

PART 5 - THE SECOND COMING, IS IT IMMINENT?

INTRODUCTION: 2 Thess. 1:1-10. CONNECTED EVENTS.

- A. "GLORIFIED IN HIS SAINTS."
- B. "WHEN THE LORD SHALL BE REVEALED."
- C. "PUNISHMENT OF DISOBEDIENT."
- D. "WHEN HE SHALL COME."

"IN THAT DAY"

I. THE QUESTION OF IMMINENCE.

- IS THE SECOND COMING IMPENDING?
- ARE THERE SIGNS TO WATCH FOR?

- A. THE PROMISE OF HIS COMING.
 - 1. Jesus promised to come again(**John 14:1-3**).
 - a. Go to prepare a place(**1 Pet. 1:4**).
 - b. Come to receive you.
 - 2. The testimony of the Angels(**Acts 1:10-11**).
 - 3. The Holy Spirit said he would come(**Heb. 9:27-28**).
- B. THE TIME OF HIS COMING.
 - 1. A denial of its imminence is not a denial of its reality.
 - 2. Did the apostles believe and teach it was imminent? If so they taught error by the Holy Spirit, for it did not happen.
 - a. Paul knew he would die first(**Acts 20:29-30**). See **2 Thess. 2:1-3**.
 - b. Peter knew better(**2 Pet. 1:12-14; John 21:18-19**).
- C. RECENT ADVENT THEORIES:
 - 1. Claim concerning "signs of the times."
 - 2. William Miller, 1844 and 1845.
 - 3. Charles T. Russell and Judge Rutherford.
 - 4. William Marrion Branham
 - 5. Hal Lindsey. This generation and return of Jews to Palestine in 1948.

II. THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

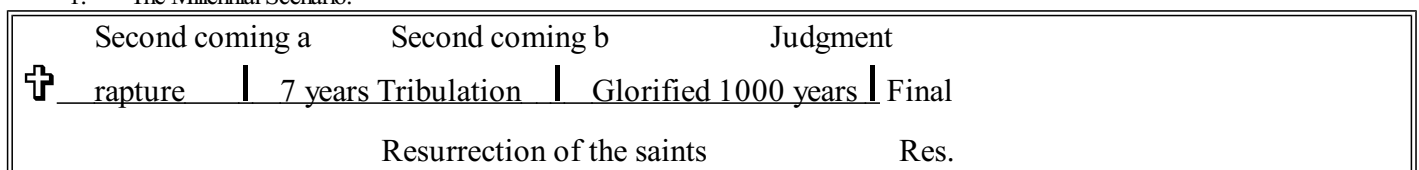
- ARE THERE ANY SIGNS BY WHICH THE TIME OF THE COMING OF CHRIST CAN BE DETERMINED?

- A. THE TWO QUESTIONS OF MATTHEW 24 ANSWERED.
 - 1. Questions asked in response to Jesus' statement(**24:1-2**).
 - 2. "When shall these things be?" "What will be the sign of thy coming?"
 - 3. Jesus answer: (**vs. 36**) to the second question(**Mark 13:32**).
Noah as an example - They had the warnings of Noah it was coming.
So shall his coming be(**vs. 37**).
(**vs. 4-34**) Jesus answers the first question.
- B. THE FALL OF JERUSALEM. AND THE ANSWER TO THEIR QUESTION!
 - 1. (**vs. 14**). gospel preached in all the world(**Col. 1:6, 23**).
 - 2. (**vs. 15**). abomination of desolation(**Luke 21:20**).
 - 3. (**vs. 34**). This generation.
 - 4. (**vs. 16-22**). Instructions for survival - at the 2nd coming?
 - 5. (**vs. 23-26**). False Christs.
- C. We will discuss in detail **Matthew 24** in a separate lesson.

III. THE GREAT TRIBULATION.

- **THREE THEORIES:** 1. **The tribulation.** 2. **The rapture.** 3. **The duel coming.**
Tied together, we need to deal with them.

- A. THE TRIBULATION THEORY.
 - 1. The Millennial Scenario.



- 2. The Tribulation Passage(**Matthew 24:21**).
- 3. Contradictions from **Matthew 24**.
 - a. Faithful instructed to flee.
 - b. Woe to them with child.
 - c. Pray to avoid Winter and Sabbath.

4. What is the difference if the faithful are raptured first?
 5. This tribulation could not refer to the 2nd coming or rapture.
- B. THE RAPTURE THEORY.
1. The passage(**1 Thess. 4:14-17**).
 2. A general resurrection(**John 5:28-29**).
 3. Our hope(**Acts 24:15; 1 Cor. 15:22-24**). The end.
- C. THE DUAL COMING THEORY.
- Millennialists make a distinction between **epiphineia**(his manifestation) and **parousia** (his presence) both translated "coming." They teach that his first return is a **parousia** when he comes for his saints. Then they teach his 2nd return is an **epiphineia** when he comes with his saints to start the millennium.
1. No difference in events. The difference in definitions imagined.
 - a. Both translated "coming" in both American Standard and King James.
 - b. (**2 Thess. 2:8**) "Brightness" - **epiphineia**
"Coming" - **parousia**
 - c. (**1 Thess. 3:13**) "Coming **with** his saints" - **parousia**.
Millennial theory, **parousia**, "Comes **for** his saints."
 - d. (**1 Thess. 4:14**) At this coming Jesus brings sleeping saints with him, but he comes for those who are left. Doesn't fit the chart.
Presence and **Manifestation** interchangeable.
 2. (**2 Thess. 1:6-10**). What will happen at once?
 - a. He will recompense tribulation to them that trouble the saints.
 - b. he will recompense rest to the afflicted.
 - c. He will take vengeance on unrighteous - those who don't obey.
 - d. He will punish the disobedient.
 - e. He will reward those who are worthy of the calling with his own calling.
 3. (**Matt. 16:27**). Every man rewarded at once.
(**Mark 8:38**). Judgment occurs when Jesus comes. 1,000 years too soon for the millennialists. They say he will be here already for 1,000 years.
 4. (**Acts 24:15**). General resurrection(**John 5:28-29**).
 5. Is there a difference between "resurrection from" and "resurrection of" the dead?(**Acts 23:6**).
 - a. Jesus is both(**Col. 1:18; Rev. 1:5**).
 - b. Paul's hope(**Acts 23:6; Phil. 3:11**).
 - c. Jesus' statements(**Luke 20:35; Matt. 22:30-31**).

IV. APOSTOLIC ADMONITIONS.

- **TWO CLASSES OF DISTURBERS, THE SPECULATOR AND THE SKEPTIC.**

- A. PAUL TO THE THESSALONIANS(**2 Thess. 2:1-5**).
1. No reason or excuse to speculate.
 2. Preventative(**vs. 15**).
- B. PETER TO THE DISPERSION(**2 Pet. 3**).
1. The promise of his coming.
 2. The certainty of his coming.
 3. The events of his coming.
 4. Preparation for his coming.

CONCLUSION:

- A. IT IS NOT REVEALED WHEN JESUS WILL COME AGAIN.
1. There is no way to figure it out from the Bible.
 2. We need to be ready.
- B. WHEN JESUS COMES AGAIN, ALL WILL BE RAISED AND JUDGED AT ONCE, AND THE KINGDOM WILL BE DELIVERED BACK TO GOD.
- C. THERE IS ONLY ONE "SECOND COMING."