

15 – JESUS CHRIST: HIS SECOND COMING - PART 1

I. The Shift in Thinking

- The early church was keenly interested in the doctrine of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.
- The apostles had held out the possibility of the Lord's return occurring in their day.
- The subsequent generations kept alive this blessed hope as something that was imminent.
- From the time of Constantine and onward, the truth of the Second Coming began to be rejected until it was almost set aside.
- It is only during the last 150 years has the doctrine of the Second Coming been revived in the church.
- Sadly, the understanding of this great apostolic truth is beginning to fade away again.

II. The Current Problem

- With no understanding concerning the doctrine of the Second Coming, believers are open to false and sensational claims about the end.
- There is a tendency to downplay the eternal destinies of mankind.
- There is a rise in antisemitism among believers.
- Evangelism of the lost becomes less of a priority for believers.

III. The Important of the Second Coming

A. It is Prominent in the Scriptures

- Throughout the scripture, a prominent place is given to the return of Christ.

Scripture Job 19:25 (ESV)

For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth.

- The New Testament mentions the Second Coming more than three hundred times.
- It is the focus of whole chapters and some books are practically given to the topic.

B. It is Key to the Scriptures

- Many Biblical passages cannot be fully understood without a knowledge of the Second Coming.

C. It is the Hope of the Church

The Call to Believe: Discovering Answers to Your Questions About God and His World

- Jesus Christ's Second Coming is set before the church as the Great Hope.

Scripture Titus 2:13 (ESV)

waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

D. It is the Incentive to Biblical Christianity

- The Second Coming of Jesus Christ is a great incentive to holding to Biblical Christianity.

E. It has a marked Effect on Christian Service

- Knowing that the Lord is going to return at some point, will have a marked effect of one's service.

Scripture Luke 19:13 (ESV)

Calling ten of his servants, he gave them ten minas, and said to them, 'Engage in business until I come.'