

Jesus is Coming Again

Acts 1:1-11

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The story of Easter did not end with the empty tomb. Jesus had a busy 40 days of being visible to the public making sure there were lots of eyewitnesses to his resurrection. The climax of the Easter account came on the Mount of Olives as He gave final instructions and then ascended back to Heaven before His wide-eyed disciples.

- I. God's plan always included Jesus coming twice.
 - A. The promise of Jesus's coming to the earth was fulfilled to the letter.
 1. *Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.* (Isaiah 7:14)
 2. *All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel"* (Matthew 1:22-23)
 3. *But you, O Bethlehem...from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.* (Micah 5:2)
 4. *And Joseph also went...from the town of Nazareth, to...Bethlehem...with Mary...And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth.* (Luke 2:4-6)
 - B. The purpose of Jesus's coming was to take away the sins of the world.
 1. *All we like sheep have gone astray...and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all...he bore the sin of many.* (Isaiah 53:6 & 12)
 2. *He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree...you were straying like sheep but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.* (1 Peter 2:24-25)
 - C. The promise of Jesus's return to the earth will be fulfilled to the letter.
 1. *On that day his feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives* (Zechariah 14:3)
 2. *This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.* (Acts 1:11)
 - D. The purpose of Jesus's return will be judgment on the sins of the world.
 1. *On that day his feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives... And the LORD will be king over all the earth.* (Zechariah 14:3 & 9)
 2. *From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.* (Revelation 19:15)
- II. God's plan always included this intermission.
 - A. From Abraham until Jesus came the focus was Israel and the promise of a King
 1. *And the LORD will be king over all the earth.* (Zechariah 14: 9)
 2. *"Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."* (Matthew 2:2)
 - B. From Jesus 1st to His 2nd coming the focus is Church and the promise of a rapture
 1. *Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.* (1 Corinthians 15:51-52)
 2. *For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.*

¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)

C. At His 2nd coming the focus returns to Israel and the promise of a Kingdom

1. *And the LORD will be king over all the earth.* (Zechariah 14:3 & 9)
2. *“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne.* (Matthew 25:31)

“Are we seeing signs today that should warn us of anything? The Lord Jesus Himself spoke of the wisdom of discerning the signs of the times and of taking appropriate action as we wait for his return. The Bible gives us clues conveying crucial information for interpreting the signs as the days of man’s rule on earth wind toward their end.” ([What in the World Is Going On?](#) David Jeremiah, 2008)

Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven...Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” (Luke 21:10-11 & 28)

So What?

- Don’t just stand there, you have somewhere to go.
- Don’t just stand there, you have something to do.
- Don’t just stand there, He told you He’d come back.