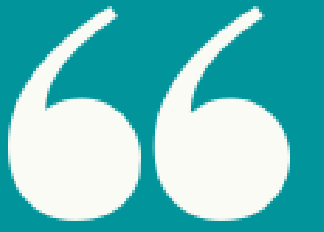


From Setback to Comeback

The Return of the Christ

Matthew 24:29-42



Matthew 24:29-42

29 “Immediately after the distress of those days

**“the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light;
the stars will fall from the sky,
and the heavenly bodies will be
shaken.’**



Matthew 24:29-42

30 “Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory.



Matthew 24:29-42

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.

32 “Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near.



Matthew 24:29-42

33 Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it is near, right at the door.

34 Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened.

35 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

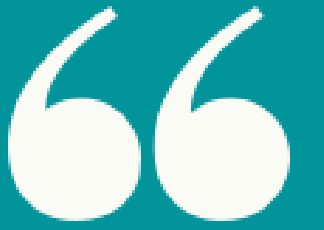


Matthew 24:29-42

36 “But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

37 As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

38 For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark;



Matthew 24:29-42

39 and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

40 Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left.

41 Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.

“

Matthew 24:29-42

42 “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.

I. Jesus promised His return (24:1-3).

- He foretells the future while speaking to his disciples on the Mount of Olives.
- His return is imminent (24:32-35)

The Return of Christ



Two Questions:

a) "When?"

b) "What will be the sign of your coming and the end of the age?"



The Return
of Christ

Note: 24:2

This prophecy of Jesus was fulfilled by the Roman prince Titus, who destroyed the temple in the Roman war of AD 67-70. In about AD 135, the emperor Hadrian completely destroyed the city of Jerusalem and built a new city on its foundation and named it AeliaCapitolina.



II. The signs of Christ's return (24:4-14).

- A time of apostasy (24:4-5, 11)
- A time of anarchy (24:6-8)
- A time of sorrows and natural disasters (7b)
- A time of affliction (24:9-10)
- A time of apathy (24:12-13)
- A time of accomplishment (24:14)
 - The gospel will be preached to all nations.

The Return
of Christ



III. The Time of Christ's Return (27-34)

- No one knows the day your Lord will come (42).
- The Father knows when? (36-40)
- It will surely happen in God's appointed time!

The Return of Christ



IV. The Challenge of Christ Return (42-51)

- Understanding is crucial.
- Because of God's word, we are 100% certain of what is to come.
- It looks like the Kingdom of God is losing, quite the opposite.
- Jesus is working on a heavenly timeline! He is on time.

The Return of Christ



V. How shall I prepare for Christ's return?

- You cannot afford not to be short-sighted at the same time, far-sighted. You need both types of vision!
- Develop a missional spirituality.
- Use what is temporary to prepare that which is permanent.
 - Be alert!
 - Be ready!
 - Be prepared!

The Return of Christ



Conclusion

Like the rising of the sun and it's going down, Jesus Christ is sure to return. And, if that happens to be today, do you think you are ready? Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus, Come!

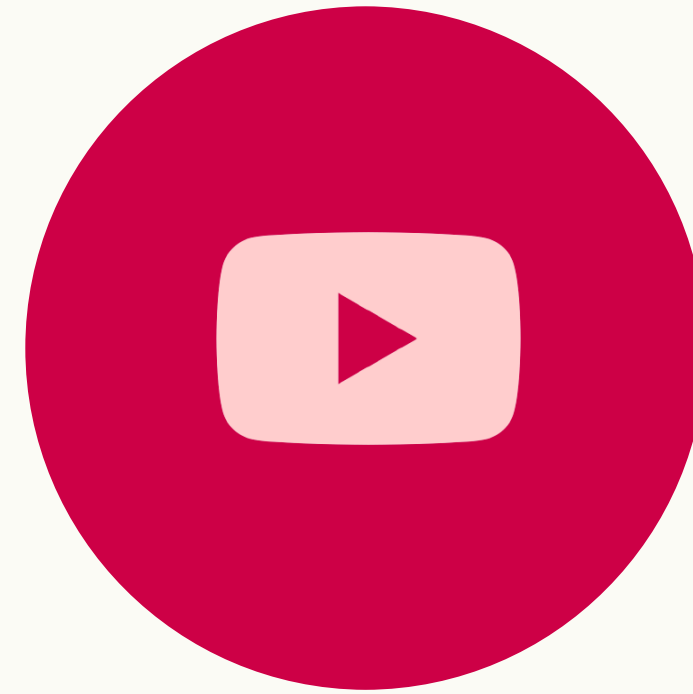
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