

## Five Minute Foundation Series



### 8. THE SECOND COMING

In the previous 'Five Minute Foundation' we learnt about the resurrection of the dead. This will take place when Jesus returns again. Let's look now at the second coming.

#### 1. How do we know this will happen?

##### Prophets

The Bible is packed full of prophecies. In the Old Testament there are many prophecies about the birth and crucifixion of Jesus, however there are even more about his second coming.

##### Jesus

Jesus often spoke about the time when he could come again – in his parables and his teaching. Just before he died, he made a promise:

**John 14:2-3**                    "In my Father's house are many rooms; If it were not so, I would have told you. 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."

Many years after Jesus had ascended into heaven, he appeared to John on the Island of Patmos – and he said to John, "I am coming soon." In fact this is repeated 3 times in the last 14 verses of the book of Revelation. "Behold I am coming soon."

**Revelation 22:7, 12, 20**        "Behold, I am coming soon!" "Behold, I am coming soon!"  
"Yes, I am coming soon."

Our concept of 'soon' is different to Gods'!! But we know God always keeps his word – Jesus will return.

#### 2. How will this take place?

##### Physical

This is not a spiritual coming – it will be physical and literal. As Jesus ascended back into heaven, we are told two angels appeared:

**Acts 1:11**                    "This **same** Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the **same** way you have seen him go into heaven."

This **same** Jesus – the Jesus who has the resurrected body, who you can see and touch, who can eat and drink with you – this same Jesus will come back in the same way you have seen him go. In other words he will descend from the sky and stand on the earth.

There is a prophecy in Zechariah that tells us that he will return and stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem. This is the mount that overlooks the temple. It will be physical, literal – and also visible.

### **Visible**

The disciples saw Jesus leave, but the Bible tells us when he returns everyone will see him.

**Revelation 1:7**           “Look, he is coming with the clouds and every eye will see him.”

How is that possible? It is today. CNN simply needs to film it and it will be screened all over the world instantly.

### **Audible**

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem the angels sang in the skies and only the shepherds heard it. However when he returns it will be with power and great glory. He is coming as King.

**1 Thessalonians 4:16**           “For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God.”

### **3. When will this take place?**

Of course we all ask the same question – when will this be? The Bible gives us many signs that will indicate when it is near, and many of these have been fulfilled. But for those who don't know Christ, the Bible says it will be unexpected – they will be unprepared. Jesus said it would be like it was in the days of Noah. People ignored Noah's warnings and continued life – eating and drinking and getting married, as if nothing would happen. Sadly, when the flood came it swept them away.

For you and I who are believers, who know the word of God, we should be prepared. In Thessalonians it tells us that we are not in darkness that this day should surprise us.

**2 Peter 3:14**                   “So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this (*to the second coming*), make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.”

“Amen – come Lord Jesus!”