

The Second Coming of Jesus Christ

“When the Lord shall build up Zion (Israel) he shall appear in his glory” (Psalm 102:16). Israel is now over 66 years old. They are economically strong and militarily superior compared to all the other countries in the Middle East. The Lord also said “he would return and will build again the tabernacles of David which are fallen down” (Acts 15:16).

Most people don't realize there are two phases to the second coming of Jesus Christ. The first phase is a onetime mysterious event commonly referred to as the “rapture” (1Thessalonians 4:16 – 18). Soon after this event takes place the antichrist will come on the scene having answers to all the world's problems. He will sign a covenant with Israel for seven years (Daniel 9:27) guaranteeing their peace and safety (1Thessalonians 5:3). This covenant with death and agreement with hell (Isaiah 28:15-18) will commence the Great Tribulation that Jesus spoke about in Matthew chapter 24. Seven years later to the day Jesus will have to physically come to the earth with all his saints and angels to save the few remaining saints and Jews before they are all killed by the antichrist (Revelation 12:13-17). Once the Lord vanquishes all his enemies, he will restore the earth to its natural beauty, build his temple, and begin to reign on the earth for 1,000 years (Revelation 20:4).

Many people make the mistake of combining the two phases together. This is completely wrong! They make this mistake because they have not thoroughly studied the scriptures nor rightly divided the word of God (2Timothy 2:15). As you will see in this study, there are two distinct phases to the second coming of Jesus Christ separated by at least 7 years. Carefully study for yourself the following comparisons:

<i>First Phase</i>	<i>Second Phase</i>
1. Predicted in the New Testament (Philippians 3:20-21)	1. Predicted in the Old Testament (Zechariah 14:1-5)
2. Happens before the day of wrath (Isaiah 26:20-21)	2. Concludes the day of wrath (Revelation 19:19)
3. Can occur at any time without warning (Mark 13:32-37)	3. Date can be calculated 7 years after the signing of a peace treaty by antichrist with Israel (Daniel 9:27)
4. Jesus comes for His own (1 Thessalonians 4:15-17)	4. Jesus comes with His own (Revelation 19:11-14; Zechariah 14:5)
5. Only Michael comes with the Lord in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:16; Jude 9)	5. All the angels come with the Lord to the earth (2Thessalonians 1:7)
6. Only the elect see Him (1 Thessalonians 2:19)	6. Every eye shall see him (Revelation 1:7)
7. Affects only the believers (1 John 3:2-3)	7. Affects all men (Revelation 3:10)
8. Believers translated into immortality (1 Corinthians 15:51-53)	8. Believers must remain mortal (Matthew 25:34-40)
9. Time of joy (1 Thessalonians 2:19-20)	9. Time of mourning (Matthew 24:30; Zechariah 12:10-12)

10. Saints go to heaven (John 14:2-3)	10. Saints remain on the earth (Revelation 2:25-27)
11. Only believers judged in heaven (2 Corinthians 5:10)	11. Believers and unbelievers judged on earth (Matthew 25:32-46)
12. Satan is glorified on the earth (Revelation 13:2-4)	12. Satan is bound for 1,000 years in the bottomless pit (Revelation 20:1-3)
13. Antichrist symbolically comes on a white horse (Revelation 6:2)	13. Jesus <u>comes</u> on a white horse (Revelation 19:11)
14. Antichrist begins to reign (Revelation 13:2-7)	14. Antichrist cast into the lake of fire (Revelation 19:20)
15. Tribulation begins (Matthew 24:21)	15. Millennium kingdom begins (Revelation 20:4-6)
16. Jesus claims His bride (Revelation 19:6-9)	16. Jesus comes with His bride (1 Thessalonians 3:13)
17. Earth is judged (Revelation 16:17-21; Isaiah 24:5-6)	17. Earth is restored (Ezekiel 36:33-36; Isaiah 51:3; Psalm 104:30)

The Lord is coming very soon. The first phase of the second coming (the rapture) could occur at any moment. All signs given by Jesus (Matthew 24) have been fulfilled. Also, the great falling away has already occurred (2 Thessalonians 2:3). After all the true believers (2 Timothy 2:22) have mysteriously disappeared from off the earth, the antichrist will be revealed and the world will flock to him as he temporarily solves the world's problems.

If you have missed the first phase of the second coming of Jesus, you will suffer and die horribly for your faith (Daniel 7:21, 25) but there is still hope. Millions of future believers will be saved during the great tribulation (Revelation 7:9-14), a time of great affliction such as was not from the beginning of creation which God created unto this time, neither shall ever be again (Mark 13:19).

Are you saved? Have you given your heart and life to Jesus Christ? Is he your personal saviour? If not, then this is what you must do. First, admit you are a sinner as we all are (Romans 3:10-12). Second, be willing to repent of your sins. The first words of both John the Baptist (Matthew 3:2) and Jesus (Matthew 4:17) was to repent and turn from your sins. Third, ask Jesus to come into your heart and be your Lord and Saviour (Romans 10:9-10).

Religion will not save you. Neither will all of your good works (Isaiah 64:6). Only Jesus can save you from the wrath to come (1 Thessalonians 5:9). He is the only way to get to heaven (John 14:6). Accept him today while there is still time (2 Corinthians 6:2). Only by accepting the free gift of God paid for by Jesus on the cross will you be able to enter into the Kingdom of God. By grace are ye saved through faith in Jesus.

AMEN
(John 3:16)