The Second Coming Of Christ

Intro: As a basis for our study turn to 1 The. 4:13-18 "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 15For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16For 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: 17Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18Wherefore comfort one another with these words." This passage is often used at funeral services for the comfort that it brings to individuals who have lost a loved one. But, this passage teaches that Jesus is coming again. Notice some other Scriptures which emphasize this fact. Mat. 16:27 “For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.” Mat. 26:64 “Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.” John 14:1-3 “Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 2In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.” Acts 1:11 “Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.” Rev. 1:7 “Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.” Since the fact of Christ second coming is emphasized so in the Bible, I want us to study some things relating to this day.

I. HOW IS JESUS COMING?

A. He is coming personally.

1. Acts 1:11 “Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.”

2. 1 The. 4:16 “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:”

3. Most of the Scriptures that teach of the second coming state specifically that Jesus is coming; that is personally.

B. He is coming audibly.

1. The dead shall hear His voice; John 5:28 “Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice,”

2. 1 The. 4:16 “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:”

   a. With a shout.

   b. With the voice of God.

   c. With the trump of God.

3. At the last trumpet; 1 Cor. 15:52 “In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.”
C. He is coming visibly.
   1. Acts 1:11 "Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."
      a. They say Him go into heaven.
      b. He will come as He went; seen.
   2. Rev. 1:7 "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen."

D. He is coming in the clouds.
   1. He was taken in a cloud, would come in the same manner; Acts 1:9, 11 "And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight…. 11Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."
   2. We will meet the Lord in the clouds, in the air; 1 Th. 4:17 “Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”

E. He is coming with His mighty, holy angels.
   1. Mat. 25:31 “When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:"
   2. 2 Th. 1:7 “And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,”

F. He is coming with the spirits of the departed saints.
   1. 1 Th. 3:13 “To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.”
   2. 1 Th. 4:14, 16 "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him…. 16For 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:"
   3. Their bodies, which are in the graves, will be raised to meet their spirits in the air.

G. He is coming in flaming fire.
   1. 2 Th. 1:8 “In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:"
   2. Mat. 13:40-42 “As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. 41The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; 42And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”

II. WHEN IS CHRIST COMING?
   A. Christ is going to be coming without warning.
      1. Mat. 24:39, 42, 44 “And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be…. 44Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come….. 44Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.”
      2. Mat. 25:13 “Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.”
B. He is coming like a thief.
   1. A thief comes unexpected.
   2. 1 Thess. 5:2-3 "For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. 3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.”
   3. 2 Peter 3:10 “But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.”

C. No person, no angel, not even Christ knows when the second coming will be.
   1. Matthew 24:36 “But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.”
   2. Mark 13:32 “But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.”
   3. Only the Father knows when Christ is coming again.
   4. How foolish for man to predict the time, or season when Christ will come.

III. Why Is He Coming?
   A. Why He is not coming.
      1. He is not coming to teach, invite men to come, nor to offer Himself as a sacrifice. This is what He did in His first advent.
      2. He is not coming to set up His kingdom.
         a. John 18:36 “Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.”
         b. That kingdom is already established.
            (1) Mark 9:1 “And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power.”
               (a) The power came with the Holy Spirit; Acts 1:8 “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”
               (b) The Holy Spirit came on Pentecost; Acts 2:1-4 “And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”
            (c) Therefore, the kingdom was established on Pentecost of Acts 2.
            (2) Col. 1:13 “Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:”
            (3) Revelation 1:9 “I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.”
3. He is not coming to offer to man a second chance; Heb. 9:27 “And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:"

B. Why Jesus is coming.
1. To destroy the world.
   a. Heb. 1:11 “They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment;"
   b. 2 Pet. 3:10-12 "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. 11Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, 12Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?"
2. To deliver up the kingdom to the Father.
   a. Heb. 1:13 “But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool?”
   b. 1 Cor. 15:24-25 “Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. 25For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.”
3. To raise the dead.
   a. John 5:28 “Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice;"
   b. 1 Cor. 15:52 “In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.”
   c. 1 The. 4:16 “For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:"
4. To judge the world.
   a. Mat. 25:31-33 “When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: 32And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: 33And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.”
   b. Acts 17:31 “Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained: whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.”
   c. Rom. 2:16 “In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel”
   d. 2 Cor. 5:10 “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”
5. To take vengeance.
   a. Mat. 13:41-42 “The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; 42And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”
   b. 2 The. 1:6-9 “Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; 7And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;”
6. To be glorified and admired.
   a. 2 Thess. 1:10 “When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them
       that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.”
   b. No doubt, all that will happen on that day will cause His saints to glorify Him
       and cause us to stand in awe or marvel. Just think:
       (1) The Lord appears, every eye shall behold Him.
       (2) The saints will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air, and forever be with
           the God.
       (3) Judgment will come upon the evil-doer, everlasting separation from the
           face of the Lord.
       (4) The elements (earth, heavens) shall melt with fervent heat.
       (5) What marvel it will cause.

Conclusion: Christ is coming again. Of this there is no question of the fact of that coming.
There is a question of when, because we do not know. Therefore, we need to be prepared for that
coming, for we will be judged according to our deeds done in the body; 2 Cor. 5:10 “For we must all
appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that
he hath done, whether it be good or bad.” Rev. 20:12 “And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and
the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of
those things which were written in the books, according to their works.” And we need to prepare now; 2 Cor.
6:2 “(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold,
now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)”