

# **The Return of Christ**

**What are your beliefs regarding Return of Jesus Christ? Is it the same event as the Rapture? What will be the purpose of His return?**

## **I. Biblical Overview of the Term, "RETURN"**

- 1). The "Rapture," although a "return" of sorts, is not Jesus's "official" return.
  - A. The \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ of the "Rapture" are unknown to mankind (Matthew 24:36.)
  - B. The "Rapture" is \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ (I Corinthians 15:51 & 52.)
  - C. At the "Rapture," Christ arrives in the \_\_\_\_\_ (John 14:3.)
  - D. Christ arrives to \_\_\_\_\_ His Bride (John 14:2 & 3.)
  - E. The "Rapture" occurs before the \_\_\_\_\_ (I Thessalonians 5:9 & 10.)
  - F. Only \_\_\_\_\_ will see Jesus at the "Rapture" (Hebrews 9:28.)
  - G. The "righteous" are taken; the unsaved are left (I Thessalonians 4:16 & 17.)

## **II. 2nd Coming Events**

- 1). The events of Revelation 19:11-21 describe Christ's "official" return to Earth, on this occasion as \_\_\_\_\_ and not as \_\_\_\_\_ as previously described.
  - A. The day of His return will be known! (II Thessalonians 1:7-10 & Matthew 24:29)

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- B. His return is expected! (Daniel 12:11 & 12.)
- C. Christ returns to \_\_\_\_\_ (Jude 14-16.)
- D. Christ returns \_\_\_\_\_ His Bride (Revelation 19:7-8 & 14.)
- E. Christ returns to Earth \_\_\_\_\_ the Tribulation (Matthew 24:29 & 30.)
- F. \_\_\_\_\_ will see Jesus at His glorious return  
(Matthew 29:29 & 30.)
- G. The unsaved are taken; the saved are left (Matthew 13:30.)

**III. Rapture vs 2nd Coming Comparison Chart**

<b>Rapture Event</b>		<b>2nd Coming Events</b>	
<b>Day and hour unknown</b>	<b>Matthew 24:36</b>	<b>Day will be known</b>	<b>Daniel 9:27 &amp; 12:11</b>
<b>Sudden and unexpected</b>	<b>1 Corinthians 15:51-52</b>	<b>Many signs leading up to 2nd coming</b>	<b>Matthew 24:15-30</b>
Church watches and waits for Christ	Philippians 3:20	Trib Saints watch out for antichrist(s)	Matthew 24:23-27
<b>Christ comes in the air for His own</b>	<b>John 14:3</b>	<b>Christ comes to Earth with His own</b>	<b>Jude 1:14</b>
Jesus Himself will gather the Church	1 Thessalonians 4:16-17	Angels will gather the Jewish Elect	Matthew 24:31
Christ comes to claim His bride	John 14:2-3	Christ returns with His bride	Revelation 19:7-8 & 14
The church will be glorified and go to heaven	Philippians 2:20-21	Church will return & appear with Christ in Glory	Colossians 3:4
Believers taken to heaven to stand before Christ	Luke 21:36	Believers remain on Earth to live in the Kingdom	Zechariah 14:16
Christ takes His own to His Father's House	John 14:2-3	Resurrected saints rule and reign on Earth	Revelation 20:4
Crowns rewarded for works at Bema Judgment	1 Corinthians 3:12-15	Kingdom inherited at Sheep & Goat Judgment	Matthew 25:31-46
<b>Only believers will see Him</b>	<b>Hebrews 9:28</b>	<b>All humanity will see Him</b>	<b>Matthew 24:29-30</b>
Age of Grace before the rapture	Ephesians 3	Day of Vengeance before the 2nd Coming	Isaiah 61:2
<b>Before Wrath</b>	<b>1 Thessalonians 5:9-10</b>	<b>After Tribulation</b>	<b>Matthew 24:29-30</b>
Church saved from Wrath	Romans 5:9	Israel saved through Judgment	Zechariah 13:8-9

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Church kept from testing of the Judgments	Revelation 3:10	Saints martyred under 5th Seal Judgment	Revelation 6:9-11
<b>Righteous taken and wicked left behind</b>	<b>1 Thessalonians 4:16-17</b>	<b>Wicked taken and righteous go into the Kingdom</b>	<b>Matthew 13:30</b>
Day of deception	2 Thessalonians 2:3-12	Satan bound - No deception allowed 1000 years	Revelation 20:1-3

## **IV. The Purpose of the 2nd Coming of Christ**

What is the Purpose of Jesus second coming?

1. To fulfill all of the promises he made to Abraham in regards to the land of Canaan (Genesis 13:14-17).
2. To restore the earth to it's pre-edenic condition (Matt. 19:28; Rev. 21:5-6; (Acts 3:21; Romans 8:19-21).
3. To establish His kingdom where He will rule and reign forever (Daniel 7:13-14; Luke 1:30-33; Revelation 20:1-6 ) and delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power (1 Corinthians 15:24-28).

## **iBelieve Statement**

**iBelieve that, according to Scripture, Jesus will return to Earth with His heavenly armies—His saints—to destroy His enemies in the Valley of Megiddo. He will then rule the earth, with believers in His company, for 1,000 years . . . after which He will create a New Heaven & a New Earth, wherein we will abide with Him forever.**