

What will Jesus do upon His return?

Vintage Jesus, Week 6

April 11, 2007

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

-Revelation 22:20

The promise of Jesus' return

Jesus ó John 14:3

Two angels ó Acts 1:11

Paul ó 1 Thessalonians 4:16

James ó James 5:8

Peter ó 2 Peter 3:10

John ó 1 John 3:2

When will Jesus return? Matthew 24:44; 25:13; 12:40

What will Jesus do upon His return?

Woody Allen

Thomas Carlyle

Mike Tyson

Carson Daly

President Jimmy Carter

Mark Twain

Paul Boutin

While scripture is not clear regarding when Jesus will return, it is clear about what He will do upon His return:

- 1) **Jesus will judge everyone who has ever lived** ó Revelation 20:11-15
- 2) **Jesus will punish non-Christians in hell according to their wickedness** ó Romans 2:5-7; Revelation 14:10
- 3) **Jesus will reward Christians in heaven according to their righteousness** ó 2 Corinthians 5:9-10
- 4) **Jesus and Christians will judge the angels and the world** ó 1 Corinthians 6:2-3
- 5) **Jesus will lift the curse and its effects** ó Revelation 22:3, 21:4-5
- 6) **Jesus will restore creation** ó Romans 8:19-21; 2 Peter 3:12-13
- 7) **Jesus will give Christians glorified, resurrected bodies** ó 1 Thessalonians 4:16
- 8) **Jesus' kingdom will extend over all people for all eternity** ó Matthew 25:34

Knowing the greatness that awaits us at the Second Coming of Jesus, the practical question remains: **how should we live until Jesus returns?** Paul wrestled with this exact same question in Philippians 1:20-25; he was torn between his desire to exchange this sinful, cursed, fallen world for heaven, and the work that God had given him to do on the earth that remained undone. Paul's solution was to live as a citizen of heaven (Philippians 3:20) while on the earth, bringing some of the joy and healing of the kingdom to the earth. In this way, Paul was not just waiting for his eternal life, but celebrating that eternal life is both a quality and duration of life that begins the moment Jesus saves us here on earth and continues forever in His kingdom. By living with our hearts and minds heavenward and our hands and feet thrust deep into the earth, we can walk with God so closely that our transition from this world to the next is as simple as taking another step on a journey (Genesis 5:24; Hebrews 11:5). Therefore, in the meantime, citizens of the kingdom and ambassadors of King Jesus on the earth practice for the return of Jesus through love, humility, joy, pleasure, friendship, beauty, work, rest, worship, charity, and satisfaction in God.