

THE COMING OF JESUS IN GLORY

Golden Text

“Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory” (Matthew 24: 30).

Useful Practice

The coming of Jesus to establish the Millennium will put an end to all the forces of evil and usher in a glorious future on Earth.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 24: 29,30 ; Revelation 20:1-3

Matt. 24.29 - “Immediately after the distress of those days “the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.’

30 - “Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory.

Rev 19.19 - Then I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to wage war against the rider on the horse and his army.

20 - But the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet who had performed the signs on its behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped its image. The two of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur.

Rev 20:1 - And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain.

2 - He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a thousand years.

3 - He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time.

General Objective

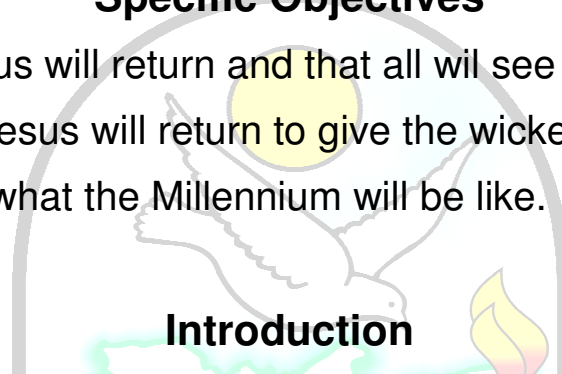
To show that Jesus will come on the clouds and that every eye will see him.

Specific Objectives

I To know that Jesus will return and that all will see him;

II. To explain that Jesus will return to give the wicked their due reward;

III. To understand what the Millennium will be like.



Introduction

After the dark period of the Great Tribulation, Jesus will return and implant his Millennial Kingdom on Earth. He will come along with his church, surrounded by angels and will be seen by all who dwell on earth (Col. 3:4). In his coming in glory, Jesus will be seen by all, even by those who pierced him: "Look, he is coming with the clouds," and "every eye will see him, even those who pierced him"; and all peoples on earth "will mourn because of him." So shall it be! Amen" (Rev 1:7).

I - JESUS WILL RETURN AND ALL WILL SEE HIM

1. Jesus will return in power and glory. After the Wedding Supper of the Lamb, Jesus will return with the saints, as he promised to his disciples (John 14:2,3). And his coming will be visible to the eyes of the whole world (Rev. 1:7; 1 Thessalonians 3:13; Mt 24:42-44). He will return to put an end to global disasters, end the Great Tribulation, free Israel from the Antichrist and his allies and implement his Millennial Kingdom. With his coming in glory, He will prepare the world for the Millennium. Prior to this, various events will be seen on Earth, carried out by the Lord Jesus Christ.

2. The procession that will accompany the King. "I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war" (Rev. 19:11). John recorded in Revelation a vision of the royal procession which will accompany Christ at his coming in glory to take the whole government of the universe. He will come as King of kings and Lord of lords and rule the nations "with an iron scepter", a symbol of absolute authority (Rev. 19:12-16).

II - JESUS WILL RETURN TO GIVE THE WICKED THEIR DUE REWARD AND FREE ISRAEL FROM EXTERMINATION

1. The reward of the wicked. Never before, have depravity, wickedness and blasphemy against God been so evident as in the twenty-first century. Corruption, injustice, greed have been practiced with legal and institutional support, ignoring God's laws. Marriage is despised and family (Genesis 2:24) is being replaced by settings that are not consistent with the biblical pattern. In addition, "corruption that ruins completely" (Micah 2:10) has no limits as well as violence. Jesus will severely punish those who "do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus" (2 Thes 1:8; Jd 1:15,16).

2. The Battle of Armageddon. The armies of the Antichrist will gather to destroy Israel in the valley of Armageddon, "Then they gathered the kings together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon" (Rev. 16:16). The goal is to exterminate Israel. The battle will last only one day. It will be a battle in which Israel will not be able to win by human weapons. One-third of the Jews will die (Zechariah 13:8), women will be raped (Zech 14:2) and Israel's situation will be very critical (Rev. 14:20). Jesus then will descend to rescue Israel (Read Zechariah 14:3-5); He will destroy the nations "that attack Jerusalem" (Zechariah 12:8,9). Only then Israel will recognize that Jesus is the Messiah (Ezekiel 37).

3. The Antichrist will turn against Jesus (Rev. 19:19). It will be his end. The Lord, in front of the heavenly army, on white horses, will defeat the Antichrist and the false prophet and cast them into the lake of fire (2 Thessalonians 2:8, Rev. 19:20) and the opposing armies will be destroyed (Zech 14:12). Jesus will overcome the Antichrist as a fire, and the heavenly chariots will be like a storm (Isaiah 66:15, 16) and with "the breath of his mouth" (2 Thessalonians 2:8) he will destroy all the world systems and the satanic "New World Order" (Dn 2:44,45; Mt 21:44b). Jesus will throw the Antichrist and the False Prophet "into the fiery lake of burning sulfur"

(Rev 19:20; Mt 25:41). A mighty angel will bind the Devil and throw him into the abyss, where he will remain for a thousand years (Rev. 20:3).

4. The end of the battle of Armageddon. With the binding of Satan, the Antichrist and the False Prophet, the satanic trinity will be destroyed. Sinners, faced with the judgments of Jesus on the Beast and the enemies of Israel, will be so scared that will call for death (Rev 6:15-17).

It is not Israel's war strategy that will defeat its enemies, but the power of God and of Christ, from heaven. With the resounding victory of Jesus over the Antichrist, the Devil and the false prophet, Israel will be saved from destruction and will take office in the Millennium. The text of Ezekiel 36:26-38 reveals what the restoration of Israel will be like, after the defeat of the enemy armies by Jesus.

5. The divine judgment. All the nations, especially those that rose up against Israel, will be judged (Zech 12.3b). This judgment will take place after the Antichrist is defeated. Jesus will sit on his glorious throne in the place called "Valley of Jehoshaphat" (Joel 3:12,14), where the nations will be collectively judged (Matthew 24:32). According to Eurico Bergsten "possibly, the constituted authorities of each nation will come into the presence of Jesus". The nations will be judged by what they did to Israel (Mt 25:40,45).

6. Separating the "goats" from the "sheep" (Mt 25:31-33). Jesus used sheep and goats as an example to show the difference between unbelievers and believers. It was common for sheep and goats to graze together, however, at the time of shearing, they were separated. The "sheep" are those who by faith accepted Jesus as their only and sufficient Savior, becoming sons and daughters of God. The "goats" are those who reject Jesus Christ and his sacrifice on the cross of Calvary (Mt 25:41-46).

III - PREPARATION FOR THE MILLENNIUM

1. Satan is bound for a thousand years. Where will those who were defeated in the Battle of Armageddon go? According to the Word of God, they will have three different destinations: the Antichrist and the False Prophet will be thrown into the lake of fire; his followers will go to Hades, where they will await the Last Judgment and Satan will be bound in the Abyss for a thousand years (Revelation 20:1-3).

2. Who will be in the Millennium with Christ? All the sheep of Jesus Christ will enter the Millennium and rule with Him (Matthew 25:34). The "goats" will be cast into hell (Mt 25:41,46). The sheep will reign with Christ for a thousand years, literally, as well as the men who did not worship the

Beast (Rev. 20:4). The rest of the nations who escaped the Great Tribulation will also enter. The wicked will be raised only to be judged at the Last Judgment, after a thousand years (Revelation 20:5,6).

CONCLUSION

The Battle of Armageddon and the coming of the Lord should be viewed as literal, not as future hypotheses. These eschatological events are supported by the Holy Scriptures. They will be the fulfillment of God's plan on earth. It is worth reflecting on what God has prepared for the end times, both for the Church and for the world.

