Spring 2020 Northern California College Conference

PREPARING FOR THE LORD'S RETURN

Message One

The Promise of His Coming

- I. God's eternal purpose is to gain a glorious bride for Himself on the earth by imparting His life and nature into His believers to make them the same as He is to be His counterpart, His bride—Gen. 2:21-23; Eph. 5:27; Rev. 21:2.
- II. The Bible contains a wonderful promise of the Lord's return; from the Old Testament through the New Testament, every book touches on the subject of the Lord's return—2 Pet. 3:3-4, 8-9:
 - A. Bible students have counted the number of times that the New Testament speaks of this subject and have told us that one out of every twenty verses in the New Testament speaks of the Lord's return.
 - B. From Genesis to Malachi, the Old Testament repeatedly speaks of Christ's second coming; the same is true in the New Testament; this subject is the greatest subject in the Bible.
- III. Christ has two comings; His first coming settles the personal sins of man and His second coming settles the sins of the world:
 - A. In His first coming to earth, Christ died on the cross for the remission of sins; through this, sinners are reconciled to God and partake of His life.
 - B. The second coming of Christ will solve all the social problems in the world—Rom. 8:21-23; Rev. 11:15:
 - 1. When the Lord comes back, the first thing He will settle is injustice; today the biggest problem in the world is injustice; when the Lord comes again, He will execute justice—Isa. 11:4; 32:1.
 - 2. When the Lord comes again, He will settle all wars; everyone agrees that there should be peace, but there is no real peace; when Christ comes, He will stop all wars and bring in peace—2:4.
 - 3. When Christ comes He will heal all sicknesses; many people pay attention to public health, hygiene, and medical aid, but sickness will never be thoroughly eradicated today; when the Lord comes again, the problem of sickness will be solved—Ezek. 47:12; Rev. 22:2; Isa. 35:5-6; 33:24.
 - 4. When the Lord comes again, the problem of famine will also be solved; there will be no more desert, and the thorns and thistles will all pass away—35:1,
 - 5. Educators and philosophers teach men to turn away from evil and to choose good, but no one can solve the problem of sin in man's heart; when Christ comes back again, all will know God, from the least to the greatest—11:9.
 - 6. There are many establishments of sin and evil in this world; many places are hotbeds of sin; when the Lord returns, in an instant He will cleanse the earth of all of them—Matt. 13:41-42.
 - 7. Every group of politicians in every nation of the world is competing for the center stage, and every nation in this world is trying to take advantage of other nations; there is strife and unrest nationally and internationally; when the Lord returns there will be no more earthly governments—Rev. 11:15; Dan. 2:44-45.

Message One-Verses

Genesis 2:21-23

And Jehovah God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh in its place. And Jehovah God built the rib, which He had taken from the man, into a woman and brought her to the man. And the man said, This time this is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman Because out of Man this one was taken.

Ephesians 5:27

That He might present the church to Himself glorious, not having spot or wrinkle or any such things, but that she would be holy and without blemish.

Revelation 21:2

And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

2 Peter 3:3-4, 8-9

- 3 Knowing this first, that in the last of days mockers will come with mocking, going on according to their own lusts
- 4 And saying, Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue in this way from the beginning of creation.
- 8 But do not let this one thing escape you, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day.
- 9 The Lord does not delay regarding the promise, as some count delay, but is long-suffering toward you, not intending that any perish but that all advance to repentance.

Daniel 2:34

You were watching until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the image at its feet of iron and clay, and crushed them.

Daniel 7:13-14

- 13 I watched in the night visions, and there with the clouds of heaven One like the Son of Man was coming; and He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought him near before Him.
- 14 And to Him was given dominion, glory, and a kingdom, that all the peoples, nations, and languages might serve Him. His dominion is an eternal dominion, which will not pass away; and His kingdom is one that will not be destroyed.

Zechariah 14:4, 5b

- 4 And His feet will stand in that day on the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split at its middle toward the east and toward the west into a very great valley, so that half of the mountain will remove to the north and half of it to the south.
- 5 ...And Jehovah my God will come, and all the saints with Him.

Matthew 24:30

And at that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the land will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

Matthew 26:64

Jesus said to him, You have said rightly. Nevertheless I say to you, From now on you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.

Acts 1:11

Who also said, Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you beheld Him going into heaven.

Hebrews 9:28

So Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time to those who eagerly await Him, apart from sin, unto salvation.

Revelation 1:7

Behold, He comes with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the land will mourn over Him. Yes, amen.

Revelation 3:3

Remember therefore how you have received and heard, and keep it and repent. If therefore you will not watch, I will come as a thief, and you shall by no means know at what hour I will come upon you.

Revelation 16:15

(Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he who watches and keeps his garments that he may not walk naked and they see his shame.)

Revelation 22:12

Behold, I come quickly, and My reward is with Me to render to each one as his work is.

Notes