

## **The Doctrine of the Second Coming – Part 1**

### **Jesus' Second Coming**

The phrase, “The Second Coming,” is not found in the Bible but the concept is clearly presented. When Jesus told the disciples of His approaching departure, John 14:5 the disciples were concerned. Jesus assured the disciples that even though He was leaving “I will come again,” Jn 14:3, hence the idea of the Second Coming. Consider the following:

1. **Terminology of the Second Coming** – Mt 24:30 calls Jesus' return “the sign of the Son of Man in heaven” and “the Son of man coming in . . . great power.” John 12:48 calls it “the last day” and a day of judgment. Paul calls it “the day of the Lord Jesus Christ,” in 1 Cor 5:5, “the day of the Lord” in 1 Thess 5:2, and “that day” in 2 Thess 1:10. Peter refers to it as “the coming of the day of God,” in 2 Pet 3:12. Jesus is coming again!
2. **Seven Purposes of the Second Coming** – There are at least seven purposes of Christ's return given in Scripture. (1) Jesus promised He would return and He will keep his promise, “I will come again,” in Jn 14:3. (2) He will raise the dead, 1 Thess 4:13-18; (3) He will gather the redeemed, Mt 24:31; Rev 14:14-16. (4) He will glorify believers, 1 Cor 15:52-54; Phil 3:20-21. (5) He will destroy death, 1 Cor 15:26, 54-58. (6) He will judge the world, Mt 25:32-46. (7) He will give rewards to believers, Mt 16:27; Rom 14:10-12; 1 Cor 3:11-14; 2 Cor 5:10.
3. **Time of the Second Coming** – The short answer from the lips of Jesus is that no one knows, Mt 24:27, 36. Jesus did give us some clues. (1) It will be a day of decadence and ungodliness like the time of Noah, Mt 24 37-39. (4) It will be after the worldwide proclamation of the Gospel, Mt 24:14. (5) It will be a time when the Anti-Christ is about to be revealed, 2 Thess 2:1-7. (6) It will be announced with the shout of the archangel and sounding of the trumpet of God, 1 Cor 15:51; 1 Thess 4:16.
4. **Attitude of Believers Toward Jesus' Return** – (1) Believers are admonished to be ready for his return, Mt 24:42-51; (2) Believers are to anticipate His return, 1 Cor 1:7; Titus 2:13; (3) Believers are to remain busy until He comes, Lk 19:13-19; (4) Believers are to pray for His return, Rev 22:20.

Lamar E. Cooper, Sr.