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Jesus Is Coming

"For yet in a very little while, He who is coming will come, and will not delay" (Hebrews 10:37 NASB).

Jesus is coming again. This is the inevitable, unavoidable reality for the world. The return of Jesus is declared as a self-evident certainty throughout God's Word—it is going to happen, there is no debate: "He who testifies to these things says, 'Yes, I am coming quickly'" (Rev. 22:20a). Jesus' return is a sworn affidavit of God Himself—the true testimony of a faithful witness. It is far more certain than the scientific assertion that the sun will burn out one day. For the Believer, the return of Jesus is the great hope of our lives. Whether we are in sickness or in health, whether we are living or we are dying, our lives are about Jesus. "To live is Christ" (Phil. 1:21b), for He "is your life" (Col. 3:4)—your reason for living. The great hope of the Bride is Jesus' return for her. For Him she patiently—no, EAGERLY waits. The hope of their union is her daily bread—her nourishment and sustenance.

Indeed, the first words that the Holy Spirit teaches the newborn Believer are "come, Lord Jesus!" And in every quiet moment, the Bride often repeats His words to her: "I go to prepare a place for you...I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also" (John 14:2b-3). And as she waits for her Beloved to fulfill His promise and return for her, her prayer in every waking moment is always, "Come!" (Rev 22:17)

Even to those who do not know her Lord, she calls, "Come, to Jesus," in the hope that they too would come to know Him, and take up her prayer as their own: "Come, Lord Jesus!" (Rev. 22:20b). May this prayer be near our lips that we would not grow weary of waiting for Jesus. He will not return in an untimely

manner—either too soon or too late—He will return at just the right time for all things as appointed by His Father—a time that "no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone" (Matt. 24:36).

Just as Jesus told His disciples to keep watch with Him while He waited to be taken away, so also He might tell His Bride during her vigil for His return, "keep watching and praying that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak" (Matt. 26:41). "Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming" (Matt. 24:42), so that you may "be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will" (Matt. 24:44b). An eager bride who patiently holds her hope completely in her beloved cannot be led astray. Jesus knows patience is hard for her, but He encourages His Bride, "hold fast what you have until I come. The one who conquers and who keeps My works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces, even as I Myself have received authority from My Father" (Rev. 2:25b-27 ESV). "I am coming quickly; hold fast what you have, so that no one will take your crown" (Rev. 3:11).

When Jesus returns, there will be only two peoples on the earth—those who shrink back from Him in fear and shame to tribulation and destruction and those who love His appearing and have confidence in Him and are saved. "Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen. 'I am the Alpha and the Omega,' says the Lord God, 'who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty'" (Rev. 1:7-8 NASB). "You too be patient; strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near" (James 5:8). Amen.

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