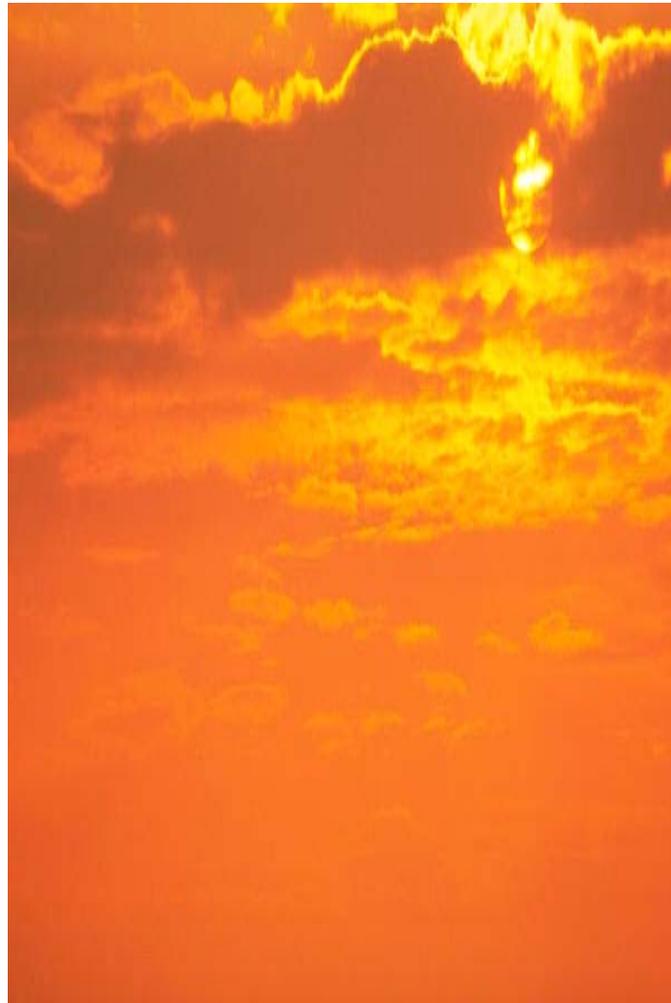


# JESUS IS COMING AGAIN!



by  
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## JESUS is COMING AGAIN!

Please open your Bibles to the gospel of John chapter fourteen and verse one. I would like to preach a message entitled "Jesus is Coming Again."

Brethren! You ought to believe that Jesus Christ, God's Son, is coming again; and you ought to be living your life in light of that coming.

Just think! One of these days you are going to stand before Jesus Christ, God's Son, and give Him an account of how you lived your life before Him from the very moment you embraced Him as your Personal Savior and Friend until the day you die. The Bible is very clear on this! In Hebrews 9:27, it says, "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." In Romans 14:10, the Bible says, "...we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ." In Romans 14:10, it says, "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."

Let me ask you something! Are you right now living your life in light of the coming of the Son of God? Are you even looking for His coming?

Brethren! Jesus Christ, God's Son, is coming again and you ought to be living your life in light of that coming.

We are going to notice two things: Number one, the promise of His coming; and then number two, the importance of His coming.

In John 14:1-3, Jesus said, "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In 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. And 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."

Jesus had been telling His disciples that He was going to go away. In John 13:33, the Bible says, "Little children, yet a little while I am with you. Ye shall seek me: and as I said unto the Jews, Whither I go, ye cannot come..."

Jesus had been telling His disciples that He was going to go away and that they could not follow Him now. In John 13:36, the Bible says, "Simon Peter said unto him, Lord, whither goest thou? Jesus answered him, Whither I go, thou canst not follow me now; but thou shalt follow me afterwards."

For three years the disciples walked and talked with Jesus Christ. They heard every sermon that He preached. They heard Jesus rebuke the wind when He said unto the sea, "Peace, be still."

They saw the miracles that He had performed. They witnessed Jesus Christ walking upon the Sea of Galilee. They witnessed the resurrection of the dead, the

healing of the blind, the healing of the lepers. They witnessed the feeding of the four thousand, the feeding of the five thousand.

The disciples were convinced in their hearts that this was the Christ, the Son of the living God, and that He was the Messiah come to set up His Kingdom and bring Israel into a place of great glory.

It is at this point that Jesus said, "I am going to go away. I am going to leave you."

The disciples were troubled. They were troubled in their hearts the Bible says in John 14:1, which reads, "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me."

Jesus sensed their concern and He told them what He was going to do while He was gone.

Jesus said, "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In 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."

The Bible tells us about this prepared place. In Revelation 21:1, the Bible says, "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared..." That is what Jesus said He was going to do. Jesus said He was going to go to His Father's house and prepare a place; and here it is, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

The Bible describes this city for us. It is a city where God dwells. It is a city of tremendous glory, having the glory of God. It is a city with twelve gates, and each gate is a giant pearl. It is a city with great walls that reach high into the heavens. It is a city where the foundations of the wall are garnished with all manner of precious stones. It is a city where the street is made of gold. It is a city where the tree of life is.

The Bible also talks about the light of this city. The light of this city is not the sun, the moon, or the stars; but the light of this city is the Lord Jesus Christ.

In John 14:1-3, Jesus simply said, "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In 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. And 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."

Jesus is not with us. His Spirit abides with us and in us. Christ lives in us. In Galatians 2:20, the Bible says, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me..."

But He is not here in the flesh. You have not beheld Him. Your hands have not touched Him. But one of these days Jesus Christ, God's Son, will come again. You shall see Him. You shall touch Him. You shall behold Him. You shall be with Him forever and ever, never to depart from Him again.

When Jesus came the first time He came meek, lowly, and humble. In Philippians 2:6-8, it says, "Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."

When Jesus came the first time, He was wrapped in swaddling clothes. He lay in a manger.

When Jesus came the first time, the people cried out, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him! Crucify Him! Let Him be crucified!"

The Roman soldiers mocked Jesus Christ the first time He came. They scourged Him with a leather whip. They stripped Him and put on Him a scarlet robe. They placed a stick in His hand for a scepter, mocking Him. They planted a crown of thorns upon His head, mocking Him as King. They spit upon the Son of God the first time He came. They took a reed and smote Him on the head the first time He came.

Listen! The Roman soldiers dressed Christ up as a King, but they did not make Him their King. They bowed their knee in worship but did not truly worship Him. They crucified the Lord Jesus Christ the first time He came, but one of these days He is coming again.

In Revelation 19:11-16, the Bible says, "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

When Jesus Christ, God's Son, came the first time, He came meek, lowly, and humble; and the Roman soldiers mocked Him. And the people cried out, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him! Crucify Him! Let Him be crucified!"

But He will not come back the second time that way. The Bible says He will come back the second time on a white horse. He will come back to judge in

righteousness and make war. He will come back the second time with eyes as a flame of fire, with many crowns on his head, with a scepter in His hand, with a name written King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

He will come back the second time and every eye shall see Him. Jesus will walk into the city of Jerusalem through that sealed up eastern gate. He will break the gates open and walk into that city; and there in that city, He will set up His throne. He will rule and reign for a thousand years, and after that He will institute His eternal age.

Jesus is coming again! Just as He came the first time, some 2000 years ago, wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger, Jesus Christ, God's Son, is coming again the second time.

Just as some doubted His first coming, in that same way there are those today who do not believe He is coming again.

My dear Christian friends! Jesus is coming back as surely as He came the first time. Why, preacher? Why are you so sure He is coming again? He promised He would return.

Please notice number one: the promise of His coming. Jesus promised He would return. He is coming back in two stages, all one coming but two parts to it.

First, He comes for His own—that we call the Rapture. He comes cloaked in secrecy. He comes wrapped in clouds. That's what Jesus was talking about in John 14:3, when He said, "I will come again, and receive you unto myself." There He is talking about the rapture.

In I Corinthians 15:51-52, the Apostle Paul said, "Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump..." One of these days, we will hear the sound of that trumpet. It is a secret thing. It is a private thing for those who are truly saved. Only those of us who know Jesus Christ, God's Son, as our own personal Saviour and Friend will ever hear the voice of the archangel. And what is the angel going to say? The angel is going to say "Come up hither." Revelation 4:1 says, "...Come up hither..." That's the rapture!

But then there is a second phase of the coming of Christ that we call the revelation. It is after a period of seven years upon the earth during which the earth goes through a great time of judgment. The Old Testament called it "The Day of the LORD," "The Day of His Wrath," "Jacob's Trouble!"

In the New Testament, we call it "The Tribulation" or "The Great Tribulation." During this time of death and destruction upon the earth, the earth is going to be brought to its knees; and, finally, at the end of that period, Jesus Christ is going to come. He will not be clothed in secrecy this time. He will not be wrapped in the clouds. He is going to come decked in robes of splendor and majesty. He is going to

come with His scepter in His hand. He is going to sit upon His throne in His kingdom.

Jesus was on the Mount of Olive with His disciples many years ago. The Bible says that He began to ascend up into heaven and a cloud received Him out of their sight, when all of a sudden there appeared with them two angels who 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" Acts 1:11.

In Jude 14, the Bible says, "...Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints." In Revelation 1:7, it says, "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him...."

Jesus Christ is going to be in the heavens riding on a white horse, and, behind Him, myriads of His saints. Every eye shall see Him; and, in a moment of time, Christ shall come and crush the resistance of all these wicked armies. He will send the devil into the bottomless pit. He will send the false prophet and the beast into the lake of fire. He will set up His Kingdom and He will rule and reign for a thousand years. That is the promise of His coming.

We have noticed number one: the promise of His coming; but notice number two: the importance of His coming. Why is it so important that He come back? I will give you two reasons why it is so important that He come back. First, He is coming back to assume His rightful place—Jesus Christ is the Creator of this world. In Colossians 1:16, the Bible says, "...all things were created by him..." In Revelation 4:11, it says, "...for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created."

He is our Creator. He made us. You would not have life today if it were not for Christ. Jesus Christ is the Creator of the sun, the moon, the stars, the valleys, and the mountains. It all belongs to Him; but man, in his rebellion, has expelled Christ from His rightful place. Christ has no place in society today. He has been set outside of our schools. He has been set outside of our government.

Jesus Christ is coming back to assume His rightful place. It is that simple. In Revelation 5:12, the Bible says, "Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing."

Jesus ought to be the centerpiece of every school. Jesus ought to be the head of every government. He is not now, but one of these days He is coming back so He can assume that which is rightfully His. He is coming back as a rightful ruler to receive His kingdom.

Second, He is coming back so that our salvation might be whole and complete. That is for those of us who have truly received Jesus Christ, God's Son, as our personal Saviour and Friend.

In Philippians 3:20-21, the Bible says, "For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body...." One of these days... no more sin nature. One of these days... no more temptation. One of these days, we will be whole and complete. We shall be like the Lord Jesus Christ.

We are waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. With that in mind, what should you be doing in the mean time? You should be living your life in light of that coming. In Titus 2:12-13, the Bible says, "Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ."

Listen folks! God has given you life. God has given you health. God has placed in your hand time, talents, treasures, and gifts. Don't you see! You should be investing that which you have been given. You should be investing your life. You should be investing your time. You should be investing your talents. You should be investing your treasures. You should be investing your gifts in that which will produce dividends for Christ.

Question! What are you doing for Jesus Christ today? What are you doing with your life? Are you living for God? Are you investing your life in the will of God? If not, when He comes back, you are going to offer Him a treasure that is empty. You will have nothing to offer Him. You will have nothing to show Him that you truly love Him.

Let me ask you this! Are you living for yourself? Are you doing what you want to do? Are you indulging in your own pleasures?

Mark it down! When Jesus comes again—and He will—you are going to be ashamed at His coming.

There are going to be thousands of God's people who are going to stand at the Judgment Seat of Christ and bury their face in their hands and weep buckets of tears because they have so abused and misused their lives. Some of you are going to walk up to the Judgment Seat of Christ and say. "Lord, I have nothing to offer you. I have lived for myself. I have done what I wanted to do. I have gone where I wanted to go. I have not paid careful attention to what you want in my life."

Brethren! Jesus Christ is coming again. It may be today. It may be tomorrow. I don't know when. Possibly in my lifetime He will come. One thing for sure, I am looking for His coming. Are you looking for His coming? Are you living your life in light of His coming? There is going to be a generation of Christians here when He comes.

We have noticed number one: the promise of His coming. He has given His word. He promised He would return. Then we noticed number two: the importance

of His coming. He is coming back to assume His rightful place. He is coming back so that your salvation might be complete.

One of these days you are going to see Jesus Christ full of His glory. You shall see Him. You shall touch Him. You shall behold Him. You shall be with Him forever and ever, never to depart from Him again.

Question! As a believer in Jesus Christ, are you ready to meet your Creator?

Perhaps you are here tonight and you do not know Jesus Christ, God's Son, as your own personal Saviour and Friend.

My friend! You are not prepared to meet your Creator apart from being saved. You say, Preacher! What must I do to be saved? The very first thing you must do is realize the fact that you are a sinner and in need of a Saviour. In Romans 3:10-12, the Bible says, "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one." In Romans 3:23, it says, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

Because you are a sinner, you are condemned to die. In Hebrews 9:27, the Bible says, "And it is appointed unto men once to die..." In Romans 6:23, it says, "For the wages of sin is death..." That includes eternal separation from God and the people of God in an awful place called hell.

You will never be able to work your way into heaven. In Ephesians 2:8-9, the Bible says, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."

God loved you so much that He gave His only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to bear your sin and die in your place on the cross. He became your substitute. In II Corinthians 5:21, the Bible says, "For he hath made him [Christ] to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

Believing is the key! In Acts 16:31, the Apostle Paul said, "...Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved..."

In Romans 10:9-10, the Bible says, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." In Romans 10:13, it says, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

If you have never been saved, you need to be saved so that you can be ready to meet your Creator. And with that you will have received forgiveness of all your sins, eternal life, and a home in heaven when you die.

## How is a Person Saved?

Salvation is all of God. God does the saving. Just take God at His Word and claim His salvation by faith. You will never be able to work your way into heaven. God does not have a scale in heaven whereby He weighs your good and bad works. That is a lie of the Devil – Romans 3:24; Acts 4:12; Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5; I Peter 1:18; Romans 5:8.

Salvation is as simple as believing on Christ as the one who bore your sin, who died in your place, who was buried, and whom God resurrected from the dead – John 1:12, 3:16, 6:47; Acts 16:31; II Corinthians 5:21; Romans 10:9-10; Romans 10:13.

Simply admit that you are a sinner and believe on Christ as your crucified, buried, and risen Saviour. You will receive forgiveness for all of your sins. You will receive His free gift of eternal life by faith – Romans 3:10, 23; I Corinthians 15:3-4.

Jesus did a wonderful thing for you some 2,000 years ago on Calvary's cross. He died for you. He was buried for you. He rose again the third day for you, and nothing would thrill Him more than to save you today.

Won't you go to Him right now in prayer and tell Him in your own words that you will trust Him as your Saviour? Or pray this simple prayer: Dear Lord, I know I am a sinner. I believe Jesus died for me and that He arose from the grave. Here and now I ask You to forgive me of my sin and save me. In Jesus's name. Amen.

If you prayed that simple prayer, I would like to hear from you. Please contact me by e-mail or phone (813) 760-4028.

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