

ARE YOU READY FOR HIS COMING

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INTRODUCTION

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- A. *"to the end he may establish your hearts unblamable in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints."* v. 13.
1. Much teaching in the New Testament concerning the return of Jesus.
 2. In fact, it is one of the central themes of Christianity.
 3. The earliest teachings of the New Testament is for us to be watching and to be ready for His return.
- B. IN VIEW OF HIS COMING, PAUL ENCOURAGES THEM TO:
1. Remain faithful, v. 3 - (they were being persecuted).
 2. Rejoiced to hear of their love toward all, v. 6.
 3. Encouraged them to be "unblamable in holiness" v. 13.
 4. They would be "perfect".
 5. Nothing lacking in your faith, v. 13.
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HE IS COMING

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- A. NOTHING IS CLEARER IN NEW TESTAMENT TEACHING.
1. *"Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was received up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye beheld him going into heaven."* (Acts 1:11).
 - a. Very first point made.
 - b. Revelation 22:20; New Testament closes with promise of His coming!
 2. John 14:1-3; *"I come again"*
- B. THERE WILL BE DOUBTERS OR SCOFFERS.
1. *"knowing this first, that in the last days mockers shall come with mockery, walking after their own lusts, and saying Where is the promise of his coming? For, from the day that the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation."* (II Pet. 3:3-4)
 2. Satan would have us to believe that He is NOT coming back.
 3. And if He is not returning....It matters not how we live...
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WHEN Will He Come?

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- A. THIS HAS ALWAYS BEEN A MATTER OF SPECULATION BY MAN!
1. Maybe because of the importance of the event.
 2. Maybe in order to convince more to be ready.
 3. ****Maybe** to show that in their human wisdom, they have figured out what God is going to do....
- B. A COMMON THING ABOUT ALL HUMAN PREDICTIONS...
1. It excites the imagination.
 2. Causes some to fear....others to mock

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3. But without exception....THEY ARE ALL WRONG!!!

C. JESUS TAUGHT:

1. *"Watch therefore, for ye know not the day nor the hour." (Matt. 25:13).*
2. *"For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night" (I Thess. 5:2).*
3. *"Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.....Watch therefore: for ye know not when the lord of the house cometh, whether at even, or at midnight, or at cockcrowing, or in the morning; lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch." (Mark. 13:33, 35-37).*

D. THE NEW TESTAMENT tells us repeatedly and very plainly that we do not/ can not know the time of His coming.

1. Our responsibility is to be ready all the time.
 2. Make preparation and live - so if He comes Today we will be ready!!
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HOW Will He Come?

A. NOT IN SECRET AS SOME TEACH.

1. The so-called rapture theory.
2. Only the select few will see Him come.
3. RATHER: *"Behold He cometh with the clouds; and every eye shall see him, (Rev. 1:7)*
 - a. How many shall see Him.
 - b. Every eye shall see.....Every knee shall bow....and every tongue confess to God.

B. IN PLAIN VIEW:

1. *"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; then we that are alive, that are left, shall together with them be caught up in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord." (I Thess. 4:16-17)*
 - a. With a shout....
 - b. With the angels....
 - c. And the trump of God. (This whole process indicates the absolute visibility of the Advent of Christ).
 2. Acts 1:11.... *"in like manner..."* They saw Him Ascend....We shall see Descend.
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WHY Will He Come?

A. FOR JUDGMENT!

1. *"But when the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the angels with him, then shall he sit on the throne of his glory; and before him shall be gathered all the nations; and he shall separate them one from another, as the shepherd separateth the sheep from the goats;"* (Matt. 25:31-32).
2. *"For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then shall he render unto every man according to his deeds."* (Matt. 16:27).

B. FOR THE RIGHTEOUS:

1. I Thess. 4:16-17. *"...and the dead in Christ shall rise first; then we that are alive, that are left, shall together with them be caught up in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord."*
2. *"Then cometh the end, when he shall deliver up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have abolished all rule and all authority and power."* (I Cor. 15:24).
 - a. When this world is over...
 - b. The kingdom, which is the church shall be delivered unto God.
3. John 14:1-4. Jesus will return to receive us into a place prepared.

C. FOR THE DISOBEDIENT:

1. *"And to your that are afflicted rest with us, at the revelation of the Lord Jesus from heaven with the angels of his power in flaming fire, rendering vengeance to them that know not God, and to them that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus;"* (II Thess. 1:7-9).
 2. Revelation 20:14-15—The end of all whose name is not in Book of Life.
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CONCLUSION

A. THE QUESTION IS NOT.....

1. If....
2. Or When....
3. But ARE YOU READY?

B. James 5:7 *"Be patient therefore, brethren, until the coming of the Lord."*

1. As the husbandman receives the fruit of his labor...
2. So we shall hear... *"well done good and faithful servant"* (Matt. 25:21).

C. When Jesus come will you be found.... *"unblamable in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints."* v. 13. (Santo)
