

WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT CHRIST (5)

7. His Second Coming.

(1) The fact of Christ's coming again.

The fact of Christ's return to this earth is a fundamental teaching in the Word of God.

a. He promised it.

Matthew 16:27; John 14:3

b. Others asserted it.

Acts 1:11; Hebrews 9:28

I Thessalonians 4:16-17

(2) The manner of Christ's coming again.

a. Personally.

Acts 1:11

b. Bodily.

Acts 1:11

c. Visibly.

Matthew 24:26-27, 30

Revelation 1:7

d. Gloriously.

Matthew 25:30-32

e. Suddenly.

I Thessalonians 5:2

Revelation 3:3; 16:15

(3) The importance of Christ's coming again.

a. Its prominence in the Scriptures.

The importance of this doctrine is indicated by the large place which it occupies in the Bible. Whole chapters are devoted to this subject -- Matthew 24; Mark 13; and Luke 21. In the 266 chapters of the New Testament, the second coming of Christ is mentioned at least 318 times, or once in every 25 verses.

b. Its wholesome effects.

(a) Self-restraint.

Titus 2:12a

(b) Godliness.

Titus 2:12b-13

(c) Purity.

I John 3:3

(d) Watchfulness.

Matthew 24:42

I Thessalonians 5:6

(e) Patience.

James 5:7

(f) Fidelity.

Luke 19:13

(g) Comfort.

I Thessalonians 4:18

(4) The purpose of Christ's coming again.

a. To take His own with Him.

John 14:3

b. To reward His own.

Matthew 16:27; II Timothy 4:8; I Peter 5:4

(5) The results of Christ's coming again.

- a. The resurrection of all deceased Christians.
I Thessalonians 4:16
- b. The transformation of living believers.
I Corinthians 15:51-52; Philippians 3:20-21
- c. The rapture of the saints.
I Thessalonians 4:17
- d. The conferring of rewards upon faithful believers.
I Corinthians 3:8
 - (a) The incorruptible crown.
I Corinthians 9:25
This crown is the reward for the Christians who exercise discipline and self-restraint.
 - (b) The crown of rejoicing.
I Thessalonians 2:19
This crown is the reward for the soul-winner.
 - (c) The crown of righteousness.
II Timothy 4:8
This crown is the reward for those who live and long for the appearing of Christ.
 - (d) The crown of glory.
I Peter 5:2-4
This crown is the reward for the faithful shepherd or preacher. Laymen may win it, but about that I do not know. But, I do know that it is specifically promised to the faithful ministers of Christ.
 - (e) The crown of life.
James 1:12; Revelation 2:10
This is the reward for the martyrs and those who have endured temptation and are faithful unto death. The Lord assures them that if others take their lives, He will give them a crown of life.
- e. The coming of universal peace.
Isaiah 2:4

(6) The time of Christ's coming again.

- a. It has not been revealed.
Matthew 24:36, 42
- b. It may occur at any time.
Matthew 25:13
- c. It will occur when many do not expect it.
Matthew 24:44