The Second Coming of Jesus Christ – Advent 1

20 Bible facts regarding the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:

1. Jesus Himself will come again (1 Thess.4:16)

"For the Lord Himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first."

2. Jesus Himself will rescue us (John 14:3)

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with Me that you also may be where I am."

3. We will meet Him in the air (1 Thess.4:17)

"After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord for ever."

4. He will minister to those who are watching (Luke 12:37)

"It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when He comes. I tell you the truth, He will dress Himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them."

5. He will return to the earth (Acts 1:11)

"'Men of Galilee', they said, 'why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus who has taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

6. He will return to the Mount of Olives (Zech.14:4)

"On the day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south."

7. He will come in justice & mercy on His chosen ones. (2 Thes.1:6-8)

"God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with His powerful angels. He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the Gospel of our Lord Jesus."

8. He will come with power & great glory (Matt.24:30)

"At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, ad all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory".

9. He will come to gather His elect with His angels (Matt.24:31) * "And He will send His angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather His elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other."

10. He will destroy the anti-Christ (2 Thes.2:8)

"And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of His mouth and destroy by the splendour of His coming."

11. He will sit on the throne of His glory (Matt.25:31)

"When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, He will sit on His throne in heavenly glory."

More about this next week too!

12. He will gather all the nations and judge them (Matt.25:32)

"All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats."

13. Every eye will see Him (Rev.1:7)

"Look, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of Him. So shall it be! Amen."

14. The Second Coming will come at an unexpected time. (Matt.24:44)

"So you must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect Him."

15. The Second Coming will bring about the destruction of the old order (2 Peter 3:12)

"That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat."

16. The Second Coming 'delay' is an act of God's mercy (2 Peter 3:9)

"The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

17. The Second Coming of Jesus Christ completes the maturity of His Church (Phil.1:6)

"...being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

18. The Elect will accompany Christ Jesus at the Second Coming. (Col.3:4)

"When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory."

19. The Elect will be rewarded at the Second Coming (2 Tim.4:8)

"Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day- and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for His appearing."

20. The Second Coming rescues the Elect from God's anger (1 Thes.1:9b-10)

"They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead - Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath."

*Q: Who are the elect?

The Elect - God's Chosen People

To the Christians dispersed among the nations Peter writes:

"But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy" (1 Peter 2:9,10).

What a privilege it is to be God's chosen people. "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, and the people whom He has chosen as His own inheritance" (Psalm 33:12).

The concept of God's chosen people is first found in the Old Testament. God chose Israel as His special people.

"And because He loved your fathers, therefore He chose their descendants after them; and He brought you out of Egypt with His Presence, with His mighty power" (Deuteronomy 4:37).

"For you are a holy people to the Lord your God; the Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth" (Deuteronomy 7:6 // Deuteronomy 14:2).

Who are God's chosen people now?

In the Old Testament/ Covenant the Elect where the Israel of God.

In the New Testament/ Covenant things have opened up because of the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus!

Fulfilment theology – not replacement theology ©

There are many New Testament Scriptures which declare this wonderful truth!

We don't have to be Jewish to be acceptable to God, because He loves the Gentiles too!

When Christ gave up His spirit on the cross we are told,

"At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom." (Matt.27:51)

We don't need a temple any more – we don't need a curtain any more – we don't need animal sacrifices any more – we're a New

Covenant people! It doesn't matter if we're Jewish or Gentile – because God doesn't show favouritism (Romans 2:11)

Jesus Christ has demolished the barriers in every sense of the word (See Galatians 3:26-29 & Ephesians 2:11-22)

Now that the promised Messiah has come, God's chosen people:

- are they who accept Him as Lord and Saviour
- and who love Him enough to obey Him
- who don't just pay Him lip service & flattery, but honour him and His Word and seek to apply in to every area of their lives.
- Most importantly of all you have been born again (John 3:3 & 3:5) and have been made right with God through the death & resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Let me ask you the most important question one person can ask another - Are you truly born-again?

Born-anew?

Born from above?

Do you know that all your sins have been forgiven?

Do you know that when you pass from this world – as we all will do one day – that you'll be welcomed into the immediate presence of the Lord Jesus Christ – and He will say,

"Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things; I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord!" (Matt.25:23)

Many are called – few are chosen!

What we must do to prepare for His arrival?

Seven things we need to do to prepare for the Lord's Coming

1. Stand firm & hold on to sound teaching(2 Thes.2:13) (See also Matt.24:12-14)

"He called you to this through our Gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers, stand firm to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word or mouth or by letter."

2. Wait in holiness (Tit.2:11-14)

"For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope - the glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for Himself a people that are His very own, eager to do what is good."

3. Watch & Pray (Luke 21:34-36)

"Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with dissipation [cooling off, losing spiritual vitality, becoming lukewarm, nominalism, compromising with the world and it's standards], drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you unexpectedly like a trap. For it will come upon all those who live on the face of the whole earth [so much for the pre-trib theory!] Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all this is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."

4. Long for it (2 Tim.4:8) - Read earlier!

"Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day - and not only to me, but also all who have longed for His appearing."

5. Live worthy lives (2 Peter 3:11-12)

"Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. But in keeping with His promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

6. Fellowship (Heb.10:24-25)

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another - and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

7. Love one another (1 Peter 4:7-11)

"But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers. And above all things have fervent love for one another, for love will cover a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. As each one has received a gift, minister to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of god, If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen."