

THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST THE BLESSED HOPE

1 Cor. 15:51-52 ⁵¹ Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—⁵² in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

Titus 2:12-13 ¹² It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ,

QUESTIONS FOR INTERACTION:

- What have you heard about the second coming of Christ?
- What is the rapture of the Church about? What do you need to do to be caught up together with the Church?

Illustration: On the night of April 14, 1912, tragedy struck the Titanic. The newspapers said: Terrified by the impact, the passengers rushed out of their cabins and went to the main hall, in the middle of the noise of steel, plates and wooden beams that broke. But none of that was true. What really happened that fateful night aboard the Titanic? The truth was very different: Passengers were enjoying, they felt perfectly safe. Why to worry? The Titanic could not sink, someone had said, “Not even God can sink this ship.” Both crew and passengers were blinded by their arrogance. There was no panic or shock, or confusion. After a while, the captain calls for all passengers to appear on deck with their life jackets. Many believed it was a joke. When they were ordered to send women and children in the few lifeboats that were available, many thought it was a safety drill and would soon be back. The Titanic could not sink. Until they saw the first rocket launched on the air they realized that it was serious because offshore rocket is a universal warning sign for danger and a request for help. The cold water witnessed the frozen gesture of horror when they realized this, it was too late, and the Titanic was sinking ...and sank! The tragedy was not just that the huge ship sank, but that all the signs, warnings and navigation rules were ignored by both the captain and the officers and passengers. All in a moment that will take thousands to eternal damnation on that day that Jesus comes for the second time.

Introduction: In this sad, hard anecdote illustrated in the above story you can see the attitude of most people in the world; walking on their eagerness distracted, worried about meeting their pleasures, full of self-confidence, incredulous to the Word of God and about the second coming of Christ. Today we will study what the second coming of Christ is, and how we can be prepared for it:

1. THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

- a. . It will consist of a series of events of which the visible, personal appearance of Christ will be the most important. The second coming of Christ is mentioned 318 times in the New Testament. This is something very important to consider.
- b. It's divided in two main parts: First he will come and take his Church, we will meet him on the air, there will be a time of great tribulation and then he will come again with his army and set his feet on land to reign on earth for a thousand years.

2. THE RAPTURE 1 Thessalonians 4:13,17

- a. When the Lord appears in heaven, will rapture His Church to carry with him and deliver them from the time of the great tribulation.
- b. First he will lift up those who died being Christians (those who received Christ as Lord and Savior and died) and will meet them in the air 1 Thessalonians 4:16
- c. Then those who are alive will be caught up together with the resurrected to meet Christ.
3. **The Great Tribulation. Matthew. 24:21-29**
 - a. It is a series of events that occur on earth causing much pain and destruction to those who live in that time.
 - b. It seems for some scriptures that the great tribulation will occur between the Rapture and the Revelation of Christ. (Second coming of Christ).
 - c. Based on the Bible, the duration of the Apocalypse is not absolutely clear. Some theologians believe that will last seven years and others that will last three and a half years.
4. **THE ANTICHRIST**
 - a. The antichrist is the personification of wickedness (Daniel 7:25)
 - b. He will be the leader during the great tribulation (2 Tes. 2:3-9).
 - c. The antichrist will proclaim himself as god (2 Tes. 2:9.10).
 - a. When the Holy Spirit and the Church are removed, the antichrist will show himself to make God's people that did not go in the rapture suffer like never before and never will suffer again.
5. **¿WHEN WILL JESUS COME BACK? Mar. 13:3-1,32**
 - a. It is imminent and sudden. Nobody knows, not even the son only the heavenly Father. What is certain is that it can be at any time by signals that precede this event.
 - b. Therefore we must be prepared to leave the practice of sin, and live a life pleasing to the Lord.
 - c. We should live each day waiting for his return, for us to leave and live a holy and righteous life. Revelation 22:20-21

Conclusion: Are we ready for the second coming of Christ? Are you ready for that day? Today we prepare for his coming, repenting and living the way God wants us to live, renounce all sinful practices and surrender our lives to Christ. Receive Jesus as Lord and Savior

Announcements:

- May 30 to June 1: 3 Formation youth retreat
- June 6-8 Three days of Power retreat.
- June 16-21 Vacation Bible School

Sinner's prayer

Lord Jesus I recognize that I've sin and that you died for me. Today I repent and I ask for forgiveness. I give you my life and my heart so you can be my Lord and my Savior. Amen