

# THE PROMISE

*I will come again!*

## #1 Thief in the Night

### 1. THE PROMISE OF HIS 2<sup>ND</sup> COMING

*Hebrews 9:28 ...so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.*

*Revelation 1:7 Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.*

### 2. THE NECESSITY OF HIS 2<sup>ND</sup> COMING

### 3. THE NATURE OF HIS 2<sup>ND</sup> COMING

- A. Personally – “for the Lord himself...” 1 Thessalonians 4:16
- B. Literally – “in the same way as you saw him go ...” Acts 1:11
- C. Visibly – “every eye will see him...” Revelation 1:7
- D. Gloriously – “with power and great glory...” Matthew 24:30
- E. Suddenly & Unexpectedly – “like a thief in the night”  
1 Thessalonians 5:2; Luke 21:34-35
- F. Imminently – “be ready” Matthew 24:44; James 5:8
- G. In two stages ...

### 4. THE TIMING OF HIS 2<sup>ND</sup> COMING

*Matthew 24:36 But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.*

### 5. THE SIGNS OF HIS 2<sup>ND</sup> COMING

Sign: *Increasing Religious Deception, Intense Hostility Towards Christians, and Resulting Mass Defections* Matthew 24:4,9-11

Sign: *Widespread War, Hunger, Disease, and Natural Disasters* Matthew 24:6-7

Sign: *Spectacular Cosmic Events Visible to All* Luke 21:11.

Sign: *Rampant Lawlessness* Matthew 24:12; 1 Timothy 3:1-4

Sign: *Ethnic Jews Returning To Their Homeland* Isaiah 11; Ezekiel 37

Sign: *The Gospel Proclaimed To All Nations* Matthew 24:14

## END TIMES VOCABULARY

**The “Rapture”** – the sudden ‘snatching away’ of believers to meet Christ and their saved loved ones in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:14-17).

**The Glorious Appearing/Second Coming/Revelation of Christ** – the return of Christ to the earth with his saints at the end of the age to save Israel, judge unbelievers, and establish his kingdom (1 Peter 1:7; Titus 2:13)

**The Beast/Anti-Christ:** the deceptive, satanic world ruler who rises to power to lead a one-world government that severely persecutes God’s people (1 John 2:18; Revelation 13:1-10)

**The Day of the Lord** – the general period of the final outpouring of apocalyptic judgment on the earth (1 Thessalonians 5:2)

**The Tribulation:** a distinct, seven-year period of judgment and suffering in the world (Matthew 24:29)

**The Great Tribulation:** the final stage of the Tribulation period characterized by widespread anguish, destruction, and death (Revelation 7:14)

**Armageddon:** the ultimate end-time war pitting the world’s armies against Israel and Christ (Revelation 16:16)

**The Millennium:** the 1000-year earthly reign of Christ over the world with his glorified saints (Revelation 20:1-7)

**Signs of the times:** various prophesied events meant to grab peoples’ attention and point to Christ’s coming (Matthew 16:3)

**Prophetic Birth Pangs:** Divinely-orchestrated events that will occur with increasing frequency and intensity as the return of Christ draws near (Matthew 24:8)

### 6. THE IMPLICATIONS OF HIS 2<sup>ND</sup> COMING

We need to **BE READY!** Matthew 24:44

We need to **WAKE UP!** Romans 13:11-12

We need to **BE MINDFUL** of the Sacrifice 1 Corinthians 11:26