; believe it _____. **24** For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall _____ the very elect. **25** Behold, I have _____ you before. **26** Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not _____: behold, he is in the secret chambers; _____ it _____. **NOTE: Just carefully follow the various important points in this study as given by God's word and you won't be deceived. Jesus will never come down to this earth and be walking around after His second coming. That is NOT what the Bible says.***

7.) Is the second coming of Christ a silent or quiet event? **1Thessalonians 4:16** For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a _____, with the _____ of the archangel, and with the _____ of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: **Jeremiah 25:30** Therefore prophesy thou against them all these words, and say unto them, The LORD shall _____ from on high, and utter his _____ from his holy habitation; he shall _____ roar upon his habitation; he shall give a _____, as they that tread the grapes, against all the inhabitants of the earth. **Psalm 50:3** Our God shall come, and shall _____ keep _____: a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very _____ round about him. **NOTE: There is nothing quiet about this event! As you shall see shortly; this is anything but secret or noiseless!**

8.) Those who believe in the "Secret Rapture" liken the second coming to "a thief in the night." But does this mean that the second coming will be a quiet, secret coming? **2Peter 3:10** But the day of the Lord will come as a _____ in the _____; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a _____, and the elements shall _____ with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. **NOTE: Obviously the "thief" part of the coming of the LORD will not be its secrecy or it being silent but the suddenness of finding much of the population of the world even of professed Christians UNPREPARED! That's what it means when it says He will come as a thief. Jesus explains this even clearer in Matthew 24:42** _____ therefore: for ye know not what _____ your Lord doth come. **43** But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what _____ the _____ would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. **CONTINUED NOTE: Probation will close a short time before Jesus comes and most people will be taken unawares because they are not prayerfully studying their Bibles to know how to interpret final events so they can know when their LORD's coming is near.**

9.) Is the rapture or second coming visible or invisible? **Matthew 24:27** For as the _____ cometh out of the _____, and shineth even unto the _____; so shall _____ the coming of the Son of man be. **Revelation 1:7** Behold, he cometh with clouds; and _____ eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and _____ kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen. **NOTE: This event will grab the attention of every human being on the planet and probably even those who have been blind will have "seeing" eyes to behold this event! There will be no secret about this glorious occasion!**

10.) Jesus will come with all the holy angels. How bright and overpowering is even one mighty angel that comes down from heaven? **Matthew 28:2** And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the _____ of the Lord descended from _____, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. **3** His countenance was like _____, and his raiment white as snow. **4** And for fear of him the keepers did _____, and became as _____ men. **NOTE: Now imagine from this next scripture all the holy angels (probably countless millions) attending Jesus on His return to earth.**

Matthew 25:31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and _____ the holy angels _____ him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: **NOTE: There is NOTHING SECRET about the second coming of Jesus and His “rapturing” up of the saints of God! It will be an earth-shattering event on a scale that we can scarcely imagine!**

11.) Will the second coming of Jesus take place unnoticed by the rest of the world?

1Thessalonians 4:16 For the Lord himself shall _____ from heaven with a _____, with the _____ of the archangel, and with the _____ of God: and the _____ in Christ shall rise first: **NOTE: This is going to be impossible to miss! Jesus gives a shout, there is a trumpet blast and the saved dead are popping out of the graves everywhere! This is not a spiritual coming into the heart at conversion nor does it take place only at a person’s death nor is it figurative in any way. The return of Christ will be a worldwide, literal, visible and very noisy event!!**

12.) Does the “Rapture” or second coming of Jesus leave any of the wicked alive?

2Thessalonians 2:8 And then shall that _____ be revealed, whom the Lord shall _____ with the spirit of his mouth, and shall _____ with the brightness of his _____: **2Thessalonians 1:7** And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from _____ with his mighty _____, **8** In flaming fire taking _____ on them that know _____ God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: **Revelation 6:14** And the _____ departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. **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, _____ themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; **16** And said to the mountains and rocks, _____ on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the _____: **17** For the great day of his _____ is come; and who shall be able to stand? **Jeremiah 25:33** And the _____ of the LORD shall be at that day from one _____ of the earth even unto the other end of the _____: they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor _____; they shall be dung upon the ground. **NOTE: The study on the millennium [see study on “Coming –The Devil’s 1,000-year Imprisonment] makes it pretty plain that the millennium will begin at the second coming of Christ in which no lost or wicked person will be alive during this time. Why? Because the coming of Jesus destroys the lost as the above verses say and all the saved from all ages will be translated or “raptured” to heaven. This makes it plain that the wicked or lost will not have a second chance to be saved. How would this be just or fair for the living lost to have a second chance for salvation, yet any lost person who happens to die before the rapture would be lost (with no second chance) and condemned for the punishment of hell? This teaching is simply not just or Biblical! Nowhere in God’s Word do we see that the wicked or lost are given another chance to be saved after the second coming of Jesus. This clever deception will ensnare millions into thinking, “If I’m not a Christian when the rapture takes place, at least I will have another chance after the rapture during the great tribulation.” Thus, millions could end up duped**

and lost for eternity!! Matthew 24:4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take _____ that no man _____ you. **It pays to diligently study God's Word so we won't be deceived! Millions will be deceived and lost!**

13.) How do we know there will not be a second chance to be saved after the second coming of Jesus? Revelation 14:14 And I looked, and behold a white _____, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp _____. **15** And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, _____ in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to _____; for the harvest of the earth is _____. **Matthew 13:39** The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the _____ is the _____ of the world; and the reapers are the angels. **NOTE: The second return of Jesus in the clouds of heaven is also the "harvest time" or the end of the world. Other scriptures make it plain that there is no more opportunity to be saved after this!** **Revelation 22:11** He that is _____, let him be unjust _____: and he which is _____, let him be filthy _____: and he that is righteous, _____ him be righteous _____: and he that is holy, let him be holy _____. **12** And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. **Now notice Jeremiah 8:20** The harvest (the 2nd Coming) is _____, the summer is ended, and we are _____ saved. **FURTHER NOTE: There can be no more salvation after the second coming because the rewards will have already been given out -as pointed out in Rev. 22:12**

14.) Since we have seen that all the living lost will be slain at the second coming with no second chance to be saved, will this mean that the righteous will escape persecution? 2Timothy 3:12 Yea, and all that will live _____ in Christ Jesus shall suffer _____. **John 15:18** If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. **20** Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not _____ than his _____. If they have persecuted me, they will _____ persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. **Revelation 20:4** And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were _____ for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the _____, neither his _____, neither had received his _____ upon their _____, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. **NOTE: God's people all down through the ages have suffered persecution for their faith. Did Daniel's friends escape the fiery furnace or Daniel from the lion's den? [The stories in Daniel are recorded purposely for our example in end-time events.] Did the early Christian church suffer persecution? Yes! Did many of the Protestant Christians during the "dark ages" suffer at the hands of the Papacy? Yes, immensely so! What makes many of today's Christians think they will escape persecution at the end time by believing in a "theory" that they will be "raptured" away before then? For certain this cannot be found anywhere in the Bible! Check it out thoroughly for yourself!**

15.) Doesn't Jesus talk about a "secret rapture" where one will be taken and the other left?

The question we need to ask is –who is taken and who is left? Let’s allow the Bible to explain itself. **Matthew 24:37** But ___ the days of Noe were, so shall _____ the coming of the Son of man be. **38** For as in the days that were _____ the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, **39** And knew not until the flood came, and _____ them all away; so shall also the _____ of the Son of man be. **NOTE: Notice how this above passage compares the time of Noah with the second coming of Jesus. It says that “the flood came and took them all away.” Obviously, this means they were destroyed or drowned when it states that it “took them all away.” Now let’s look on at the next few verses that many people use to say that the lost or wicked are “left behind” [alive].** **40** Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be _____, and the other _____. **41** Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be _____, and the other _____. **FURTHER NOTE: Now to be consistent in the context of the above verses (V. 39), these latter verses (40,41) say at the second coming “the one shall be taken and the other left.” The ones “taken” are the ones that are destroyed or killed by the brightness of Jesus’ return. The ones that are “left” are the ones that Jesus brings with Him to heaven. A series of books written called “Left Behind” were very popular during their time and probably influenced millions, but unfortunately they are only religious fiction with little semblance of Bible truth. The Bible consistently says that only a small minority will escape widespread deception and be saved at the end of time.**

16.) Does the coming of Christ take place before the Anti-Christ appears? 2Thessalonians 2:3
 Let no man _____ you by _____ means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away _____, and that _____ be revealed, the son of perdition; **4**
 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he _____ God sitteth in the _____ of God, shewing himself that _____ is God. **NOTE: First of all, there is no indication anywhere in God’s Word that there will be two phases of the second coming such as a sudden, secret rapturing away of all God’s saints and then a visible coming of Jesus to this earth. That being the case, all the end-time events will naturally occur before the Biblical second coming of Christ. As we see from the scripture above, Paul plainly says that before the great event of the second coming (see the context of the preceding verses) that the Anti-Christ will appear well before-hand. The whole purpose of the Anti-Christ which Satan has cleverly prepared is for the purpose of deceiving the world’s masses so that as many as possible will be lost. If all the saved are raptured away before the Anti-Christ appears what sense would it make for him to come on the scene. The fact is that much of the Christian world is deceived in regards to who the real Anti-Christ is. The Bible plainly identifies who he is and that he is already here and has been for some time. [See study on “Daniel 7 -Identifying the real Anti-Christ of Bible Prophecy” –Part 1 & 2].**

17.) When do we receive new glorified bodies and part ways with our sinful flesh?
1Corinthians 15:51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall _____

be _____, **52** In a _____, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised _____, and we shall be _____. **53** For this corruptible must put on _____, and this mortal must put on immortality. **54** So when this _____ shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, _____ is swallowed up in victory. **NOTE: It is at this glorious moment that our physical bodies will receive a marvelous transformation. Whatever blemishes, scars, missing limbs or parts, disease, or whatever has been affected and damaged by sin will be healed and restored. Perfect use of all our senses and faculties will be realized. Perfect hearing, eye sight, and everything that God originally created us for, will be given back to us! The only thing that will not be changed will be our characters. This we must by His grace overcome and perfect now by our consent before this wonderful time.**

18.) At the beginning of our study the book of Titus brought out about the second coming being our blessed hope. In view of this blessed hope, what should we do to prepare for this blessed event? 1John 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall _____, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as he is. 3 And every man that hath this _____ in him _____ himself, even as He is _____. NOTE: The very fact that most of the populace of the world will be unprepared and lost at the second return of Christ proves that God will not miraculously change our characters when Jesus comes. To change people's hearts and characters instantly without their "surrendered consent" would be to go against their will and choice. They would then be captive to the arbitrary will of a controlling God which is not the type of God we see in the Bible. We are going to a sinless place, which means we need to be preparing hearts and character to be in harmony with that holy place. God will not risk bringing the horrible virus of sin back into heaven and the earth-made new!

19.) How many times in the last chapter of Revelation (22) does Jesus promise to come back for His children on this earth? Revelation 22:7 Behold, _____: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book. 12 And, behold, _____; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. 20 He which testifieth these things saith, Surely _____ Amen. Even so, _____, Lord Jesus. NOTE: It seems that everything we read and study in the Bible hinges on the great HOPE of the second coming of Christ! Sin came into this world and damaged everything! God so loved the world that He sent us Jesus to pay for the penalty of sin which not only enables Him to forgive us but also transform us so that we can once more be in harmony with God's kingdom of righteousness and then be taken back with Jesus into His glorious kingdom. The beginning book of Genesis starts with a Garden Paradise with the Tree of Life. The last book of Revelation ends with the same Garden Paradise with the Tree of Life once more restored! Yes, even so come LORD Jesus!!

Brief Quiz

CIRCLE ONE

- 1.) **True/False** – Little emphasis is placed on the return of Christ in the Bible because mankind is doing just fine as time goes along in this world.
- 2.) **True/False** – When Jesus comes, multitudes of the saved will be secretly snatched away leaving all the lost behind to live on.
- 3.) **True/False** – All the saved won't have to worry about persecution because they will be raptured away before then.
- 4.) **True/False** – The Anti-Christ appears only after Jesus' second coming.
- 5.) **True/False** – When Jesus comes the second time, He will be going to different locations in this world performing miracles and preaching powerful messages!
- 6.) **True/False** – If you happened to be unsaved when Jesus comes, you won't have to worry because you will have another chance to be saved.
- 7.) **True/False** – When Jesus comes, only our physical being will be changed, our characters will already be set in place before probation closes.
- 8.) **True/False** – The second coming of Jesus will be so massive, glorious and magnificent that the whole world with every living person will see it happening.

My Response

God's Word has painted a pretty plain picture of what the second coming of Christ will be like. I now feel more confident because of this study in the Bible that by God's grace I will not be deceived and I will also by His grace be diligent to be ready when He comes.

Signed _____