

God, I have a Question?
GOD, IS JESUS REALLY RETURNING ON MAY 21ST?

Pastor Chuck Wysong
May 1, 2011

DO YOU THINK WE ARE LIVING IN THE LAST DAYS?

"In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams." Acts 2:17

IF THE LAST DAYS HAPPENED 2,000 YEARS AGO, HOW CAN WE STILL BE IN THE LAST DAYS?

"But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:8-9

2nd COMING OF JESUS FACTS

1. One out of every **30** verses in the Bible mentions the subject of the end of time or of Christ's return.
2. There are 216 chapters in the New Testament. There are well over **300** references to the return of Christ in the New Testament.
3. Only **4** of the 27 New Testament books fail to mention Christ's return.

I. THE DISCIPLES ASK 2 QUESTIONS (Matthew 24:1-3)

- When will "**THIS**" **HAPPEN**?
- What is the **SIGN OF YOUR COMING** and of the end of the age?

II. JESUS WARNS HIS DISCIPLES (24:4-14)

- Don't be **DECEIVED!**

3 things to watch out for...

1. **FALSE MESSIAHS**
2. **NATURAL DISASTERS**

Jesus calls these "the beginnings of birth pains."

3. **PERSECUTION**

III. JESUS ANSWERS "WHAT ARE THE SIGNS OF YOUR COMING AND OF THE END?" (24:29-35)

Difficult saying: immediately after...

Difficult saying: this generation will not pass away...

Two possible interpretations:

1. Generation really means "**RACE**." The Jewish race will not pass away before the 2nd coming.
2. "This generation" refers not to the **DISCIPLES**, but to those who witness these signs.

Verse 36 reminds us: To set the exact date of His return is **BLASPHEMY**.

IV. JESUS GIVES THEM 7 PICTURES (24:36-25:46)

3 ABOUT HOW HE WILL RETURN

1. As it was in the days of Noah (37-39)
2. Two men in the field (40-42)
3. A thief in the night (43-44)

4 ABOUT WHAT OUR ATTITUDES SHOULD BE

4. The Parable of the faithful steward (45-51)
What are we to watch for?
5. The Parable of the 10 Virgins (25:1-13)
Am I investing my **TIME**?
6. The parable of the Talent (25:14-30)
Am I investing my **TALENTS/ABILITIES**?
7. The Parable of the Sheep and the Goats (25:31-46)
Am I investing my **RELATIONSHIPS**?

WRONG QUESTION: IS JESUS RETURNING ON MAY 21ST?

RIGHT QUESTION: IS JESUS RETURNING TODAY?

TIME WITH GOD

Brief daily Bible studies and questions for reflection on today's topic!

This week's memory verse: "He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." Revelation 21:4

Monday

What point or points stood out to you from the weekend message?

Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11. What was the source of Paul's teaching about what happens to those who die? (Verse 15)

What sequence of events will signal the Lord's return? How will the Lord return? (vs 1-3)

What hope can you gain from these verses?

Thank God that Jesus Christ will return some day, and that He will be revealed at last in all His glory! Ask Him to help this make a difference in your life today.

Tuesday

Read Revelation 20:11-15. Who will be involved in the final judgment? On what basis will people be judged?

What will happen to those whose names are not found in the book of life?

How should the certainty of future judgment determine the way we live now?

The key question: How does a person get his or her name recorded in the book of life? (See John 6:28, 29)

If you haven't yet done so, ask God today to write your name in that book. You can pray a prayer like this: Father, as much as I understand how, I now give my life to you. I accept Christ's atoning sacrifice for me on the cross. I want to live right through the power of your grace from this day forward. Thank you for your forgiveness and mercy. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

Wednesday

Read Revelation 21:1-27. In his vision, what did John see coming out of heaven?

How did the voice describe the new world to come?

How does this description help give perspective to the things we go through now?

Ask God to help you remember the glories that await!

Thursday

Read Revelation 22:1-6, a further description of your eternal home, if you've received Christ as Savior. What was growing on each side of the river?

Of what value are the leaves of the tree of life?

What does this passage tell us about God?

How can you honor the life God created?

Again, ask God to help you live joyfully in light of the promised land of the new heaven and earth!

Friday

Read Revelation 22:7-21. What is one reward you remember getting?

What promise did Christ make in verse 7?

What invitation is given by the Spirit and the bride?

What is involved in responding to God's invitation to come to Him?

What do we know for sure about Christ's return? (Verse 20)

Ask God to help you live in light of this great truth! What can you do to bring someone to heaven with you?

Saturday

Look back over the notes and the devotions this week. Finish any you may have missed. Polish up the memory verse at the top of the previous page. Pray for the services this weekend! Thanks!

(Some questions this week adapted from NavPress "Lessonmaker".)