

INSIGHTS INTO THE LIFE OF CHRIST (CCC) [Paul E. Engle 4/23]

Session #13 The Second Coming of Christ

1. *“Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold. Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world. The blood-dimmed tide is loosed; and everywhere, The ceremony of innocence is drowned.”*
2. Pew Religious Forum reported what percent? \_\_\_\_\_

**I. CHRIST CLEARLY TAUGHT THAT HE WOULD RETURN TO EARTH A SECOND TIME**

A. Look at his teaching in the \_\_\_\_\_ near the end of earthly ministry.

\* Lk. 21:27

\* Mt. 24:27

\* Mt. 24:30-31

\* Mt 24:44

\* Mk. 13:26-27

B. Look at his teaching in \_\_\_\_\_ – John 14:2-4

C. Three biblical terms are used to describe this event:

1. *Parousia*: \_\_\_\_\_

2. *Apocalypsis*: \_\_\_\_\_

3. *Epiphaneia*: \_\_\_\_\_

**II. WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT CHRIST WILL COME?**

A. Some have attempted to avoid what seems to be the clear meaning.

1.

2.

B. Scripture teaches that the return of Christ will be a definite historical event in the future.

It's characterized as something that will be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

\* Acts 1:11

\* Rev. 1:7

**III. WHEN WILL CHRIST'S RETURN OCCUR?**

A. History is full of examples of people who tried to set a date.

1. 1697

2. 1844-

3. 1981-

4. 1988-

5. 2011

B. All these people could have spared themselves and their followers disappointment if they had taken the word of Scripture seriously.

Mt. 24:36, 44

Mt. 24:44

**III. WHAT ARE EVENTS PRECEDING CHRIST'S COMING?**

A. Wars, famines, earthquakes, and other cosmic disturbances (Mt. 24:6-8, 29)

B. \_\_\_\_\_ (Mt. 24:9-13, 21-22)

C. Many supposed “believers” will turn away from the faith (24:10-13)

- D. \_\_\_\_\_ (Mt. 24:11, 22-26)
- E. The gospel will \_\_\_\_\_ (*ethnesin*) (Mt. 24:14)
- (Out of 17,000 people groups in the world how many remain unreached? \_\_\_\_\_)

#### IV. WILL THERE BE A TWO-STAGE RETURN WITH A SECRET RAPTURE?

- A. Who was **John Nelson Darby** (1800-1882) \_\_\_\_\_
- What did he believe about Israel and the church? \_\_\_\_\_
- What were the two stages? \_\_\_\_\_
- What was this view called? \_\_\_\_\_

#### B. Where does the term “rapture” come from? \_\_\_\_\_

1. The word “caught up” is the Greek *harpazo*. The Latin Vulgate translates it with the Latin verb \_\_\_\_\_ Acts 8:39; 2 Cor. 12:2-3; Rev. 12:5.
2. What are the problems with the secret rapture view of second coming?

- a \_\_\_\_\_
- b \_\_\_\_\_
- c \_\_\_\_\_
- d \_\_\_\_\_

#### V. WHAT CAN WE EXPECT AT CHRIST’S RETURN?

- A. The dead will be raised with the wicked separated from the righteous.
- B. God’s people will be given transformed resurrection bodies.
- C. God’s people will be rewarded for their faithfulness.
- D. The suffering of believers will be replaced with eternal blessing and praise in a new heaven and earth.

#### VI HOW SHOULD KNOWING THE PROMISE OF CHRIST’S RETURN IMPACT US?

- A. It gives us \_\_\_\_\_ (cf. Titus 2:13)
- B. It brings \_\_\_\_\_ to us. (cf. 1 Thess. 4:18)
- C. It serves as an incentive \_\_\_\_\_. (cf. 1 Jn. 2:28 ; Mt. 24:44)

#### CONCLUSION

1. Helmut Thielicke “*When the drama of history is over, Jesus Christ will stand alone on the stage. All the great figures of history....will realize that they have been but actors in a drama produced by another.*”
2. C.S. Lewis essay World’s Last Night “*It seems to me impossible to retain in any recognisable form our belief in the Divinity of Christ and the truth of the Christian revelation while abandoning, or even persistently neglecting, the promised, and threatened, Return.*”
3. And yet some still try to deny it or ignore it. Lewis has this to say.....
4. Three metaphors: candle, record, curtain