

Christ's Return

To the unsaved, Christ's return will be a catastrophic day! To the Christian, however, this will be a rapturous day. Knowing that Jesus is returning, how ought we to live? The world presents a constant distraction to people of Christian faith. In wealthy countries we are distracted by the comforts of life. In some countries, life may consist of barely surviving—a major distraction from holy living. Pain, loss, and misfortune may cause discomfort, but it can offer us a keener look at eternity. Being of service to God may bring some financial loss, and being human, we may resent being left behind financially, but God rewards faithfulness.

When considering Christ's return, we must rely on clear scriptural teaching to guide us. We often wonder when the end will be, and at times this causes false prophets to try to seduce us with misleading teachings. As an answer to the timeframe, the Bible simply states, "At an hour when ye think not" (Luke 12:40). Let us live today as if it were our last.

Scriptures

Mark 13:32-33

2 Peter 3:3-13

1 Corinthians 15:51-54

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

2 Timothy 3:1-5

Matthew 24:42-44

Acts 17:30-31

Questions

1. If you were asked, "What do you live for? What is your goal in life?" What would be your honest reply?
2. If you knew Jesus was coming tomorrow, what would you do differently today?
3. In daily life, what is our greatest distraction from Christian living? Is it worth the cost?
4. What aspects of heaven appeal most to you?
5. Is it appropriate to use the fear of the end of time to shock others into being more sober? Does this work better than emphasizing the joys of heaven?
6. What motivates some people to insist on predicting when the end of time will be? How serious is the situation if a church member begins making predictions like this?