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# The Second Coming Of Christ



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## **CHAPTER 1**

# **The Second Coming Of Christ**

Is it true that Jesus Christ, who lived in Palestine over nineteen centuries ago, will come back to Earth again? This question should become a matter of supreme importance for all men. Why? Because if Jesus returns to this world, it will be the greatest event that has happened since He left.

In considering this question, there is a fact of history that stands out like a mountain peak above all others. The ancient biblical prophecies boldly declared many centuries before the event actually took place, that Christ's coming on Earth would be as a humble babe. They foretold that His mother would be a virgin (Isaiah 7:14). They predicted, with absolute accuracy, many aspects of His ministry, His death, His burial and resurrection. The Scriptures even gave the time of His death (Daniel 9:24). All of these events came to pass just as the Scriptures said they would. Now, if these same prophecies accurately foretold that Jesus would come the first time to give His life as a ransom for mankind, then, wouldn't it stand to reason, when the Word declares He will come again – this time to be revealed in glory – these prophecies would be accurate, too? Since they were right with the first predictions, we can be assured they are right with the second ones, as well.

## **Why Did Jesus Go Away?**

When Jesus announced to His disciples that He was soon to depart this world, they became very sorrowful. They could not understand why He should leave them. The Lord explained His reasons to them. For one thing, He would go to prepare a place for them where they would dwell forever.

“In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you,

I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also” (John 14:2, 3).

Another purpose for His going away was so that God’s own Holy Spirit, the same Spirit Jesus had received, could be bestowed upon His disciples. Jesus explained this could happen if He went away, for He alone could send the Holy Spirit.

“Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you” (John 16:7).

Christ could only be in one place at a time here on Earth when He took a human form, but the Holy Spirit, who gave Christ power, could be in every man’s heart throughout the world.

The reason Jesus desired His followers to receive the Holy Spirit was because He had a momentous task for them to perform. They were to take Christ to all the nations, even to the uttermost parts of the Earth. “And He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature’” (Mark 16:15). To accomplish this task, they would need to be especially empowered and equipped. Even so, the disciples’ minds were on quite another matter. What they wanted to know was, “When would Jesus return to set up His Kingdom?” They said, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” (Acts 1:6) The Lord did not answer their question; instead He said,

“It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:7, 8).

When the Lord had finished speaking, He ascended to Heaven and a cloud received Him out of their sight (vs. 9). Then something else happened. While they were still looking up into Heaven, two witnesses in white appeared and said unto them,

“Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven” (Acts 1:11).

In other words, Jesus was to come back to Earth again in exactly the same manner in which He had gone away.

## Why Will Jesus Return?

Naturally, the disciples hoped that Jesus would return in a short time, but the Lord had a task for them to do. They were to take the Gospel to every creature. They were to preach it to all nations, “teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:19, 20).

The apostles were to begin their ministry in Jerusalem; from there they would go to Samaria. After that, they would carry the Word to the uttermost parts of the Earth. Before Jesus could return, they must fulfill this Great Commission.

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come” (Matthew 24:14).

The reason for this was because the Lord, Who spoke of Himself as the Bridegroom, was going to return to take a chosen people with Him back to Heaven ... a company of true Christians who love Him and who are to become His Bride. The Apostle Paul said, “For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ” (2 Corinthians 11:2). When this commission has been fulfilled, Christ, the Bridegroom, shall return and take His Bride to Himself (Matthew 25:1-13). A picture of this union of Christ the Bridegroom with His Bride is found in Revelation 19:7-9.

“Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready. And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. Then he said to me, ‘Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!’ And he said to me, ‘These are the true sayings of God.’”

There is a work to do before this happy event can take place. Since God is no respecter of persons, His Bride must come from every tribe and nation. Whatever the nationality is, there must be some from that nation in this select company. Revelation 7:9-10, portrays the scene of the great multitude made up of all peoples, who will stand before God, praising and glorifying Him and His Son who was slain as a lamb for the sins of the world.

“After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” (Revelation 7:9, 10).

The expectancy of the believers to see an unprecedented turning to Christ before the closing of the age is based upon many passages in the Scripture. Ezekiel, in chapters 36-37, tells of the mighty outpouring of the Spirit upon Israel. Isaiah 66:8 speaks of the result of this visitation when he declares in astonishment, "Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day, or shall a nation be born at once, for as soon as Zion travailed she brought forth her children." This mighty outpouring of the Spirit, however, was not to be limited to Israel only, for Joel said that the Spirit was to be poured out upon all flesh (Joel 2:28, 29). The greater fulfillment of this is to be in the last days, at the very end of age (Acts 2:17-21). We are told that, "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13). This indicates the great harvest of the Earth must await the "early and latter rain," which represents the Spirit. Surely, the time for this fulfillment is now upon us.

Christ the Bridegroom is waiting for His Bride to be completed. Will you, my friend, accept His call to be among the select number when He comes?

"And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" 6And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely" (Revelation 22:17).

This causes another question to arise. If Jesus is to return to Earth, how soon will He come? Is the time hundreds of years away, or is it in the near future? We shall answer this question in the next chapter.

## CHAPTER 2

### The Signs of Christ's Coming

“Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, ‘Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?’” (Matthew 24:3).

Jesus was talking to His disciples about His Second Coming. He spoke of events that were to come to pass in Jerusalem. The disciples, exceedingly sorrowful about His going away, asked Him what would be the signs of His coming again.

Answering their question, Jesus enumerated various events that must take place. He said false prophets would arise and deceive many. He told of earthquakes and famines and pestilences; that there would be wars and rumors of wars. He said, “The end is not yet.” Then, Jesus gave the final sign that would mark the end of the age – the sign of the Gospel of the Kingdom when it has been preached to all the world.

#### 1. The Sign Of The Preaching Of The Gospel To All Nations:

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come” (Matthew 24:14).

As we have already mentioned, the Lord had an important work for the believers to do during this age. In reference to this, the Apostle James said, “God at the first visited the Gentiles to take out of them a people for His name” (Acts 15:14). The Lord is gathering to Himself a special group of believers – all tongues and all nations. Christ will not return until all peoples have had a chance to know and accept Christ. As we have said, He has designed that His bride will include people from every tribe and nation, and He will not return until this has been accomplished. This is why Jesus said to His disciples, “Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15).

For centuries, the work of evangelizing the world proceeded slowly, but in recent years, there has been a tremendous acceleration. God is now pouring out His Spirit upon all flesh in a special way, which has resulted in great revivals in the various nations of the Earth. Literally, millions of people in many lands have turned to Christ and accepted Him as their Savior. Not all the world, however, will be converted. Not all will accept Christ, but it is the will of God that all be given

a chance.

“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9).

## 2. The Sign Of The Jew:

“And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled” (Luke 21:24).

The story of the dispersion of the Jews and their return to their homeland is an amazing one, and it is also another striking proof of the soon return of Christ. To understand this we must note the reason why the Jews have been scattered throughout the world. The answer is that God had chosen Israel for a special purpose above all nations, but this great privilege carried a solemn responsibility. Although special blessings were to be upon the nation if she were obedient, severe judgments would also come upon her if she failed to obey the Divine law.

As history reveals, Israel was disobedient and rejected her Messiah. Consequently, judgment came upon the nation, and the people were taken captive and scattered throughout the world.

Nevertheless, the chastisement was not to be forever. The children of Israel were to return to their land when the times of the Gentiles (non-Jews) were fulfilled. The prophet Ezekiel tells about this:

“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them. The desolate land shall be tilled instead of lying desolate in the sight of all who pass by” (Ezekiel 36:26, 27, 34).

Today, we see Israel dwelling once more in the land of her fathers; many are beginning to be convinced that Christ is the Messiah. This highly significant development in Israel is another proof that Christ’s coming is at hand.

## 3. The Sign Of The Eleventh Hour:

In the Holy Scriptures, there is a parable of five wise and five foolish virgins. Jesus spoke of Himself as a Bridegroom who arrived later than was expected. Recorded in this parable is the statement, “But while the bridegroom was delayed,

they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight a cry was heard: ‘Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!’” (Matthew 25:5, 6).

Prophetically speaking, does this verse imply that the Lord Himself returns at the midnight hour? One of the strangest coincidences in historic timing that has ever occurred was at the close of War World I. This event did not happen by plan or intention. Those engaged in that desperate conflict had no thought to plan it that way, but happen it did. World War I ended at eleven o’clock on the morning of November 11, 1918, which was:

THE ELEVENTH HOUR OF  
THE ELEVENTH DAY OF  
THE ELEVENTH MONTH  
JUST ELEVEN MONTHS AFTER ALLENBY ENTERED  
JERUSALEM ON  
THE ELEVENTH DAY OF DEC., 1917.

Certainly, all this chain of coincidences couldn’t have just happened. Wasn’t it providential? The occupying of Jerusalem on the 11th day of December 1917, by the British and making Palestine a homeland for the Jews was the most outstanding prophetic fulfillment of the war. What did all this mean? Wasn’t it God’s clock, striking the hour, signifying the world had entered the eleventh hour of history, and the midnight hour when Jesus will return is not far off?

#### 4. The Sign Of Atomic Destruction:

“For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And, unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake those days will be shortened” (Matthew 24:21, 22).

There have always been wars, pestilences and calamities, but never has man had the power to utterly destroy the human race. In World War I, which seemed so overwhelmingly disastrous, some ten million people died – a catastrophe indeed – but it did not substantially diminish the world’s population. Consequently, the Words that Jesus spoke here about the threat of world suicide seemed absurd, but that was before the discovery of the atomic bomb.

The world was initiated into the atomic age by an explosion of a small atomic bomb, which left 100,000 dead. Now, hydrogen bombs have been set off that are 1,000 times more powerful than the Hiroshima bomb!

Dr. Hachiya, a famous scientist says: “A ten-megaton bomb would exterminate all but the most deeply sheltered living things within a radius of five miles. Blast causalities would be severe up to a distance of ten miles. But the phenomenon



that would complete the devastation of life in the entire area would be fire. The area would be a great sea of fire which would burn until there was no more to consume. It seems clear that in the event of such an attack there would be virtually no survivors of the blast and thermal effects, with the possible exception of a few persons who had made elaborate preparations for surviving the catastrophe.

“It is said that a single Polaris submarine has the destructive capacity of all the munitions used in World War II, but one seldom hears about the natural consequence – that the total amount of suffering inflicted would be much greater. To repeat the nature of the danger – nuclear holocaust – is beyond anything in history.”

From this description, it can be seen that the warning Jesus gave of possible human annihilation is right after all. However, He didn’t stop there. Christ also gave a message of hope to the believer. He said, “Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man” (Luke 21:36). Surely, we have no time to lose. We must point the nations to Christ while there is opportunity. The coming of Christ is the hope of the world. Otherwise, men will eventually destroy themselves.

## 5. The Sign Of Communism:

As the time draws near for Christ to return for His people (who will meet Him in the clouds, for He will not actually come to Earth until after the reign of the Antichrist), a great world figure will rise to deceive the world. According to the Scriptures, this Antichrist will assume great authority and will claim that he can bring peace to the world. Instead, he will lead the world into the Great Tribulation. He is known in the Scriptures as the beast of the Antichrist, for he will be against Christ and against Christianity. He will have great power on Earth for a few years. During this period, he will slaughter most of those who profess Christianity, even as Hitler killed the Jews in the World War II. (Afterwards, Christ will return with His Bride and will utterly destroy the Antichrist. He will then set up a Kingdom upon the Earth. (This subject will be discussed in a later chapter).

The thirteenth chapter of Revelation speaks of this beast with the feet of a bear, rising out of the sea at the end-time (Revelation 13:1, 2). It is very interesting to note that a “bear” is the symbol of the Russian nation.

The beast is a scarlet color (Revelation 17:3). Red is also the color of Soviet Russia.

The dragon is the symbol of the devil, and also of Red China (Revelation 12:9). The red dragon gave the beast his great authority (Revelation 13:2).

The beast makes war with the Christians (Revelation 17:3). Russia has made

war with the Church and has practically destroyed it in that country.

The beast was given power “over every tribe, tongue and nation” (Revelation 13:7). Communism is still alive today in many places and is striving desperately to infiltrate and make every nation on the face of the Earth follow communistic ideas. We are not implying that Russia or the Soviet Union, as she is now, represents the whole development of the beast or the Antichrist. There will be a man of sin who will arise as Adolph Hitler did and take power.

When Christ comes, He shall destroy this man of sin. “And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming” (2 Thessalonians 2:8).

It is during this time of the revelation of the power of the beast or Antichrist that a glorious event of the translation of the Church takes place. We shall read about this in the next chapters.

## CHAPTER 3

### The Rapture of the Church

“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 incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality” (1 Corinthians 15:51-53).

In these words, Paul tells of the translation of the Church. A type of Christ rapturing His saints is found in the Old Testament story of Elisha and Elijah (2 Kings 2). These two men crossed over the Jordan River and continued their journey toward the hills in the distance. God had given Elijah a promise that he would take him that day into Heaven “in a whirlwind” (2 Kings 2:1). As the two men walked along conversing with each other, a wonderful thing happened. Suddenly, a “chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven” (2 Kings 2:11).

This remarkable event is a type of the rapture of the Church, which will take place when Christ comes. The great Apostle Paul tells us about it in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17.

“But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.”

The great difference between Christianity and all the other religions is the hope of the resurrection of the dead. Other great religious leaders have died, but their bones are still in the grave. Christ’s tomb alone is empty. He is not there – He is risen! Because He lives, we shall live also!

Death is man’s greatest enemy. How sad it is to see a parent grieving over a lost child or a wife or husband sorrowing over a loved one that is gone. Life no longer seems worth living. However, Paul admonishes the Christian not to sorrow as those who have no hope, because they shall see their loved ones again.

The Scripture teaches that to be “absent from body, is to be present with the Lord.” When the beggar, Lazarus, died, he went to Abraham’s bosom (the Jewish name for Paradise). There, he was in peace and comfort (Luke 16). Our loved ones who have died in Christ are in Paradise, a place in which they are waiting until the coming of Christ. We do not know everything about Paradise. Paul, who visited that place, declared it was so wonderful that he was not permitted to reveal all he had seen or heard.

Now, when Christ returns in the clouds of Heaven, two things will simultaneously happen. First, the dead in Christ shall be raised. To some people, the belief that there will be a resurrection seems to be impossible. “How can God raise the dead?” they ask. Paul used a simple illustration in answering this question (See 1 Corinthians 15:35-50). He speaks of a grain of wheat which is planted in the cold dark ground. There it lies, and there it dies. Then, a strange thing happens. In dying, it springs forth to new life! Paul says, this is like the resurrection. If God could cause the seed of grain to spring forth from death unto life, how much more can He and shall He cause man, when he dies, to be raised to new life? How much more is a man worth than a grain of wheat?

What will the resurrected body be like? Paul says that it shall be a spiritual body. It shall be a body just like the glorified body of Christ. After the resurrection, Christ could manifest Himself physically to His disciples. They could touch Him and converse with Him, just as they did before. Though he was of another world, the Lord could fully adapt Himself to the laws of this Earth. He could talk and walk and commune with His disciples, or should He choose, He could travel instantly from one place to another. Most importantly, He could never die again, and those who believe in Him, shall be resurrected and shall never die again either.

The second thing that will take place when Jesus comes will be the translation of the living, in the same manner that Elijah was translated into Heaven. Those who are living at the coming of Christ shall never die, but they shall be raptured or caught up to meet the Lord in the air.

Unfortunately, not all who profess to be Christians will be ready when Jesus comes. The Lord said, “Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming” (Matthew 24:40-42).

To impress upon His hearers the necessity of being ready at His coming, the Lord spoke a parable of five wise and five foolish virgins who went forth to meet the bridegroom. Let us read that parable carefully.

“Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Now five of them were wise, and five

were foolish. Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight a cry was heard: 'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!' Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise answered, saying, 'No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.' And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.' Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming" (Matthew 25:1-13).

The parable clearly teaches that when Christ comes, some of His followers will be ready to meet Him, but some will not. Only those who have the oil of the Holy Spirit in their vessels with their lamps will be ready when the Bridegroom comes. After the door is shut, none may enter.

Now, we ask, "What shall happen on Earth after Christ comes for His saints and raptures them to Heaven?" As we have already noted, the Scriptures teach that at this time a man of sin will arise, an Antichrist, who shall extend his rule over a large part of the Earth. His evil reign will result in the nations of the world descending into the midst of the Great Tribulation.

## CHAPTER 4

### The Great Tribulation

For emphasis, we quote again Christ's Words concerning the tribulation:

"For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened" (Matthew 24:21, 22).

We have noticed that the 13th chapter of Revelation tells about the rise of the "beast" or Antichrist. The spirit of that beast's power is in the world now. Out of this spirit shall arise a wicked ruler who shall gain control over much of the Earth during the closing days of this age. Paul speaks of him as the man of sin or son of perdition, in 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4:

"Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God."

Although false prophets and false christs have appeared at various times during the Church Age, at this appointed time, there shall arise a man of unprecedented wickedness, whose blasphemies and hatred of Christ shall exceed anything that has ever occurred in the story of the world. He will be a man who exalts himself above everything that is holy and will indeed try to portray himself as God.

This Antichrist is also called the son of perdition because, like Judas Iscariot (who likewise was called the son of perdition), Satan will enter into him (John 13:27, 17:12). This kingdom of the Antichrist will comprise altogether ten sub-kingdoms. This means that the leaders of these ten nations will join together and give their power to the Antichrist (Revelation 17:12).

A question may be raised as to why God permits this wicked Antichrist to exercise rule over the world. The answer is that God at one time sent the true Christ into the world to be its King. He was rejected; therefore, God shall permit Satan to raise up his own false christ, whom the world shall accept. As Jesus said, "I have come in My Father's Name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, him you will receive" (John 5:43).

When Christ was on Earth, Satan offered Him the whole world, if He would just fall down and worship him (Luke 4:5-8). The Lord indignantly refused the devil's proposition. As a reward, the devil gives the Antichrist authority over the

nations. In turn, through him, the devil will receive the worship of “all those whose names are not written in the book of life” (Revelation 13:8).

The Antichrist attains power through deception and deceit. The Book of Daniel tells how he uses flatteries to obtain his ends (Daniel 11:21). There is also an element of mystery about him. He will manifest unnatural or extraordinary powers beyond anything demonstrated in the world before. He will receive these powers from Satan, and he shall deceive the masses and draw forth their admiration and allegiance (Revelation 13:2, 3).

At the beginning of his reign, he will hide his true identity and represent himself as the benefactor of the human race. Multitudes will fall for his deception, but in doing so, they will believe a lie (2 Thessalonians 2:10, 11). Later, he will throw off his mask and show himself as Satan’s supreme masterpiece – utterly anti-God and anti-Christ.

There is a parallel between the wicked Antichrist and the late Adolph Hitler. Even as Hitler made war against the Jews, the Antichrist will war against the saints. As Hitler tried to destroy the natural descendants of Abraham, the Antichrist will seek to subvert or destroy Christ’s believers, Abraham’s spiritual descendants. He will, in fact, seek to utterly obliterate Christianity.

“Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation” (Revelation 13:6, 7).

As the people of the world watch the Antichrist conquer nation after nation, they will say, “Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?” (Revelation 13:4).

## The Mark Of The Beast

“He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666” (Revelation 13:16-18).

Just as Adolph Hitler had his Swastika – the crooked cross – so the Antichrist will have his insignia – a mark. Moreover, he will use it as a loyalty test. It is well known, many governments are already using loyalty tests. Perhaps they are necessary, but the Antichrist will adopt this method to accomplish his diabolical

purposes. He knows that in time, people will become alarmed at his high-handed methods and his war against Christianity, and they will try to overthrow him. He will then strike at their most vulnerable point. Families must have food to live; therefore, he issues a decree that no man may buy or sell unless he has “the mark of the beast” on his forehead or forearm. (Such marks are already being used to identify people and animals, being visible only under ultraviolet rays.)

This cruel decree will be the beginning of the most terrible persecution the world has ever known. People will realize something is wrong, but it will be too late for them to do much about it. Two of God’s Prophets will appear at this time, and they will unmask the diabolical character of the Antichrist, but this shall only add to his fury (Revelation 11). People will be faced with a terrible dilemma. The Antichrist will say, “Either take the mark or you cannot buy or sell.” Those who will not take the mark will not be able to buy or sell, and may even be killed on the spot.

The Antichrist will deceive and destroy many. He will come with all power and lying wonders. Many will fall for his charismatic personality, bewitchery and deceptions. At first, he will appear as a superhuman – a leader who will solve the world’s problems – just what everyone has been looking for. He will appear to be a man of the hour, but Christ gives us a solemn warning against him, as well as other false christs which will appear before him.

“For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand. Therefore if they say to you, ‘Look, He is in the desert!’ do not go out; or ‘Look, He is in the inner rooms!’ do not believe it” (Matthew 24:24-26).

If you are still on Earth during the Great Tribulation, it is important you remember this: do not, under any circumstances, take the mark of the beast. Participating in this act would mean one would forfeit all possibility of salvation. Taking the mark of the beast is denying Christ.

Anything that happens in the future has the opportunity to give us notice or warning beforehand. Whether it is atheism, communism or any other ‘ism’, they all have the marks and identifications of the Antichrist spirit.

According to Ezekiel 38, Russia or the Soviet Union is destined to play a vital role in these events at the end of time. This chapter reveals Russia as the King of the North, who will move south to the Holy Land for the battle of Armageddon. However, it is there she will be destroyed.

Jesus said when the Antichrist is fully revealed, there will be a time of trouble such as the world has never known (Matthew 24:21, 22). This period, we are told, will last for three and a half years (Revelation 13:5).

The fact that some Christians will still be on Earth during the Great Tribulation



is clear from Revelation 7:9, 14; 13:7. Will this be true of all the saints? It appears from Revelation 14:1-5, that some of the saints, “the first fruits of God,” have already been taken out of the world in the rapture. When speaking of these events, Jesus said, “Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man” (Luke 21:36).

Jesus gave a special promise to the overcoming Church in Revelation 3:10, saying, “Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.”

Those Christians who are left here on Earth will not be forsaken of God. They will be saved, if they remain true to Him, but they will go through great tribulation, and many will be killed by the Antichrist.

“It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation” (Revelation 13:7).

The consensus of Scripture teaching is that there will be a group of saints, the first-fruits, who shall not go through the Great Tribulation, but like Elijah, will be caught up or raptured to Heaven. No one knows the day or the hour when this will take place. However, Jesus did say, “When these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near” (Luke 21:28). It would be to all our advantage to watch and pray, so we may be ready when He comes.

## CHAPTER 5

### The Coming World of Tomorrow

What happens after the tribulation is over? The first thing will be the imprisonment of Satan. This is clearly shown in Revelation 20:1-3.

“Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.”

Satan shall be bound with a great chain and cast into the bottomless pit. We are not to think of this chain as being made of iron or steel. The chain is a spirit substance that will confine the devil to the pit, just as surely as an iron prison cell will hold a man. In this pit, Satan can do no more harm for a period of a thousand years. The Bible refers to this thousand year timeframe as ‘The New Millennium,’ and during this time, neither the devil nor his angels will be permitted to tempt or torment mankind.

For those who live during this Millennial reign, it will be a glorious era. The Prophet, Isaiah, described it saying, “For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea” (Isaiah 11:9). At that time, Christ will reign over the Earth. As might be expected, there will be profound changes in the whole order of human society.

The great desert areas, such as the Sahara, will be transformed into fertile and productive lands: they will blossom as a rose. In this respect, Isaiah spoke again.

“The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them, and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice, Even with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the excellence of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the excellency of our God. The parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water; in the habitation of jackals, where each lay, there shall be grass with reeds and rushes” (Isaiah 35:1, 2, 7).

During the Millennium, the twelve apostles of Christ will rule over the respective tribes of Israel. Those believers, who have stayed true to Him, will act as His administrators in His Kingdom which will endure forever. There shall be special rulers set over the other nations. Some will be given authority over

ten cities, others over five (Luke 19:17-19). These are the “overcomers” of the present age.

“And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations – ‘He shall rule them with a rod of iron; They shall be dashed to pieces like the potter’s vessels’ – as I also have received from My Father” (Revelation 2:26, 27).

“Then the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him” (Daniel 7:27).

All authority will center around Christ Jesus. Under His theocratic system of government, perfect justice will be administered. There will be no bribery of officials or corruption in high places. Everyone will be permitted to share abundantly of the resources of the world, and poverty shall cease to exist (Isaiah 65:17-23).

The fact that the nations will return to obedience to God and His Word, will result in profound change in the physical life of the human race. Sickness and disease, which came about as the result of sin from Adam’s disobedience, will be no more. In the days of the Exodus, Israel was given a promise of immunity from sickness, providing the people were obedient to the Law of God (Ezekiel 15:26). Israel’s total departure from her religion and principles totally voided the promise. Nevertheless, in the coming world of tomorrow, the promise will be fully realized as Isaiah says.

“Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the dumb sing. For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert” (Isaiah 35:5-6).

Death will not be totally overcome in the natural race, for “the last enemy that will be destroyed is death” (1 Corinthians 15:26). However, this does not apply to those who were resurrected or translated because they are not subject to death. Longevity of life will be restored, and because of it, people will live to be hundreds of years old.

“No more shall an infant from there live but a few days, nor an old man who has not fulfilled his days; for the child shall die one hundred years old, but the sinner being one hundred years old shall be accursed. They shall build houses and inhabit them, they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for as the days of a tree, so shall be the days of My people, and My elect shall long enjoy the work of their

hands” (Isaiah 65:20-22).

Science and invention will continue to advance during the Millennium. As was prophesied in the book of Daniel, “At the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.” This knowledge will not be lost during the Millennium. The golden age will see the consummation of material progress. Man was created for a noble purpose. He was to “subdue the Earth” and bring the things of the natural world under his subjection.

Every form of transportation that is available will bring people from all over the world to Jerusalem once a year for a special season of worship to the Lord of hosts.

“And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles” (Zechariah 14:16).

Obviously, this would be impossible if it we didn’t have aircraft today that can travel halfway around the Earth in 24 hours.

Another feature of this coming age is, there will be no missionary work among the nations as we now know it. As Jeremiah said, “No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them” (Jeremiah 31:34).

Even the animals shall be tamed. The lion shall “eat straw like the ox” (Isaiah 11:6-8). The prophet closes his description of this age in these words:

“They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea” (Isaiah 11:9).

Hallelujah! Some who hope to share in this glorious time will not be there to enjoy it, for there is no other way of entering into His Kingdom, except God’s way – through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ. Some will not accept this way. Jesus spoke of this, saying:

“There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves thrust out” (Luke 13:28).

We are told that at the end of the thousand years, Satan shall be loosed from his prison to deceive the nations for a little season. After the final testing period will come the Great White Throne Judgment. This is a solemn event indeed, when all men, small and great, must stand before God for judgment.

“Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire” (Revelation 20:11-15).

After this time of judgment, there will begin the new age when sin and death shall be no more. The old Earth shall pass away to make way for the new Heavens and the new Earth that will endure forever, and “where righteousness dwells.”

It is here, we must pause to ask this all important question. How is it with you, my friend? Have you accepted Christ as your Savior? If you have, then if you should be taken away at this very moment, all will be well. As the Scriptures say, “Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on ... and their works follow them” (Revelation 14:13).

Without Christ, how different it will be. What a tragedy to die without Christ! What a fearful thing to stand someday before God at the Great White Throne Judgment and hear those fateful words, “Depart from me...”

It doesn't need to end that way. Friend, you can be sure it will never happen. At this moment, accept Christ as your personal Savior. Do it now, as the Spirit of God speaks to you. Your hour of decision is at hand.

## CHAPTER 6

### How to be Ready When Jesus Comes

Although questions and problems confront us each and every day, the supreme issue of the hour, that transcends all other issues, is how to be ready for the coming of Christ. How will men and women be able to face the Judge of all the Earth when He comes? Will you be ready? To each and every one of us the Lord has given a solemn admonition to watch and to be ready.

“Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming – in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning – lest, coming suddenly, he finds you sleeping. And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!” (Mark 13:35-37).

For you to be ready when Jesus comes, here are a few things to consider.

#### 1. To Enter The Kingdom Of God You Must Be Born Again.

In the days of Jesus, men talked much about the Kingdom of God. They were waiting impatiently for a Messiah to appear who would drive out the Romans and set up a visible material kingdom. This Kingdom will indeed be set up when Christ returns. However, Jesus taught that men must first have the Kingdom within their hearts. He will not reign over an uncovered kingdom; He must first reign over their hearts. This is why Jesus said to Nicodemus, who was a ruler of the Jews, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God” (John 3:3).

The experience of the new birth is just as real as the natural birth. When a man repents of his sins and believes in Jesus as his Savior, he becomes a new creature. Nicodemus had a difficult time understanding this. Jesus had to repeat the truth to him three times (John 3:3, 5, 7).

Paul tells us about the new birth in a little different language. He says, “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; be

#### 2. Do Not Be Entangled With The Things Of The World.

Most Christians have a deep desire in their hearts to be ready at the coming of the Lord. Nevertheless, the Scripture makes it very plain that there shall be

many who will be caught unaware, and because of this, will be left behind to their everlasting regret and sorrow. The reason this happens may not be because of deliberate sin, but simply because they allowed themselves to become over-involved in the cares of this life.

Jesus, wishing to impress His disciples with the seriousness of this danger, gave them two illustrations. First, he referred to the conditions that prevailed in the days of Noah, and then, He noted that history would repeat itself at the time of His coming.

“And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: they ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all” (Luke 17:26, 27).

There is nothing wrong with eating or drinking or marriage, in themselves. Christ ate and drank. He attended a marriage at Cana of Galilee. The evil lies when these men became too completely preoccupied in these earthly matters that they made them the most important focus in their life. They not only forgot spiritual things, but they also ignored them. The people ignored the preaching of Noah in his day. They failed to heed the prophecies of Enoch, whom God sent to warn that generation. They could not discern the signs of their times. They knew not the time of their visitation until the flood came and took them all away.

And Jesus likened the days of Lot to the time of His coming.

“Likewise, as it was also in the days of Lot: they ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed” (Luke 17:28-30).

The city in which Lot lived was Sodom, a place noted for its extreme wickedness. Strangely enough, Jesus did not allude to this circumstance. Instead, He referred to the fact that the people of Sodom were totally involved in material things: “they ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built ...” They had no time for spiritual things. They were so engrossed in these things that they did not entertain the slightest suspicion they would never see the light of another day. So, it is with mankind today, being so engrossed with their work, their pleasures, their hobbies and their plans, that despite the fact the sword of atomic destruction is hanging over their heads, they continue to be totally absorbed in those things that are about to perish.

It should be noted that when Jesus was born in Bethlehem and the Wise Men, who were guided by the star, approached the religious leaders of Jerusalem to ask where Christ was to be born, the latter were able to say, “In Bethlehem of Judea: for thus it is written by the prophet” (Matthew 2:5, 6). These blind leaders were

troubled by the tidings, as well as all of Jerusalem, but they never bothered to go to Bethlehem to find out the truth. Therefore, they missed the greatest event that occurred in the world up to that time. “He came to his own, and his own did not receive Him” (John 1:11).

### 3. Watch And Pray Always

“But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man” (Luke 21:34-36).

How can we avoid that day from coming upon us as a snare? We are to beware that the pleasures of the world and the cares of life will not divert our attention. The only way we can avoid this is to make prayer a business in our lives.

We are to “pray always” if we are to “be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass and to stand before the Son of man.” The forces of evil and the temptations that beset us are too strong for us to stand without Divine help. Therefore, each day we are to take our petitions before God, enumerating every circumstance that involves our life in our home, our family, our church, our work, our daily needs, our problems, our guidance, our health, our weaknesses – that we may be ever kept from evil, and we may ever live in the will of God. More than that, we should be intercessors. We should pray and labor for the salvation of others.

When the disciples asked Jesus when He would set up His Kingdom, the Lord replied it was not for them to know the exact time, but rather they, upon receiving the Holy Spirit, should receive power and be His witnesses.

### 4. Be Filled With The Spirit

In this book, we have previously mentioned the parable of the ‘Five Wise’ and ‘Five Foolish Virgins.’ The foolish virgins were not ready to meet the Bridegroom and to go into the marriage supper because they did not have oil in their vessels for their lamps. Oil, throughout the Scripture, is a type of the Holy Spirit. We need to be filled with the same Spirit Jesus spoke about. He said, “For John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now” (Act 1:5). The wise virgins took the precaution to see they had oil in their vessels. The oil of the Spirit gives power to live for Christ, power to witness and power to be ready when He comes. In the last verses of the Bible,



the Lord speaks for the final time saying, “Surely, I come quickly.” May our response be the same as that of John the Beloved when he said, “Even so come, Lord Jesus” (Revelation 22:20).

## If You Now Wish To Accept Christ...

Many people think if they believe in a God and do the best they can, this will be enough. Jesus showed us it is not enough. Christ said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me” (John 14:6). We must take into consideration the importance of these Words, for all of us, one day, must stand before God and give an account of our deeds or those things we have done. “So then each of us shall give account of himself to God” (Romans 14:12). “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad” (2 Corinthians 5:10).

Christ made an unprecedented claim when He said, “I am the way, the truth and the life.” No prophet or angel ever made such a claim. Jesus was truly different.

Now God, in saving man, had to first deal with the sin question. Sin has introduced all the sorrow, sickness, death and chaos into the world. For a man to be saved, he must first be saved from his sin. Where did sin come from? The Scriptures teach that Satan, by a rebellion he instigated, brought sin into the universe. At one time, he was called Lucifer and was trusted to be a chief administrator of God’s Kingdom, but pride entered in, and he looked for way to elevate himself above God. With this purpose in mind, he initiated a revolt or act of rebellion in Heaven and actually deceived one third of the angels into going along with him. After his defeat, he and the angels were ejected from Heaven. Yet, he did not cease his rebellion. When he had the opportunity, he tempted Eve, and then Adam, and through their disobedience, sin and death came upon mankind causing our fall from grace.

God was greatly grieved over the tragic fall of the human race, but He already had a plan of redemption in place to be instituted. Through His plan, sin and death were to be conquered, and all who will accept God’s plan, will have salvation.

It was pride that caused Satan to fall. So, likewise today, when men refuse to accept any intelligence higher than their own, it is still pride at work. Man cannot save himself from his sins or restore himself into acceptance with God. It can only be through the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

The supreme penalty of sin is separation from God. Isaiah, the prophet, said, “But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear” (Isaiah 59:2).

Although man separated himself from God through his disobedience, God

still loves him. He greatly desires to restore him to harmony with Himself, so we can share an eternal salvation with Him. God's plan for us in the future is so far beyond what our mortal minds can comprehend. In regards to this, the Scriptures declare: "But as it is written: 'Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him'" (1 Corinthians 2:9).

Yet, by virtue of God's own goodness, He cannot receive us to Himself as long as there is any sin in us. So, how can man, in his state of disobedience, enter into fellowship with God? Man cannot save himself. He cannot even keep the basic Ten Commandments God set down to guide him. Evil and temptations have a power over him he cannot shake. Indeed, he must have a mediator, one who can and will take his part, suffer in his stead, pay the penalty for his sin. Is there anyone who could love fallen man enough to do that?

Yes, there was one – beloved of God and close to the Father – who looked upon the state of man in his floundering helplessness, doubt and fear, and who said to the Father, "Here I am, send me. Not my will, but your will be done."

As a living sacrifice, Jesus Christ came into this world, foreordained to taste the sorrows of sin and separation from God, and to suffer agonizing physical, as well as, spiritual death. The Scripture says, "HIS SOUL WAS MADE AN OFFERING FOR SIN."

## Man's Punishment – God's Substitute

SEPARATION – When the sin of the world was placed

FROM GOD – upon Jesus, He became sin in the sight of God the Father (2 Corinthians 5:21). So God was separated from his own Son, and the agonized cry came from Jesus, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

PHYSICAL DEATH – Jesus died physically on a cross, being nailed to it by spikes through His flesh and his side pierced with a spear. While bleeding to death, He cried to God on our behalf, "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do."

HELL – Jesus went down to hell. (He descended into the center of the Earth and preached to the spirits in prison (I Peter 3:1).

The good news is, He didn't stay in hell. He rose again to everlasting life, and He brought the keys of death and hell with Him (Revelation 1:18). He now says, "Because I live, you will live also" (John 14:19).

Even now, it is hard for mankind to comprehend the kind of love that was in Christ, which enabled Him to drink of the cup of suffering and be the sacrifice

He was. It is simply beyond what our human minds are capable of measuring or understanding.

The sacrifice of Christ was enough. It was sufficient. It paid the price or cost of our sin. The work was done, and it was a job no one else not only would have wanted to do, but could do. As Jesus was dying on the cross, His final Words were, "It is finished."

Because of the magnitude of the love of Christ, He personally wiped away or eliminated the sins of every human being who had lived or who would ever live from the beginning to the end of time. Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. And whosoever believes on me, to Him shall I give the right to become the SONS OF GOD. And he that overcomes to him will I grant to sit on my throne with me."

Christ's salvation is not one of disgrace or dishonor, but one of exaltation. It is the true exalting of man to the status for which he was created. Jesus prayed to God, "And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me" (John 17:22, 23).

He told us we will know the truth, and the truth will make us free, and if the Son of God makes us free, then we will be free indeed. We must have more than an outward experience with God. We can see the outward evidence of the Creation in the flowers, sky, Earth, etc., but we must have an inward "heart" experience with Him through our Savior, Redeemer and Friend, Jesus Christ.

We must believe and accept the love sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Unbelief is our greatest enemy. We must accept the Words of Jesus Christ, because He said HE IS THE WAY, HE IS THE TRUTH AND HE IS THE LIFE.

While the tombs of many men, who have claimed to be God's prophets, are still occupied, the TOMB OF JESUS CHRIST IS EMPTY! After He arose from the dead, He appeared to many believers and witnesses. To John, His disciple, He said these words:

"Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death" (Revelation 1:17, 18).

If you wish to accept Christ as your Savior from sin, you must let Him come into your heart. "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me" (Revelation 3:20).

## Necessary Steps To Salvation

1. ACKNOWLEDGE: "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). "God be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13). You must acknowledge in the light of God's Word that you are a sinner.

2. REPENT: “But unless you repent you will all likewise perish” (Luke 13:3). “Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out” (Acts 3:19). You must see the awfulness of sin and then repent of it.

3. CONFESS: “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). “With the mouth confession is made unto salvation” (Romans 10:10). Confess your sins to God.

4. FORSAKE: “Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord ... for he will abundantly pardon” (Isaiah 55:7). Sorrow for sin is not enough in itself. We must want to be done with it once and for all.

5. BELIEVE: “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16). “That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved” (Romans 10:9). Believe in the finished work of Christ on the cross.

6. RECEIVE: “He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name” (John 1:11, 12). Christ must be received personally into the heart by faith, if the experience of the New Birth is to be yours. (FGBMFI)

Now, if you will pray this prayer, it will help you to receive Jesus Christ into your soul and life:

Dear Heavenly Father,	have loved me.
I thank You that You love me.	And, Father, show me step by step the
I ask Your Son Jesus Christ to come	plan You made for my life.
into my life. I know I have sinned and	I give You myself and my life.
committed deeds displeasing to You.	I worship and praise You, my Creator
I ask You now to forgive me of these	and Lord.
sins and to cleanse my life.	I will continually thank You for
Help me to follow You and Your	sacrificing Your Son on the cross that I
teachings.	might have eternal life with You
Protect me from Satan and evil.	Help me to win others to Christ.
Teach me to put You first in all my	I await the return of Christ to take me to
thoughts and actions.	Heaven.
Help me to love my fellow man, as You	Come soon, Lord Jesus. Amen

## How To Receive The Baptism In The Holy Spirit

1. You must be born again. This means to ask Jesus to forgive your sins, and then accept God's forgiveness, knowing "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God," and "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 3:23 and 10:13).

2. If now you have accepted Christ as Savior, the Holy Spirit lives in you. John 14:7; 1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19.

3. The Holy Spirit is a Person and will speak for Himself if you allow Him to.

4. The Holy Spirit will use your lips, tongue and voice if you permit Him – just as when you speak in English.

5. When you are filled with the Holy Spirit, in faith you must begin to do the speaking. Acts 2:4 says, "They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and (they) began to speak."

6. Receiving Christ as Savior required an act of faith. Healing results from an act of faith. Speaking in tongues takes an act of faith.

7. When in faith you begin to speak in tongues, the Holy Spirit will give the utterance – the words to say. That's where the supernatural comes in.

8. Every believer is commanded to "be filled with the Spirit," Ephesians 5:18, even Jesus' mother, Mary, and His flesh and blood brothers. James, Josiah, Simon and Judas (Matthew 13:55), (Acts 1:14) and His disciples received (Acts 2:4). Receiving the Holy Spirit is not an option.

9. Relax. "This is the rest ..." Isaiah 28:12

10. The Holy Spirit is a gift. Acts 8:20; 2:38, 39; 11:17; Luke 11:13. You don't beg or work for a gift. You just receive it.

11. Begin each day by praying in the Spirit to edify yourself – it's like charging your spiritual batteries. 1 Corinthians 14:4, 18.

12. Receive now, by worshipping Jesus in your heart and speaking forth in faith in the unknown tongues as the Holy Spirit in you provides the words.

THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST- ENGLISH

