

The Coming of the Lord is at Hand James 5:7-11 (NKJV)

7 Therefore be patient, brethren, **until the coming of the Lord**. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. 8 You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for **the coming of the Lord is at hand**. 9 Do not grumble against one another, brethren, lest you be condemned. Behold, **the Judge is standing at the door!** 10 My brethren, take the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an example of suffering and patience. 11 Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord--that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful.

We are not very good at waiting. But people will wait for something really significant.

God promised Adam and Eve that woman would give birth one day to a deliverer some 4,000 years before that promise was fulfilled.

Galatians 4:4 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,

This point was clearly understood by the people of God at the end of Genesis.

Genesis 49:10 The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor a lawgiver from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes; And to Him [shall be] the obedience of the people.

But it would be at least 2,000 years until Jesus would be born.

But He came, just as foretold in the Old Testament.

Therefore James says we too should be patient unto the coming of the Lord.

So this morning we want to talk about the blessed promise. The Day of the Lord's Return.

I. His return is sure

A. Many have given up hope that this will ever happen.

1. Jesus warned about doing this.

a. Matthew 24:48-51 (NKJV)

(1) 48 But if that evil servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying his coming,' 49 and begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, 50 the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour that he is not aware of, 51 and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

- B. Peter spoke of a time when people would no longer believe in the return of Jesus.
 - 1. 2 Peter 3:3-6 (NKJV)
 - a. 3 knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, 4 and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation." 5 For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, 6 by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water.
 - C. Philippians 3:20 (NKJV)
 - 1. 20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,
- II. His return will be personal and visible.
- A. So said the angels in Acts 1
 - 1. Acts 1:10-11 (NKJV)
 - a. 10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, 11 who also said, "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."
 - B. As Paul describes
 - 1. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (NKJV)
 - a. 13 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. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. 15 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. 16 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. 17 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. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.
 - C. Every eye shall see Him.
 - 1. Not a spiritual return.

2. Not simply when a saint dies.
3. Revelation 1:7
 - a. 7 Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.
4. Daniel 7:13
 - a. 13 “I was watching in the night visions, And behold, [One] like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him.
5. Matthew 24:30
 - a. 30 “Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.
6. Matthew 26:64
 - a. 64 Jesus said to him, “[It is as] you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

III. He will come with power and great glory.

A. Matthew 24:29-33

1. 33 “Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 30 “Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. 31 “And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. 32 ¶ “Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer [is] near. 33 “So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near — at the doors!

B. Daniel 7:13-14

1. 13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, [one] like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. 14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion [is] an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away,

and his kingdom [that] which shall not be destroyed.

C. Titus 2:13 (NKJV)

1. 13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

IV. He is coming to take charge and set up a kingdom of righteousness.

A. Revelation 11:15 Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdoms of this world have become [the kingdoms] of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!”

B. Revelation 12:10 Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

Romans 13:11-14 (NKJV)

11 And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. 12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. 13 Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. 14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.