

## What? Come Again?

Certain events and ideas significantly alter the course of history. The Industrial Revolution, the Reformation, and World War II transformed society, religion, and politics as we know them. Similarly, the invention of the printing press, electric light, and the discovery of antibiotics revolutionized the world in which we live.

On an even grander, cosmic scale **the second coming of Jesus is destined to change everything, and I mean EVERYTHING!** The entire timeline of human history and God's overarching redemptive story has been moving persistently toward this event and its terrifyingly glorious results. Still, the cynic scoffs at the notion that God is present in this world and that He cares about the chaos and anarchy that is swelling into an overwhelming tidal wave. The notion of Jesus, the Son of God, coming back to this earth seems to be an absurd and irrational dream. However, that is exactly what God has promised: the Suffering Servant will return as the Victorious King!

The final chapter of Zechariah gives a few details that will characterize the radical changes Jesus' return will bring at His second coming. While the Bible is clear that "concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only" (Matt 24:36), the event and its effects are absolutely certain. Luke writes:

"And 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).

So, what changes will Jesus' return accomplish? First, He will execute judgment (Zech 14:12-15). All of God's enemies will be subject to Him and ultimately destroyed (1 Cor 15:24-26). Second, He will rule (Zech 14:16-19). His authority will be unquestioned and His truth will be clear. His presence will be welcomed and He will be worshiped with thankfulness and joy. Finally, He will make all things new (Zech 14:20-21). Every aspect of life will be made righteous and holy. Even the most common, mundane, vulgar activities of life will shine and shout for His glory!

His coming will change everything about the world as we know it. Are you ready and eagerly anticipating His return? Don't let complacency set in. Expect it! Live it! Share it!

**2 Peter 3:4-5, 9 (ESV)** - "... scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. They will say, 'Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation.' ... **The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.**"