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Christ is Coming Back  
II Peter 3:1-7

INTRO: It is a fact! Jesus is coming back. Let the scoffers scoff, let the ignorant go on in their ignorance, friends, Jesus is coming back, that's a fact!

He is coming back in the clouds to snatch out the righteous dead and the righteous living (1 Thess. 4:13-18), then seven years later He is coming back to earth just as His disciples saw Him leave, He is coming back to the Mount of Olives (Acts 1:11; Zechariah 14:4).

1. The Bible Plainly Says He is Coming Back

A. The second coming of Christ is taught plainly in the Word of God.

1. In the New Testament one verse in every thirty teaches the second coming of Christ.
2. Paul says that Jesus is coming back no less than fifty times.
3. In the Old Testament there are twenty times as many references to the second coming as to Christ's first coming.

B. If you believe the Bible then you believe in the second coming of Christ!

1. Matt. 16:27, "The Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with His angels; and then He shall reward every man according to his works,"
2. Matt. 25:31-32 says that Christ, "shall come in his glory... then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory..."
3. In the comforting words of John 14:2-2 we are told, "In my Father's house are many mansions. If it were not so, I would have told you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself..."
4. Note also John 21:21-22: 1 John 2:28; Jude 14-15 (Enoch, "the seventh from Adam..." prophesied the coming of Jesus "with ten thousands of His saints"- this did not occur at His birth so it is a prophecy concerning His coming to earth at the end of the tribulation to rule and reign).
5. Revelation 1:7 tells us that Jesus is coming again not as a babe but as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Revelation 19:11-16 vividly pictures Christ coming to earth at the tribulations end.
6. Think with me for a moment of the words of 1 Cor. 11:26 concerning the observance of the Lords Supper by the Lord's Churches, "As often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till he come."

## II The Bible Does Not Tell Us The Exact Time Of His Coming

A. When will Jesus come again? Well, fulfilled prophecy tells us He is coming soon but we do not know exactly when.

1. Mark 13:32, "Of that day and that hour knoweth no man..."
2. It is not for us to know the exact hour of His return (Acts 1:7).

B. There have been many date setter through the years and all of them have been wrong. Only God the Father knows the hour that His Son will step out into the clouds and say to the saved "Come up hither..." (Rev. 4:1).

## III The Bible Teaches That The Second Coming Is In Two Phases

A. The rapture (in the clouds):

1. He comes for His saints. (1 Thess. 4:13-18).
2. He comes to reward His saints (Luke 14:14).
3. He comes as a thief only believers see Him (1 Thess. 5:2, "For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.")

B. The Revelation (to the earth):

1. He comes with His saints (Jude 14-15).
2. He comes in judgment upon sinners (Matt. 25:31-33).
3. Comes in power and great glory (Matt. 24:30).

## IV The Bible Teaches The Premillennial Return of Christ

A. Jesus will come back before the millennium.

1. The millennium is the one thousand year of Christ upon the earth.
2. The millennium will be a time of peace. Jesus will sit on David's throne (Luke 1:31-32).

B. In Revelation 19:11-20 we see Jesus coming to earth and defeating His enemies. (Note 2 Thess. 2:7-12).

1. Rev. 20:1-3 tells us that Satan is bound after Jesus comes back.
2. Rev. 20:4-5, deals with the tribulation saints.
  - a. These saints, along with those raptured seven years earlier, will rule and reign with Christ for a thousand years.
  - b. In Rev. 20:5 the rest of the dead are the lost, the spiritually dead. The first resurrection spoken of here is the resurrection of the just, the

saved, the born again.

**CONCLUSION:** The first time that Jesus came to earth He came to seek and to save (John 3:17), when He comes again to earth He will come to judge.