

Acts 1:11

holies. And the great prophecy of the event of Jesus coming to again in power and glory and unto them that look for him shall Christ appear the second time. Without sin unto salvation. (Heb. 9:28).

The eternal Son of God who created all things by his almighty power and wonderful words made all things in earth and in heaven and established the laws whereby all the heavenly bodies function. The almighty son of God who stooped to come down to Bethlehem's manger, go to Gethsemane, and there sweat drops of blood, of agony and on to the cross - the unspeakable torments and he arose from the grave and the dead, ascended to heaven; is the one who will come again.

We discovered the nature of his grace and this glorified Messiah will come to repair this shattered old universe. For the whole creation groans and travails together waiting for the son of God. His coming is the next great event in the life of the son of God.

We see in the scripture that the great fact connected with our salvation, that the holy spirit directs our attention as believers upon his coming again. Jesus who once came down from the heights of glory, will descend from heaven again; but this time with a shout and with the voice of the archangel; with the trump of God.

"Two men stood by them in white apparel which also said, ye men of Galilee why stand ye gazing up into heaven. The same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."

1 Thess. 4:16-18 - "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

A startling event is going to be a reality. A most thrilling and glorious event of the centuries. The event is "a blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify unto himself a peculiar people.

Zealous of good works." Titus 2:13-14 When the same Jesus who with the (clouds as his chariots) will come and take up from men into heaven will so come in like manner as men saw him go into heaven. "The Lord himself shall descend from heaven and a shout with the voice of the archangel and with the trump of God." Then

Jesus shall come with the clouds and every eye shall see him. Rev. 1:7.

This is the testimony of the visible and actual return of

Christ, Jesus to this world in the word of God. Let us thinking of the Christ who is to return, visibly, bodily, literally, to this earth, think of him and his return.

Jesus Christ who came into this world in the flesh was the son of man, without sin and he was God's son.

Christ whom God hath appointed heir of all things by whom also he made the world, the brightness of God's glory and the express image of God's person. Heb. 1:2-3

Christ is the image of the invisible God. In whom all fullness dwells. Col. 1:15

Christ who humbled himself and became obedient unto death. Even the cross. Whom God hath highly exalted and given the name which is above every name. Phil. 2:8

Christ the incarnation of God's heart, who had glory with God and was loved by the Father, before the foundation of the world. (John 17) Who once bore our sin in his own body on the tree. (1 Peter 2:24)

This Christ is a sinless one. The one who was here that brought the world into being. Whose hand had authority. Whose majesty filled the heavens with his glory. And whose wrath filled hell with terror and whose goodness hath filled earth with blessings.

Jesus is the one who has received a cold welcome by the world and by many people. And yet (no one) ever found him guilty

of breaking one of God's laws; in thought, in word, in deed, in life. And he as God's son, shines like a diamond. It was illustrated in his daily life. Every doctrine that he had in mind; he bore it out in purity, in holiness, in beauty, in reality, in love, in promises, in majesty and in power. And in fullness and in God's grace.

This is the one in whose person centers the ultimate purpose of God. And we need to make sure that we know that this promise and purpose was carried out in Christ Jesus.

The incarnation of Jesus, when he was born, of the creature woman; being made of a woman who had been invisible in the world working with humanity and yet it was the coming of God into the world. To become a part of life; the life of humanity. For in eternity, he was with God. And now coming into this world he came without an earthly father. For a special purpose.

Jesus who was (with the father) though all the ages, came on a mission to this world to redeem the world. When Jesus returned to heaven he was equal and co-equal and co-eternal. But we find that he was manifested or made flesh. Made of woman in Bethlehem's manger. Now this apart from the second coming of Christ, we see a definite revelation. The great truth, the Lord of glory in human flesh, appearing on earth to put away sin by sacrifice of himself.

This is a great truth. For he entered into the holy of

such event because the Bible again says the Lord himself shall come.

There are others in error who substitute the second coming of Christ for pentecost. Even though there were the predictions were fulfilled that day, many of the promises regarding the second coming were made after the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came. And none of the events of 1 Thess. 4:16-17 occurred on the day of Pentecost. On that momentous day there was no resurrection of the dead; no believers caught up in the air; no meet the Lord. The Lord himself is coming bodily, visually, really, actually, gloriously, personally. And more startling is the scene of Pentecost that fell upon Jerusalem, will be more beautiful than the conversion of the sinner. Or more to be desired than to depart through death, will be the bodily return of Jesus.

Others are in error when they say that the great disturbances in nature are the second coming. God's power may be revealed God's hand may be seen, his voice may be heard. Earthquakes may be the tread of his feet, the lightening may flash but the Bible says that that's not it.

Christ's second coming is not his conquest in the world with the gospel. His conquest have been glorious. His victory marvelous, and his winning power great! He is still making conquests. Christians believe in the gospel that Christ died for

Let us take note here of what the New Testament has to say. The second coming is mentioned (318 times). When the first coming is mentioned one time, the second coming is mentioned 8 times. Only by carelessness could we change the language and throw out this evidence. The scriptures from Genesis to Revelations mentioned many times the visible, personal, eminent return of Jesus to the earth. He created and on which he lived in the flesh for 33 years. The one who never sinned, never betrayed a judgment or had a loose moral fiber through temptation, and never let the circumstances hurt his character.

We see that the Bible which reaches beyond and above all other books in the world speaks and emphasizes about Christ, more than any other. And it is certain that Christ coming to the earth again is one of the cornerstones from the temple of God's plan. The new birth emphasizes was by Jesus, is spoken of 9 times. Baptism is mentioned 20 times. Repentance is spoken of 70 times.

In the Old Testament there are at least 300 prophecies concerning the coming of Christ the first time. As beacon lights on the hills of God's landscape, these prophecies shone. And about 380 verses in the New Testament refer to Christ's coming the second time.

Towering preimminence. The scriptures everywhere tell us that Jesus is coming again.

Of the thousands of verses in the New Testament, one out of every 25 verses, points forward with eagerness to the appearing again of the Lord Jesus. It is set forth as the great hope of the church. The consummation of the all promises; as the coronation of all our missionary hopes and enterprises.

There are 40 Christian duties for which God's word uses the Saviour's second coming as a motive to produce power. We ought to be grateful that Christ said I come quickly. We ought to be grateful that we always have such truths, that his bodily resurrection was an evidence that he was going to come back to earth. Again to take over the affairs of this world.

We are told that Jesus is coming back to reign in righteousness. Then the present of the church, the increasing sinfulness of mankind, the problems of this sinful world, of war, of race, of national hatred, of drunkenness, of cruelty, and ignorance, and lust will be eradicated.

There are those who preach that the redemption of mankind rests with science or philosophy or even with education. And so far as religion shall effect it, it will be by preaching against war, capitalism, and nationalism. And so we could bring about a new social order. But all of this is against the entire plan of the Bible.

Now there are many errors about the second coming. People

make an error about Christ, real presence, today and about his visible second coming. They say that his second coming is just spiritual. Then we would miss him to be sure.

Some are in error for the believe that death is the second coming. The Bible says that the Lord himself. Now when a Christian dies, Christ does not descend from heaven with a shout. No dead persons arise, nobody is caught up in the clouds, nobody meets the Lord in the air, no such events take place until Christ returns. No such events occur at death. Therefore, the second coming cannot mean death. You might substitute the word death in Phil. 3:20 and in Matt. 16:28. And see how ridiculous the statement would be.

Some are in error in thinking that regeneration is the second coming. But the Bible says "the Lord himself." The regeneration of the sinner is as the wind; bloweth as it listeth and thou heareth the sound thereof and canst not tell whence it cometh and whether it goeth. So is everyone who is born of the spirit (John 3:8). But this is the first event in a sinner becoming a Christian. Glorious it is when a sinner is saved; when a drunkard becomes sober; when an infidel becomes a believer; when a liar becomes a truthful person and when people are born again. Salvation of the sinner is not, however, this event.

There are others who are in error when they say that the great events in history are the second coming. There has been no

rise to meet Christ in the air, to greet him, and to dwell with him, and be forever with the Lord. (1 Thess. 4:17). Now this is the coming of the bridegroom for the bride. (John 14:13). And is followed by the marriage of the lamb. (Rev. 19:7). And the judgment of works. (1 Cor. 3:13). We shall stand before Christ's judgment seat in our glorified bodies to receive rewards according to the deeds done in this life.

✓ This will happen in a moment. In the twinkling of an eye. Scientists tell us that the twinkling of an eye consumes only 7/100 of a second - .07. The Greek word for moment is atomo. From which we get the word atom. Atomic scientists estimate that in atomic time the basic unit of time is one millionth of a second. Then Christ's coming will take place in split second.

All these glorious events are going to take place in the moment; in the twinkling of an eye. At the last trumpet.

We take (2,000 photos) in one second by means of the kinoscope camera. Now by means of radio the human voice is speaking around the world (7 times) in one second. Our airplanes cover great distances crossing oceans and continents in just a little while. Our space program which is now underway, we are informed that the man in the space capsule traveled hundreds of miles a minute. Therefore we see that in one moment, an instant of time how quick Jesus is going to return to this earth.

our sins according to the scriptures; was dead, was buried; rose again.

The second coming of Christ therefore may be a mystery to us. It is a mystery hidden in scripture. That which is a supernatural element. The dictionary says of this word (supernatural) something unexplainable or incomprehensible. There are many mysteries in the Bible. (I show you a mystery. We shall all sleep but we shall all be changed - 1 Cor. 15:51. Not all Christians will die. The catching up of the living saints at Christ's coming will be something that will be unexplainable and incomprehensible by the most brilliant of earth's scientists.

Every (living Christian) including every baby, will suddenly disappear. They will go up from hospital beds, automobiles, airplanes, ships, workshops, streets, fields, houses, everywhere and from every nation. Where are they? Will be the question asked all around the earth. Nobody will be able to explain it; it's a mystery beyond the human mind to explain. And the dead shall be raised incorruptible. When those whom we list as occupants of graves died, cancer ate away their bodies, or something else consummation took their bodies, destroyed it. But when the Lord comes, (every individual) in the centuries and cemeteries died as a Christian, a believer in the atoning and cleansing blood of the Lord Jesus, shall come forth with a glorious body, fashioned like unto Christ's own body. A body perfect in eternal health. All

the disease and the decayed members restored. With eyes that see millions of miles can behold through matter into the spiritual realm. For as in Adam, all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order, Christ the first fruits, afterwards, they that are Christ's at his coming. Beloved now are we the sons of God and it doth not yet appear what we shall be but we know that when he shall appear we shall be like him. And we shall see him as he is. (1 John 3:2).

The Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself. (Phil. 3:21)

There is another thing about this coming. When Jesus comes again, in his own glory, the glory of the father and of the holy angels, he will come as the one who in the days of his flesh was despised and rejected of men. The first phase of Christ's coming will be the descend of the Lord from heaven. The Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout and with the voice of the archangel, with the trump of God. (1 Thess. 4:16).

Second, there will be the resurrection and the translation of the righteous dead. And the dead in Christ shall rise first. (1 Thess. 4:16). The dead who were redeemed by him and who died looking for his coming, literally it might be translated the dead in Christ shall stand up first. Millions whose bodies are sleep-

ing in the earth will hear his voice as Lazarus dead in the tomb heard Christ's voice and immediately sprang to life. So all the saved who have died will stand up in the first resurrection; the bodies of believers will be raised in glory. The dead will be raised incorruptible and immortal. 1 Cor. 15. Sown in corruption, raised in incorruption. Sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory.

Then we (which are alive) and remain shall be caught up together with them and in the clouds. To meet the Lord in the air and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 1 Thess. 4:17.

Both the saved dead, and the living believer will be translated together. And will meet the descending Lord in the air.

Some Christians will never die. One generation of believers will be living when Christ returns. And they will be given bodies fashioned like unto Christ own glorious body. And taken up without the experience of death. In this marvelous change they will be clothed upon with the glory of immortality. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump. For the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be raised incorruptible.

Jesus went up bodily. He will return bodily. He went up visibly, he will return visibly. He went up in a cloud, he will return in a cloud. He went up from Mount Olive, he will return to Mount Olive. (Zac. 14:4).

We see that the saved dead and the living Christians will

will return visibly, bodily, in the same body in which he went away. Before the millenium and will usher it in and reign on the earth during this time.

Dear Alford, one of the greatest Greek scholars the world has ever known, says, the majority both in number and learning adopt the pre-millenium advent following as it seems to me the plain and undeemable, denialable sense of the sacred text of the Bible itself. (Charles Wesley) was won and wrote over 7000 hymns. And more than 5000 were of the pre-millennial doctrine.

III
Then there is the A-millenism which is anti-millennial. This is the belief that the Old Testament prophecies concerning the establishment of a literal kingdom by the God of heaven, Dan. 2:44, 7:18. Are perhaps fables. The A-millenism is the belief that there will be no literal earthly kingdom of Christ but that he will come personally to hold the last judgment and to inaugurate the eternal state. A-millenist hold that the prophecies and the scriptures concerning the future kingdom for Israel are fulfilled spiritually in the church. A-millenists believe that there will be no thousand year period of blessing and peace upon the earth following the return of Christ. They see no golden age or utopia in the future. The A-millenists believe that there will be at the second coming of Christ the great destruction of the earth. And that the saved and lost will at that

a pre millenial harasha sore throat - Dr - & sand open mouth & say ah - Prasha "it will not"

Another thing we might have time to go into would be the tribulation and certainly sinners should give heed to all of the sufferings and the sorrows that will come to the devil's crowd.

There is another word that is not scriptural but is known concerning the resurrection of Christ. That many people get confused over which is called the millenium. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection, on such the second death has no power. But they shall be priests of God and Christ and shall reign with him a thousand years. (Rev. 26.)

Now there are a lot of others. The millenium has to do with the establishment of the kingdom of heaven upon earth. It is the time when the kingdoms of this world are becoming the kingdoms of our Lord and Christ. It will be a time when all nations dwell under the blessing of God. (Isa. 19:23-25). It will be a time when nations learn war no more. But beat their swords into poweshares. Their spears into pruning hooks. And nation shall not lift up sword against nation. Neight shall they learn war anymore. (Isa. 2:4). It will be a time when where will be an administration of righteousness. (Isa. 32:1). It will be a time when life will be lengthened and when death will be exceptional.

Isa. 65:20-23; 33; 24; 35:5-6. It will be a time of abundant harvest. (35:1) (34:27; Romens 8:21-22).

Many of the prophets have had much to say. (Zac. 14:4-50) about this. And we might well ask the question when will men beat

their swords into plowshares and pruning hooks and when will the curse be removed from the vegetables kingdom. Gen. 3:17-18. And when will animal nature be changed and when will a child play without hurt with poison serpents and when will the lamb lie down with the lion and not be eaten? For this be when Jesus establishes his kingdom, his throne in Jerusalem. (Isa. 2:2-4).

I think it would do well for us to get the meaning of the three millennial beliefs. That are being taught today. First there is the post-millenism. Those who have this belief do not have a thousand years in their program of Christ on this earth.

He believes that through the preaching of the gospel missionary work, education, the world will be won to Christ. And will experience a wonderful period of peace and prosperity after which the Lord Jesus will come personally for his final judgment. When both good and bad will be raised and the end of the world will be here.

The post view is the evolutionary view. The view of continuous progress; the development in good. It is the natural view for the natural man to take. It is the way man would have done. Had it been left to man to bring it about.

But when we look at the spiritual condition of the world today, there has been preaching, education for 2000 years and 9/10 of the world is non-Christian yet. There isn't a single village in all the world that has yet been completely converted.

How many more thousands of years, at this rate, is it going to take us to convert all the world or even a goodly part of it?

Luther said some say that before the last day the world shall become Christian. But it is a falsehood forged by Satan that he might darken sound doctrine.

Dr. Joe Odle tells us that the world is becoming more and more non-Christian at an alarming rate. Every 2 1/2 hours there are more than 125 thousand people in the world who are unreached by the gospel. In 1962 the world population increased by 64 million. While the Christian population, Catholic, Protestant and other groups increased only 20 million. This means the group unreached by the gospel increased by 44 million last year. Protestant, Christianity now comprises only 8% of the world population. If the world population and Protestant work continue to grow at the present rate, the Protestants will be only 6% of the world population in 1970. And 2% in the year 2000. (38 years from now.)

If world conversion is the purpose of preaching education and missionary work, there is a tragic failure somewhere. And as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be also in the days of the son of man. The days of Noah were godless days.

II Another view of the millenium is the pre. That is the belief that we are living in a time when God is calling out a people for his name. And when that calling is completed Christ

We need to be steadfast and to be ready and to be watching. Because some day he's going to come and conquer this whole world. I like that speech of (Wellington) who was calm amid the roar of Waterloo. When an officer sent word, tell the commander-in-chief that he must move me. I cannot hold my position any longer. My numbers are so thin. Tell him, said the great general, he must hold his place. Every Englishman today must die where he stands or else win the victory. The officer read the command to stand and he did stand. Til the trumpet sounded victory. And so it is today, my brethren, we must die where we are. Rather than yield to the enemy. If Christ tarries we must not desert our post. Wellington knew that the heads of the Prussian columns would soon be visible. Coming in to insure the victory. And so by faith we perceive that our Lord approached and is coming with his angels and he is going to open heaven and we'll hear that trumpet behold he cometh with clouds. And when he cometh, then those who have stood fast in the rage of battle will be able to sing, hold the fort for I am coming. Jesus said that he would come. And hereafter shall ye see the son of man sitting

Do you want the Lord to come back?
 on the right hand of power.
 Some are not ready to love him - unsaved -
 sinners - you will be left, comes to take those he loves.
 Turn to world - don't want him to come - no hope in world - Triumph of the unsaved, love to see him, never seen him with these eyes.

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time enter their eternal state. Now we must recognize that (what science) could not do, Jesus is going to do. What our theology of preaching could not do, he will do. And what Parliaments and Senates and Congress could not do, he will do. And what educational systems could not do, he will do. And what Armies and Navies could not do, Jesus will do. John Knox accepted the invitation when the banner of truth had seemed to fail and almost lost to go to Scotland. When he landed quick as lightning, the news spread abroad. The cry everywhere arose, John Knox is come. Edinburgh came rushing into the streets, the old and young. The lowly and the low. And mingled together with delight and expectation. And all business, all common pursuits were suspended. The priests, the friars, left their altars, their masses. And all of them were standing together - men, educated men. Mothers sat down their infants and ran to inquire what had come to pass. Travelers suddenly mounted and sped into the country with the tidings - John Knox has come. At every cottage door the innantes stood and there they stood in wonder as the horsemen after horseman cried John Knox has come. Ships departed from the harbor bore up to each other at sea to tell the news. Shepherds gave the tidings as they watched their flocks on the hills. John Knox, John Konx has come. The whole land was moved, the whole country was stirred with new inspiration. And the hearts of the enemies withered.

If some sudden presence of a man like ourselves; a man whom we will rejoice to meet in the kingdom; but only a man. What will be the effect when the news is flashed through earth and sea and sky - "The Son of Man has come, Jesus has come." Yes in that day when he cometh, which is the coronation day, every knee shall bow to the name which is above every name. And he whom God has lifted to the world's throne shall in turn lift the world to a place beside himself.

Hasten of Master, the time of thy return. Delay not. Lest the living give up their hopes. Delay not. Lest the earth grow like hell. Delay not. Lest our hearts faint. Delay not lest wickedness triumphs.

We find that what manner of person ought we to be in all holy conversation and goodness, looking for the hastening unto the coming of the day of God. Wherefore beloved being that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace. Without spot and blemish. (2 Peter 3:14).

John wrote, beloved now are we the sons of God. It doth not yet appear what we shall be, But we know that when he shall appear, we shall be like him. For we shall see him as he is. (1 John 3:2-3).

Blessed are those servants whom the Lord, when he cometh, shall find watching. (Luke 12:37).

Be ye therefore ready also for the son of man cometh at an hour when you faint not. (Luke 12:4)

But as in the days of Noah so shall the coming of the son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark. And knew not until the flood came and took them all away. So shall also the coming of the son of man be. There shall be two in the field and one take the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill the one taken; the other left. Watch therefore for ye know not the hour your Lord doth come. (Matt. 24:37-42).

Therefore we need to stand fast. He shall change our vile body. If we could only think of it, friends. No more heartaches, no more feebleness, no more fainting, no more sin or sorrow and our frame is made up of decaying substance of earthly substance. So to dust we return but this body groans and suffers and dies and is diseased but blessed be God that there is going to be a wonderful change. Where there will be neither sorrow nor crying; neither pain anymore. The natural appetites of this body will done away with. This vile body. It shall not always be so. The great change will deliver us. It will be as pure as the Lord's body. Whatever the body of Christ is now, our body will be like it. We are to have a real body like his body, full of beauty, full of strength.