

BEHOLD! HE IS COMING!

Revelation 1:7,8

Introduction:

A. Predictions of Christ's coming

1. The Great D_____
 - a. People waited on their rooftops for Christ to return between Mar 21, 1843 and Oct 22, 1843 believing Pastor William Millers calculations.
 - b. Miller was puzzled as to how he was wrong.
2. A s_____ return
 - a. Mary Ellen White's writings on a spiritual return launched the Ad_____ist movement (mid 1800's)
 - b. Charles Russell was disappointed with historic Christianity and searched for alternate meanings of words in Scripture to support his ideas.
 - 1) H_____ means grave and so there is no eternal punishment.
 - 2) Announced the i_____ return of Christ in 1914 to rule through the "faithful and discreet slave" called the Watch Tower Society.
3. Over _____ different dates of Christ's coming have been predicted over the centuries

B. The doctrine of Christ's coming is c_____, not confusing.

1. Jesus has not come yet, but *Behold! He is coming* (Rev 1:7)
2. The word behold means to take a g_____ look. Today, we will take a good look at this revelation which outlines three actions we are to take in regard to His coming.

L_____ how He is coming (7a)

A. John uses Old Testament l_____ from two passages to describe the second coming of Jesus

1. *Behold! He is coming with the clouds*– Dan 7:13
 - a. Dan 7:13 is a prophecy of one l_____ a son of man who would rule all people forever.
 - b. Jesus used similar phraseology on two occasions:
 - 1) Matt 24:30; Mk 13:26 – He told His disciples about His s_____ coming.
 - 2) Mark 14:62 – At His trial, He told the High Priest that He was the C_____.

2. *And every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him* – language derived from Zech 12:10,12

B. Three types of prophetic fulfillment

1. Predictive – the original prophecy f_____ of a future event (e.g Mic 5:2 – the birthplace of the Messiah)
2. Typological – the original prophecy f_____ something in the future but the original readers were not told this. God revealed this later (e.g. Ex 12:46 & Jn 19:36 – Jesus fulfilled the type of the Passover Lamb).
3. Illustrative – language from an O.T. passage is used to describe a current event
 - a. Matt 2:16 alludes to Jer 31:15 to describe Herod's slaughter of i_____ but Jer 31:15 is about the loss of the 10 tribes of Israel.
 - b. Jesus referred Ps 8:2 to illustrate the children shouting praising Him - *out of the mouth of b_____*
 - c. We use prophecy this way sometimes - *the handwriting is on the w_____* comes from Daniel 5.

C. Rev 1:7 uses the language of Dan 7:13 and Zech 12:10,12 to illustrate the n_____ of Jesus's second coming.

1. His return will be v_____ to everyone
2. Jesus warned against people promoting a false teaching of an i_____ return (Matt 24:23-27).
3. The New Testament clearly teaches that Jesus's second coming will be visible:
 - a. Acts 1:11 – Jesus will return the same way as the disciples saw Him a_____ into the sky.
 - b. 1 Thess 4:16,17 that Jesus would d_____ from heaven and believers would join Him in the sky.
 - c. Rev 1:7 - Behold! Look! He is coming with the clouds!

Turn before His coming (7b)

A. The reaction of the unbelieving world to Christ's coming

1. *Those who pierced Him* is O.T. language that illustrates unbelievers s_____ Jesus return.
2. *All the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him* is O.T. language that illustrates the unbelieving world's realization of Jesus being the Christ and Savior.

3. Rev 6:6,17 prophesies that the unbelieving world will cry out for the rocks and the mountains to h_____ them from the Lamb of God to avoid His wrath.
- B. If you have not turned to Christ
1. Do so now before it is too late!
 2. Don't be afraid to ask questions so that you can see that trusting Christ is the step to take
- C. If you have turned to Christ
1. Remember who you are – God's p_____ to the unbelieving world
 2. A_____ an unbeliever's spiritual questions (find out the answer if you don't know it).
 3. Don't let f_____ or inadequacy keep you from explaining Jesus to unbelievers (it is not about you, but about them and Jesus).

Yearn for His coming (7c, 8)

- A. Comparing translations
1. NLT has the most literal translation – *Yes! Amen.*
 2. These are words of a_____
- B. What is the agreement over?
1. It is NOT with the mourning of the unbelieving world
 2. It is with the f_____ of Jesus's coming
 - a. John is y_____ for Jesus to come (Rev 22:20)
 - b. Are you yearning for Jesus to come?
- C. Why has Jesus not come yet? (2 Pet 3:9-11)
1. Because God is p_____ toward believers in living holy and godly lives.
 2. Because God's plan is to save people from every tribe, tongue, nation, and kind (Rev 5:9,10 – He WILL bring all these to repentance)
 3. We can s_____ up the time of His return by living holy lives (serving God's purposes) and godly lives (godly, literally means good worship).

Conclusion – verse 8

- A. *“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, - everything begins and ends with Him.*
- B. *“Who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty!” - Behold! He is coming!*