

## **QUESTION: What does the Bible say about the Second Coming of Christ? (Part 2)**

Last week we noted, among other things, that the Second Coming of Christ would mark the time of the final judgment. Paul, referring to Jesus Christ, said God *"has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained,"* (Ac 17:31). Everyone will appear at judgment seat of Christ to receive the reward of their deeds on the earth, whether good or bad (2Co 5:10). The word of Christ is the rule by which all will be judged (Jn 12:48).

Dear reader, I plead with you not to believe the speculative theories and doctrines about the Second Coming of Christ. Each of us is living, day by day, a life that will soon be measured by the eternal word of God. At that time, our destiny will be sealed and Jesus will turn over His kingdom to God the Father (1Co 15:23-24). The blessed sheep of the Father will inherit the eternal kingdom of Heaven; all others will be cast into everlasting fire (Mt 25).

In the Parable of the Minas, Jesus clearly sets forth the purpose of His Second Coming, i.e., He will return to evaluate His servants (Lk 19:12-13, 15). The parable teaches that Jesus received His kingdom when He went back to Heaven. He will not come back to this earth and lead a great military force to establish it. His return, rather, will be a time of reckoning, a time of judgment.

Enoch, the patriarch, spoke of the Second Coming of Christ, and Jude records his prophecy, *"Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints (angels, bj), to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly..."* (Jd 14-15). Paul concurs by declaring, *"when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven,"* He will be attended by *"His mighty angels...flaming fire...(and) vengeance on those who do not know God, and...who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ"* (2Th 1:7-10). Once again, His return is a time of reckoning and of judgment.

True saints await the Second Coming of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ with ardent anticipation and eager expectancy. The Jewish High Priest entered the most holy place annually and presented the blood of the sacrifice on the mercy seat between the cherubim, while the people anxiously awaited his return. The apostle makes a comparison, *"And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation"* (He 9:27-28).

Study your Bible and search the Truth. Allow the Word to speak for itself. Those who attempt to explain the text often complicate an otherwise plain and understandable subject. If we can be of any assistance to you please let us know.

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