

# God's Story, Our Story

## Lesson 30: The Second Coming

### *Jesus the Messiah Will Come Again in Glory*



<p><i>Mt 24</i></p> <p><i>CCC 668-670</i></p> <p><i>CCC 671-672</i> <i>Rom 8:19-22</i></p> <p><i>Mt 24:6-8</i></p> <p><i>Mt 24:14</i></p> <p><i>CCC 675, Mt 24:9-10</i></p> <p><i>Mt 24:10-13</i> <i>1 Tim 4:1-2</i></p> <p><i>Mt 24:23-27</i></p> <p><i>CCC 675, Mt 24:15,</i> <i>1 Jn 4:3, 2 Thess 2:1-10</i></p> <p><i>Rev 13:1-10</i></p> <p><i>Rev 13:11-18</i></p> <p><i>CCC 677</i></p> <p><i>CCC 674, Rom 11:25-26, Ezek 36:24-28; 37</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. At the end of time, Jesus will return and the kingdom of God will come in its fullness.</li> <li>2. Jesus taught about the end of times. Many tribulations and false prophets will arise before the coming of the Son of Man.</li> <li>3. Christ now reigns on earth through the Church, the seed and the beginning of the kingdom of God. The age of the Church is the final age of the world which anticipates its complete renewal.</li> <li>4. Christ's reign will be fulfilled "with power and great glory" by the King's return to earth. For now, this reign is still under attack by evil powers, and the pilgrim Church groans and travails with all of creation, awaiting the revelation of the sons of God.</li> <li>5. Before the Lord's return there will be many wars and rumors of wars.</li> <li>6. The Gospel will be preached to all nations.</li> <li>7. The Church will pass through a final trial that will shake the faith of many believers. There will be increasing persecution against Christians.</li> <li>8. Many Christians will lose their faith and many churches will fall into apostasy. Many will attempt to undermine the Church from within, by distorting or silencing her true teaching.</li> <li>9. False prophets and messiahs will deceive many, causing tremendous religious confusion.</li> <li>10. The Antichrist and the "mystery of iniquity": a religious deception offering men an apparent solution to their problems (false peace?) at the price of apostasy from the truth. The reign of the Antichrist will be a pseudo-messianism by which man glorifies himself in place of God and of his Messiah.</li> <li>11. The "sea beast": a one-world government that will receive power and authority from Satan. The whole world will worship it. It will blaspheme God and make war with His saints.</li> <li>12. The "earth beast": a one-world religious system that will deceive humanity with great signs and cause it to worship the sea beast. Those who do not worship the image of the beast will be killed. It will cause all to receive a mark on their right hand or foreheads (666), and only they will be able to buy or sell.</li> <li>13. The Church will enter the glory of the kingdom through a final Passover, when she will follow her Lord in his death and Resurrection. The kingdom will be fulfilled not by a historic triumph of the Church, but by God's victory over evil at the Last Judgment.</li> <li>14. Jesus will not return until the Jews recognize him as Messiah. The restoration of Israel will come in two stages: first, a physical</li> </ol>
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<p>Ezek 38-39, Zech 12:1-10, 14:3-4, Rev 19:20</p> <p>1 Thess 4:16-17 Dan 9:27</p> <p>Mk 13:24-27 Mt 24:26-31 2 Thess 2:1-12</p> <p>Rev 20</p> <p>CCC 988 – 1004 Jn 6:39-40, Rom 8:11 1 Cor 15:35-37, 51-55</p> <p>CCC 678-82, Jn 5:29, Dan 12:2, Mt 25</p> <p>CCC 1040, Mt 24:32-44 Mt 25:13</p> <p>Mt 25:1-13</p> <p>CCC 1042, Phil 2:9-11</p> <p>CCC 1043-47, Rev 21:1</p> <p>CCC 1045, Rev 21:2-4</p> <p>Rev 22:1-5</p>	<p>restoration; then, a spiritual restoration.</p> <p>15. After Israel has been ingathered into their land, all nations will gather against Jerusalem. At His Second Coming, the Lord will destroy all the nations that come against her, and He will cast the two beasts into the lake of fire.</p> <p>16. The Rapture theory: during the reign of the Antichrist, will the Church be “raptured” – taken away from the earth?</p> <p>17. Problems with the Rapture: it is a very recent theory; it splits the Second Coming into different events; the NT mentions the tribulation and the Rapture as happening together.</p> <p>18. The uncertain question of the “millennium”: will Christ set up his kingdom on earth for 1,000 years after he has destroyed the antichrist and bound Satan?</p> <p>19. The Resurrection of the Body: After death, the righteous will live for ever with the risen Christ and he will raise them up on the last day. Our mortal body will come to life again, reunited with our soul, and it will be transformed into a glorious, spiritual body.</p> <p>20. The Final Judgment: Christ will come at the end of time to judge the living and the dead, rendering to each man according to his works. The truth of each man’s relationship with God will be revealed. The sheep will be separated from the goat.</p> <p>21. The Lord will come unexpectedly like a thief in the night: Only the Father knows the day and the hour. We should be aware of the signs of the times and be watchful, praying “<i>Maranatha!</i>” (“Our Lord, come!”).</p> <p>22. The parable of the foolish virgins emphasizes the importance of preparing oneself for the coming of the bridegroom.</p> <p>23. At the end of time, the Kingdom of God will come in its fullness and the righteous will reign forever with Christ. The Church will receive her perfection in the glory of heaven and all will know and acknowledge Jesus as Lord.</p> <p>24. The “new heavens and a new earth”: The universe will be renewed and restored to its original state of justice.</p> <p>25. The “New Jerusalem”: The unity of the human race will be restored. Those united with Christ will form “the holy city” of God, “the Bride, the wife of the Lamb,” no longer wounded by sin.</p> <p>26. Redeemed mankind will return to the “tree of life”: The beatific vision of God will be the ever-flowing well-spring of happiness, peace, and mutual communion.</p>
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### **Questions for Discussion**

1. How often do you think of the end of times? Does it seem relevant to you or more like some far-fetched fantasy?
2. How does awareness of the end-times and of the Lord’s coming affect your everyday life?
3. How close – or far – do you think we are from the end-times and from the Lord’s coming? Can we see any signs of the end-times happening in our own day?