



## WHAT GOD SAYS ABOUT... "THE SECOND COMING"

**T**he second coming of Christ is the blessed hope of the Christian. It is the marriage of the century between Christ—the Bridegroom, and the church—His beautiful bride. This wonderful, soon coming reality will be the grand event of the ages and the glorious climax of the gospel! The second coming of Christ is mentioned over 300 times in the New Testament alone. Sadly, however, there are many in the religious world who no longer believe that the second coming is a literal, visible, and audible event that will occur one day in the future. Some believe and teach that it is a "spiritual event" that occurs when a person accepts Christ in their heart. Others believe and teach that it will be a "secret rapture" that could occur at any moment. The question is, what does the scriptures teach regarding this important and climatic subject? Let us study and learn *What God Says About... "The Second Coming."*

### DANIEL 2 AND THE SECOND COMING

**Note:** Daniel 2 tells the story of King Nebuchadnezzar's dream that the prophet Daniel interpreted. One night the Babylonian king dreamed a dream that troubled him, but upon awaking he couldn't remember his dream. He immediately summoned his wise men and commanded them to tell him what he dreamed and the interpretation, or they would be executed. Daniel, a Jewish captive and also a wise man in Babylon, learned of the decree and asked the king to grant him time to return with the interpretation of the dream. After his request was granted, he and the three Hebrew Boys prayed, and God revealed the dream to Daniel in a night vision (Daniel 2:17-19). After which, Daniel was brought in before King Nebuchadnezzar and told him the dream. Daniel revealed to the king that his dream was for the last days (Daniel 2:28).

- 1. According to Daniel 2:31, what did King Nebuchadnezzar see in his dream?**

"Thou, O king, sawest, and behold \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. This great image, whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible." *Daniel 2:31*

**Note:** In Daniel 2:29-35, Daniel tells Nebuchadnezzar his dream and then gives him the interpretation (Daniel 2:36-45). In Daniel 2, Nebuchadnezzar's image outlines world history from Daniel's day in Babylon to the second coming of Christ. These four successive kingdoms, which directly impact God's people, are symbolized as devaluing metals. They rule the world until the image is destroyed at the second coming of Christ. Incidentally, the image of Daniel 2 lays the foundation for the prophecies in the book of Daniel. In other words, each prophecy builds on Daniel 2 and then expands, adding further details for the readers' understanding.

## 2. The great image was made of what four metals? The feet of the image was partly made of what two substances?

<sup>32</sup>"This image's head was of fine \_\_\_\_\_, his breast and his arms of \_\_\_\_\_, his belly and his thighs of \_\_\_\_\_, <sup>33</sup>His legs of \_\_\_\_\_, his feet part of \_\_\_\_\_ and part of \_\_\_\_\_." Daniel 2:32, 33

**Note:** The four metals on the image represent the four world kingdoms that would rule the world from Daniel's day, in Babylon, until Jesus returns. These four kingdoms would have a direct impact on God's people throughout history. The actual interpretation of the dream begins in Daniel 2:38 and reveals that the head of gold symbolizes Babylon of which Nebuchadnezzar was the first king (605-539 B.C.). The chest and arms of silver symbolized Medo-Persia (539-331 B.C.). The belly and thighs of brass symbolized Greece (331-168 B.C.). The long legs of iron symbolized Pagan Rome (168 B.C. – 476 A.D.). The feet part of iron and clay with ten toes represent the ten divisions of the Roman Empire which fell in 476 A.D. and would remain divided until Jesus returns (476 A.D. – Second Coming).

## 3. What was cut out of the mountain without hands? Where did the stone strike the image?

<sup>34</sup>"Thou sawest till that \_\_\_\_\_ was cut out without hands, which smote the image \_\_\_\_\_ that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. <sup>35</sup>Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth." Daniel 2:34, 35

**Note:** The stone supernaturally cut out without hands that strikes the image on its feet symbolizes Christ's eternal kingdom that will overthrow all earthly kingdoms and will rule forever. The significance of where the stone strikes the image cannot be overemphasized. It strikes the image on

its feet—in the last days during the time period of the ten divisions of Rome known as modern Europe—“in the days of these kings” (Daniel 2:41-44). According to world history, outlined on the image of Daniel 2, we are presently living during the time period in which the next significant event to occur is the second coming of Jesus Christ, which happens “in the days of these kings” (Daniel 2:44). In other words, the second coming of Christ is imminent based on the sequence of world history and the sure word of prophecy.

**4. What words does the prophet Daniel use to indicate the reliability of the king’s dream and the interpretation?**

“Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is \_\_\_\_\_, and the interpretation thereof \_\_\_\_\_.” *Daniel 2:45*

## THE BLESSED HOPE

**5. What does Paul call the much anticipated return of Jesus?**

<sup>11</sup>“For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, <sup>12</sup>Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; <sup>13</sup>Looking for \_\_\_\_\_, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.” *Titus 2:11-13*

**Note:** *In Titus 2:11-13, the apostle Paul speaks of the “blessed hope” of the second coming of Jesus Christ. This has been the hope of every true believer throughout the centuries. It should motivate each to live with determined purpose, anticipation, and expectation of our Lord’s soon return. The “blessed hope” should never grow dim, but it should burn deep within our hearts each and every day.*

**6. What does the apostle John say regarding Jesus that provides abundant assurance to the Christian?**

“Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when \_\_\_\_\_, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.” *1 John 3:2*

**7. What does everyone with the hope of the second coming burning deep in their heart do?**

"And every man that hath this hope in him \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_."

1 John 3:3

**Note:** All who truly claim the promise of Christ's second coming and allow the blessed hope to burn deep within their heart will surrender their will to Christ. They will allow Him to purify and cleanse their heart from sin.

## JESUS IS COMING SOON

8. **According to Jesus' parable of the fig tree, how can we know with certainty that summer is near?**

"Now learn a parable of the fig tree; \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, ye know that summer is nigh."

Matthew 24:32

9. **Just like the branch and leaves of the fig tree, what do the signs of the times reveal about the certainty and nearness of the second coming?**

"So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, even \_\_\_\_\_."

Matthew 24:33

## REVELATION AND THE SECOND COMING

10. **The visions of the book of Revelation were given unto John to show what to God's servants?**

"The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to show unto his servants \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John." Revelation 1:1

11. **What does Jesus say to the church of Philadelphia that indicates that His second coming is imminent?**

"\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown." Revelation 3:11

12. **What does Jesus say in Revelation 22:7 that indicates that His second coming is imminent?**

"\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_: blessed is he that



## THE SECOND COMING IS A LITERAL EVENT

### 18. In what manner will Jesus return to earth?

<sup>10</sup>"And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; <sup>11</sup>Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come \_\_\_\_\_ as ye have seen him go into heaven." *Acts 1:10, 11*

**Note:** Some believe and teach that the second coming of Christ is not a literal event, but only a spiritual event. They assert that when a person accepts Christ the second coming occurs in their hearts. Satan has deceived many into believing this falsehood. Many have misconceptions regarding what the Bible teaches regarding the manner of Christ's return.

## THE SECOND COMING IS A VISIBLE EVENT

### 19. How many people will see Jesus when He returns?

"Behold, he cometh with clouds; and \_\_\_\_\_ shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen." *Revelation 1:7*

### 20. How does Jesus describe the visible and universal extent of His second coming?

<sup>26</sup>"Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not. <sup>27</sup>For \_\_\_\_\_ cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." *Matthew 24:26, 27*

## THE SECOND COMING IS AN AUDIBLE EVENT

### 21. How does the Bible indicate that the second coming will be an audible event?

"Our God shall come, and \_\_\_\_\_: a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about him." *Psalms 50:3*

### 22. Whose voice will the dead hear when the Lord returns?

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of \_\_\_\_\_: and they that hear shall live." *John 5:25*

**Note:** The Lord's voice will be so loud at His second coming that it will awaken the righteous dead who are sleeping in Jesus. If His voice is loud

enough to awaken the righteous dead, it is apparent that all the living will clearly hear His voice. There will be no mistaking the second coming or the voice of Jesus. There will not be a secret rapture. The Lord's voice will sound like music to the righteous, but it will terrify the living wicked!

**23. Who will come forth from the grave in the resurrection of life? Who will come forth in the resurrection of damnation?**

<sup>28</sup>"Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, <sup>29</sup>And shall come forth; \_\_\_\_\_, unto the resurrection of life; and \_\_\_\_\_, unto the resurrection of damnation." *John 5:28, 29*

**Note:** *There will be two different resurrections of the dead. The resurrection of the righteous will occur at the second coming, and the resurrection of the wicked will occur at the end of the 1,000-year millennium (see Lesson 29).*

**24. What words do Paul use to indicate that the second coming will be audible?**

<sup>16</sup>"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a \_\_\_\_\_, with the \_\_\_\_\_ of the archangel, and with the \_\_\_\_\_ of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." *1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17*

**Note:** *When Jesus returns at the second coming, the trumpet will sound and the righteous dead will rise incorruptible from their graves first. Next, the righteous living will be changed—immortality will be bestowed, and we will be caught up together with those raised from the dead to meet the Lord in the air (1 Corinthians 15:51-54; 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17). The wicked dead will remain in their graves, and the wicked living will be destroyed.*

**THE SECOND COMING IS A CATAclySMIC EVENT**

**25. What happens to the heavens when Jesus returns? What will move out of their places?**

"And the heaven \_\_\_\_\_ when it is rolled together; and \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ were moved out of their places." *Revelation 6:14*

**26. The earth will stagger like whom when Jesus returns?**

<sup>19</sup>"The earth is utterly broken down, the earth is clean dissolved, the earth is moved exceedingly. <sup>20</sup>The earth shall reel to and fro like \_\_\_\_\_, and shall be removed like a cottage;

and the transgression thereof shall be heavy upon it; and it shall fall, and not rise again." *Isaiah 24:19, 20*

## THE SECOND COMING IS A GLORIOUS EVENT

### 27. In whose three-fold glory will Jesus return the second time?

"For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come \_\_\_\_\_, and in his \_\_\_\_\_, and of the \_\_\_\_\_." *Luke 9:26*

## THE SECOND COMING IS A JOYOUS EVENT

### 28. When Christ returns, how will the righteous feel? How will they respond to His salvation?

"And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in his salvation." *Isaiah 25:9*

### 29. God will send whom to gather His elect when He returns?

"And he shall send \_\_\_\_\_ with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." *Matthew 24:31*

**Note:** *This will be the most exciting day ever! God's people will finally go home to live with Jesus for evermore. They have made a covenant with Him by sacrifice and will now be gathered together and taken to the home He has prepared for them (Psalm 50:4, 5; John 14:1-3).*

## SUMMARY

*The second coming of Christ, mentioned over 300 times in the New Testament, is the blessed hope of the Christian. Believers are admonished to keep this hope burning deep within their soul. The stone that struck the feet of the image in Daniel 2 symbolizes God's eternal kingdom that will destroy all earthly kingdoms and rule forever at the second coming. This prophecy also reveals that the second coming is the next significant event that will occur based on the sequence of world history. The parable of the fig tree and its tender branches indicates that the second coming is near, even at the doors. The book of Revelation emphasizes that Jesus will return quickly, thrust in His sickle, and reap the earth when the harvest of the earth is ripe. Contrary to popular belief, the second coming of Christ will be a literal, visible, audible, cataclysmic, glorious, and joyous event!*

### 30. Dear friend, will you be ready to meet Jesus and return with Him at the second coming? \_\_\_\_\_