

## WE WILL CONSIDER

- Jesus Christ will return to earth from heaven to set up God's Kingdom.
- He will raise the dead and judge everyone who knows the Gospel.
- The hope of all true believers is to be counted worthy when Jesus returns and they receive everlasting life in God's Kingdom.

# The **B**iBLE EXHIBITION

## THE TRUTH ABOUT

# *the Second Coming*

### *What is the Second Coming all about?*

The second coming of Jesus Christ is an important part of the Gospel. It will be an amazing time when God's Kingdom will finally be set up on earth forever. At that time God's servants will be given eternal life and will reign with Christ on earth.

Jesus Christ rose from the dead and spent 40 days teaching his disciples. After this, he took them out to the Mount of Olives and was physically taken up into heaven. 'While they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'" (Acts 1:10-11) Jesus Christ will return to the earth one day.

Jesus himself confirmed this when he gave the Revelation to the Apostle John: "Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay everyone for what he has done" (Revelation 22:12). Believers were encouraged by the Apostle Paul to "Wait for his Son from heaven" (1 Thessalonians 1:10).

### *What will happen when Jesus comes?*

#### **Jesus Returns**

Jesus will come in clouds of glory with angels (2 Thessalonians 1:7; Matthew 24:30; Mark 8:38; Revelation 1:7). It will not be a secret. Everyone will know: "As the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man." (Matthew 24:27)

#### **Resurrection of the dead**

People who know the gospel will be raised from the dead: "Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake" (Daniel 12:2). Jesus said: "An hour is coming when all who are in the tomb will hear his voice and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment." (John 5:28-29)

#### **Believers gathered together**

"He will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other" (Matthew 24:31).

#### **Judgment**

The living and the dead who know the Gospel will be judged according to their works (Acts 10:42; Matthew 25:31-46). "He has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed" (Acts 17:31).

### *What will NOT happen when Jesus returns?*

The Bible does not teach that the earth will be burnt up and destroyed when Jesus comes back. The earth was created to be inhabited, not destroyed (Isaiah 45:18). The Apostles taught that when Jesus comes back everything will be restored (Acts 3:19-21). The earth will be made beautiful again (Isaiah 35) and we will live for ever on it (Revelation 5:10).

The Bible does not teach that we will be 'raptured' into heaven. The Bible never uses the word 'rapture'. The Bible teaches that 'the Lord himself will descend from heaven...and the dead in Christ will rise first' (1 Thessalonians 4:16). Jesus Christ will return in clouds (Matthew 24:30) and "we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air" (1 Thessalonians 4:17). The Greek word translated 'air' means the atmosphere. We will be taken in the air to meet the Lord, just as Philip was miraculously taken from one place on the earth to another (Acts 8:39-40).

### *How will the faithful be Rewarded?*

"The King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom'... Then he will say to those on his left 'Depart from me... And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Matthew 25:34-46

Those who believe and obey the Gospel will have their bodies changed and be given eternal life in God's Kingdom (1 Corinthians 15:51-53; Philippians 3:21). Those who have rejected God or failed to live by their faith will be punished with eternal destruction (2 Thessalonians 1:7-10).

The faithful 'will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years', 'and they shall reign on the earth' (Revelation 20:6, 5:10).

Jesus will reign over the Kingdom from the throne of David in Jerusalem (Luke 1:32). God's Kingdom on earth "shall never be destroyed, nor shall the kingdom be left to another people" (Daniel 2:44). Jesus will rule righteously, unlike the rulers of this world at the moment (Isaiah 32:1). It will be a time of peace (Isaiah 2:4, 11:6). Eventually the 'earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD' (Isaiah 11:9).

God wants us to be in His Kingdom (Luke 12:32; 2 Peter 3:9). The choice is ours (Deuteronomy 30:19): "Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved, but whoever does not will be condemned" (Mark 16:16).

### *More information*

For more information, please don't hesitate to contact:

## THE TRUTH ABOUT

### SUMMARY

Jesus Christ will one day return to the earth to set up God's kingdom.

When he returns there will be a resurrection of the dead, both the just and the unjust.

Jesus will judge those who have been raised as well as people alive at his return.

The faithful people will receive eternal life and a place in God's Kingdom.

# *the Second Coming*

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