

The Coming of Jesus Christ

- I. Preliminary Considerations
 - A. Principles of Interpretation (*The Biblical Story of Prophecy*, Book 6, ch. 2)
 - 1. General principles
 - 2. Prophetic language
 - B. Prophecy in Context (Book 6, ch. 3)
 - 1. The context of the whole Bible
 - 2. The context of the Kingdom
 - 3. The context of the New Testament
- II. The Coming of Jesus Christ in His Own Words (Book 6, Section 2)
 - A. Jesus' Prophetic Judgment (Book 6, ch. 4)
 - 1. On the religious leadership
 - 2. On Jerusalem and the Temple
 - B. Jesus' Discourse about His Coming
 - 1. The context of Matthew 24-25, Mark 13, Luke 21 (Book 6, ch. 5)
 - 2. Signs before the End (Book 6, ch. 6)
 - a. General conditions – Matthew 24:5-12
 - b. The sign of the preaching of the gospel – Matthew 24:14
 - c. The sign of the abomination of desolation – Matthew 24:15; Mark 23:14; Luke 21:20-23 (Book 6 ch. 7)
 - d. The sign of a great tribulation – Matthew 24:21; Mark 13:19 (Book 6, ch. 8)
 - C. Specific References to the Timing of His Coming
 - 1. Matthew 24:32-34

2. Matthew 16:27-28

3. Matthew 10:16-23

III. The Coming of Jesus Christ: The Apostles' Words

A. Context of Covenant Transition (Book 6, ch. 13)

B. The Last Days

1. Peter – Acts 2:1-20; I Peter 1:20; II Peter 3:10-12

2. Hebrews – Hebrews 1:1-2

3. Paul – I Timothy 4:1; II Timothy 3:1

4. James – James 5:1-9

5. John – I John 2:17-18

C. Signs of Christ's Coming (1st Century Context)

1. False apostles – II Corinthians 11:13; Revelation 2:2

2. False teachers – Galatians 1:6-7; I Timothy 1:3ff

3. False prophets – II Peter 2:1; I John 4:1; Revelation 16:13;
19:20

4. Antichrists – I John 2:18

5. Wars, famines, earthquakes – Acts 11:28; Revelation 6:5-6, 8

6. Persecutions: examples of the Apostles (Book 6, pp. 118-119)

7. Persecutions: examples of 1st century churches (Book 6, pp.
119-121)

8. Apostasy – II Thessalonians 2:3, 7; I Timothy 4:1; II Timothy
3:1-5

9. Gospel already preached in the whole world – Romans 16:25-
26; Colossians 1:5-6, 23

10. Great tribulation – Revelation 1:9; 14:20

D. More Evidence Regarding Christ's Coming

1. Signs and language (Book 6, ch. 15)
 2. More time statements (Book 6, ch. 16)
- E. The Goal of Prophecy (Book 6, ch. 17)

What We Believe About the Coming of Christ

We believe that Jesus Christ returned in AD 70. His coming was validated by the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple, according to His promise to His Apostles and the first century Christian church. That event marked the final conclusion of the Old Covenant age and the establishment of the New Covenant age in which we now live. Jesus now reigns as King over Israel in the present New Jerusalem and in the New Heavens and New Earth in order to manifest His Kingdom now in and through every local church body.