

– *Deepening & Equipping*

The 2nd Coming of Christ

Lecture

The 2nd Coming of Christ

- The Promise: Matthew 24:44- Jesus promises to return.
- The Timing: Matthew 24:42- We do not know the day or hour He will return.
- The Manner: Matthew 24:43- Like a thief in the night.
- The Core Truth: Jesus Christ will literally and bodily “come back in the same way you have seen Him go into heaven” (Acts 1:11).
- We can base our lives on the understanding that Christ’s Second Coming is “our blessed hope” and not something to be feared (Titus 2:13, Ephesians 1:10). It is one reason why we ought to live holy lives, be assured that in the end Satan will be judged and God’s Kingdom will bring unity in heaven, on earth, and under the earth (2 Peter 3:11-12, Revelation 20:7-15, Revelation 21-22).



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- We are devoted to fully following Christ in ongoing, committed discipleship with an expectancy of His return (Matthew 24:42, Luke 12:38-40. This includes saying “no” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and living self-controlled, upright, and godly lives devoted to the spiritual gifts in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope – the appearing of Jesus Christ (Titus 2:12-13).

- Different Rapture Theories

1. The pre-tribulation rapture theory: Pre-tribulation proponents believe the church will be raptured before the final tribulation. They believe the “blessed hope” mentioned in Titus 2:13 is the pre-tribulation rapture of the church (Foursquare upholds this theory).



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2. The post-tribulation rapture theory: Those with the post-tribulation rapture theory claim believers will go through the tribulation and that the rapture will occur simultaneously with or immediately before the Lord's coming in judgment.

3. The mid-tribulation rapture: theory As the term "mid-tribulation" reveals, those who profess the mid-tribulation rapture theory believe the church will be raptured after the first half of Daniel's seventieth week, in the middle of the tribulation period (Dan. 9:27).



– *Class Discussion*

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ARTICLE XV: THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

We believe that the Second Coming of Christ is personal and imminent; that He will descend from Heaven in the clouds of glory with the voice of the archangel and with the trump of God; and that at this hour, which no man knoweth beforehand, the dead in Christ shall rise, then the redeemed that are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air, and that so shall they ever be with the Lord; that also seeing that a thousand years is as a day with the Lord, and that no man knoweth the hour of His appearance, which we believe to be near at hand, each day should be lived as though He were expected to appear at even, yet that in obedience to His explicit command, "Occupy till I come," the work of spreading the gospel, the sending forth of missionaries, and the general duties for the upbuilding of the church should be carried on as diligently, and thoroughly, as though neither ours nor the next generation should live in the flesh to see the glorious day. (1 Thess. 4:16,17; Titus 2:12,13; Matt. 24:36,42,44; Luke 19:13; Luke 12:35-37)



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ARTICLE XV: THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

We believe that the second coming of Christ is personal and forthcoming. No one knows the day or hour He is coming, but we should live in way that is focused of spreading the gospels, sending out missionaries and caring for the church, basically we should be caught working when He comes.



What is your understanding of the promise, timing, and manner⁸ of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ (Matthew 24:44, Luke 12:35-37, Hebrews 9:28), (Matthew 24:42, Luke 12:40, Acts 1:6), (Matthew 24:43, Luke 12:35).



We should base our lives on the understanding that Christ's Second Coming is "our blessed hope" and not something to be feared (Titus 2:13, Ephesians 1:10). It is one reason why we ought to live holy lives, be assured that in the end Satan will be judged and God's Kingdom will bring unity in heaven, on earth, and under the earth (2 Peter 3:11-12, Revelation 20:7-15, Revelation 21-22).

What is your understanding of the biblical tension between Christ's imminent return and its delay, and what do you believe is the best way to handle this tension theologically and practically?



We should show a devotion to fully following Christ in ongoing, committed discipleship with an expectancy of His return (Matthew 24:42, Luke 12:38-40. This includes saying “no” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and living self-controlled, upright, and godly lives devoted to the spiritual gifts in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope – the appearing of Jesus Christ (Titus 2:12-13).

Does the idea of Christ return excite you, cause fear, or are you indifferent? Explain.



— **Q and A**

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Discipleship Training Course