

Closer Every Day: The End Times 3
The Second Coming of Christ
2 Thessalonians 1.7-10

The Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels 8 in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. 9 They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might, 10 when he comes on that day to be glorified in his saints, and to be marveled at among all who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed.

The Point: Jesus came as a suffering servant and returns as a victorious King.

The Question: Am I a scoffer, believer, or forgetter?

The visibility of Jesus' second coming

Every eye will see him

The victory of Jesus' second coming

Suffering Servant
King of Kings

The vindication from Jesus' second coming

All claims from the Old Testament to Revelation are proved true

Three possible attitudes about Jesus' second coming (Matt 24.37-39)

Scoffers
Believers
Forgetters

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Doctor Cottrell's outline from Ray "Cotton" Jones's message—my words. Good gospel messages need to be passed on to new ears.

"I shall return." General Douglas McArthur's promise to the Philippine people when he evacuated from the island. (Mar 11, 1942-Oct 20, 1944.) He kept his promise. Arnold Schwarzenegger said, "I'll be back." in nine movies.

Jesus promised he would return, and angels echoed it at his ascension; apostles remind us in their words that the promise is true. However, some falsely teach that Jesus' second coming is spiritual only and happens when believers receive the Holy Spirit. Some teach that Jesus finished his work when the Roman general Titus pillaged and destroyed the temple in AD 70. This is a false and dangerous doctrine.

There WILL be a second coming. And it will be visible, bright as the heavens, and noisy. A multitude of saints accompanied by holy angels, a worldwide trumpet blast, and the noise of an uncountable number of newly resurrected saints. A reunion of the kingdom of God from Adam to that last day!

The second coming is a return to victory. His first coming (advent) was in the womb of a virgin. His birth was in a borrowed shed or cave as the adopted son of a carpenter. Never wealthy, always moving and without a permanent home., despised and rejected; he came as a suffering servant. You know the story. Executed by the state, entombed, he conquers death and ascends to the angelic heaven to take his throne with a promise—I'll be back. He returns King of Kings. He comes to receive his redeemed and pour our vengeance on the unrepentant. But it is not all candy kisses and roses—there will be wrath.

All his claims to deity are proved true. Every gospel message preached since Pentecost and letters written by the apostles validated. Every martyr called a fool for their sacrifice shines in holy truth. We will be able to shout to the scoffers—"I told you so!" He lives! He reigns!