

Major Bible Themes

52 Vital Doctrines of the Scriptures Simplified and Explained

Adapted from the book *Major Bible Themes*
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God the Son: His Coming with His Saints

- Important Events Preceding the 2nd Advent
 - The revived Roman Empire.
 - ✦ Ten nations come together to form this union.
 - ✦ A dictator arises, controlling first three, then all ten nations.
 - A period of peace is established after the dictator makes a covenant with Israel planned for seven years (Dan 9:27).
 - A time of persecution for Israel and for all believers in Christ will be brought about when the dictator breaks the covenant after 3 ½ years – the Great Tribulation (Dan 12:1; Mt 24:21).
 - ✦ He becomes a world dictator.
 - ✦ He abolishes all religions in favor of worship of himself.
 - ✦ He takes controls of all economic activity.
 - ✦ This period ends in rebellion and war (Rev 16:14-16).
- Vital Facts Regarding the 2nd Advent
 - The Lord Jesus Christ will return to the earth.
 - ✦ He will return in person (Matt 25:31).
 - ✦ He will return on the clouds of the sky and everyone will see and many will mourn (Matt 24:30; Rev 1:7).
 - His coming will be like lightning flashing (Matt 24:27) preceded by spectacular astronomical events (Matt 24:29).
 - He will be accompanied by saints and angels (Rev 19:14).
 - He will return to the Mount of Olives and will split the mountain in two forming a valley (Zech 14:1-4).
 - He will judge the armies of the rebellion (Rev 19:15-21), the people of Israel (Ezek 20:34-38) and Gentiles (Matt 25:31-46).
 - He will bind up Satan and establish His kingdom on earth.

- Contrasts Between Rapture and 2nd Advent

Rapture	2nd Advent
Our gathering together to Him (2 Th 2:1)	The coming of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Th 2:1)
The Day of Christ (1 Cor 1:8; Phil 1:6, 10)	The Day of the Lord (2 Th 2:2; 2 Pet 3:10)
No judgment of evil	The Man of Lawlessness destroyed (2 Th 2:8)
The Church removed from earth (1 Th 4:17)	The Church returns with Christ (Jude 14-15)
Israel unchanged	Covenants fulfilled (Jer 23:5-8; 30:3-11; 31:27-37)
Creation unchanged	Creation restored (Isa 11:6-9)
Christ as Bridegroom, Head of the Church	Christ as King, Immanuel to Israel (Isa 9:6-7)
The Church judged (2 Cor 5:10-11)	The nations judged (Matt 25:31-46)
Looking for His imminent return (Phil 4:5)	Looking for the kingdom to come (Matt 6:10)

- Questions

- Describe the period of preparation which will follow the Rapture of the Church.
- What is the extent of the period of peace which will follow and how will it come about?
- What are the major characteristics of the time of persecution for Israel which will follow the time of peace?
- What is the precise meaning of the time of the Great Tribulation and what will bring this period to a close?
- Why would it be impossible for Jesus Christ to come and establish His kingdom on earth today?
- Describe the appearance of the second coming of Christ as it will be seen by the world.
- What will be the situation on earth and in the heavens at the second coming of Christ?
- Why do all the tribes of the earth mourn at the time of the second coming?
- Who accompanies Christ in His second coming?
- To what place on earth will Christ return at His second coming and what will occur at the moment His feet touch the earth?
- What is the first act of judgment of Christ upon His return?
- What will Christ do in relation to Israel at His return?
- What will Christ do in relation to the Gentiles at His return?
- Why does literal interpretation of Scripture make it impossible to view the Rapture of the Church and the 2nd Advent the same event?