

## The Coming of Jesus [Part One]

### Jesus is Coming Back (*parousia*)

1. the flow of thought:
  - A. Jesus was resurrected which proves he is the Messiah of Israel
  - B. Jesus' ascension/exaltation to the right hand of God proves he is the lord of Ps 110.1
  - C. The Messiah is royal son of David destined to rule the world on behalf of God (Ps 2.6–8; Luke 1.31–33) and the destiny of the lord in Ps 110.1 is to fight the battle against the enemies of God with God's supernatural help in order to rule on Zion.
  - D. Conclusion: if Jesus is both the Messiah and the lord of Psalm 110.1 then he has unfinished business on earth—he *has to* come back and win the final battle over the enemies of God and establish God's righteous and peaceful kingdom on earth.
2. the *parousia* is now the dominant way Christians thought about the end (the kingdom of God). In other words, the *parousia* is the precipitating event of the final judgment and restoration which would have been thought of in OT times as the Day of Yahweh.
3. Places in which the coming of Jesus, the Son of Man, Christ, etc. are mentioned. Note there is more than one Greek word for coming so not all of these references include the word *parousia*. Here are the words used and their definitions according to the Friberg Lexicon (except the last one, F, which is from Thayer's Greek Lexicon):
  - A. *parousia* (παρουσία): (1) *being present, presence* (2C 10.10), opposite ἀπουσία (*absence, being away*); (2) *coming, arrival*; (a) of human beings (2C 7.6); (b) as a religious technical term, a future event when Jesus the Messiah returns to earth *coming, advent* (MT 24.3); (c) in a negative sense, of the appearance of Antichrist *coming* (2TH 2.9)
  - B. *apocalypsis* (ἀποκάλυψις): literally, as an action *uncovering, disclosing, revealing*; figuratively in the NT; (1) generally, of what God discloses or makes known *revelation, disclosure*, e.g. his plan of redemption (EP 3.3); (2) as an end-time event *revelation, appearing* (RO 2.5; 1P 1.7); (3) of particular forms of disclosure, as through vision (RV 1.1) and personal guidance (GA 2.2)
  - C. *erchomai* (ἔρχομαι): with a basic meaning *come, go*, used of persons and things, events and situations; used both literally and figuratively, with the meaning varying according to the context and the accompanying preposition; (1) of persons; (a) as coming forward publicly *come, appear, show up* (MT 11.14); (b) as the future coming of the Messiah *going to come, will come* (JN 4.25); (c) figuratively, as the spiritual coming of God (JN 14.23); of Christ (JN 14.18), of the Spirit (JN 15.26); (d) as the coming of persons to God (JN 14.6); (2) of events *happen to* someone or something (PH 1.12); (3) of time in a future sense of time *coming, will come* (JN 16.4)

- D. *epiphaneia* (ἐπιφάνεια): as a visible manifestation of a divine being *appearance*; in the NT only of Christ; (1) in his first coming to earth (2T 1.10); (2) in his future coming (1T 6.14)
- E. *eko'* (ἦκω) used (1) of persons; (a) as the result of moving toward and reaching a point *be, come, arrive* (LU 15.27); (b) as being in a place *be here, be there* (HE 10.7); (2) impersonally, of events *happen, take place, come* (JN 2.4); used especially to express the certainty of future events happening (2P 3.10)
- F. *ophthesetai*<sup>2</sup> (ὀφθήσεται) *I was seen, showed myself, appeared* (cf. Buttman, 52 (45)): Luke 9:31; with the dative of person (cf. Buttman, as above (also sec. 134, 2; cf. Winer's Grammar, sec. 31, 10)): of angels, Luke 1:11; 22:43 (L brackets WH reject the passage); Acts 7:30,35 (Exo. 3:2 ); of God, Acts 7:2 (Gen. 12:7; 17:1); of the dead, Matt. 17:3; Mark 9:4, cf. Luke 9:31; of Jesus after his resurrection, Luke 24:34; Acts 9:17; 13:31; 26:16 ; 1 Cor. 15:5–8; 1 Tim. 3:16; of Jesus hereafter to return, Heb. 9:28; of visions during sleep or ecstasy, Acts 16:9; Rev. 11:19; 12:1,8; in the sense of *coming upon unexpectedly*, Acts 2:3; 7:26.
4. Here is how these words are used in the New Testament to talk about the second coming
- A. In the Gospels
- i. Mk 8.38; Lk 9.26 (the Son of Man comes in the glory of his Father and with the holy angels and he will be ashamed of those who are ashamed of Jesus)
  - ii. Mt 16.27 (rewards according to deeds are given when he comes)
  - iii. Mt 24.27–28 (visible like lightning or birds circling a carcass)
  - iv. Mk 13.26; Mt 24.29–31 (son of man comes in the clouds accompanied by cosmic signs, the tribes of the earth mourn, while the angels gather together the elect)
  - v. Mt 24.36–39 (it will come suddenly, no one knows the day or hour, just like the flood in the time of Noah)
  - vi. Jn 21.22 (If I want him to remain until I come what is that to you?)
- B. In Acts
- i. Acts 1.11 (this Jesus who has been taken up will come in just the same way)
  - ii. Acts 3.19–21 (God will send Christ who is in heaven until the restoration process begins.)
  - iii. Acts 17.31 (God has fixed a day in which he will judge the world through a man) here the *parousia* is implied but not explicitly stated
- C. In Paul's Epistles
- i. 1 Cor 1.7–8 (we await his revelation eagerly; he will confirm us to the end)
  - ii. 1 Cor 15.23 (the resurrection of the saints occurs at the coming of Christ)
  - iii. 1 Cor 15.51–53 (in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet, will be the resurrection to immortality) here the *parousia* is not mentioned but the resurrection is clearly tied to *parousia* in 1 Thes 4.15–17
  - iv. 1 Thes 2.19 (joy with other saints when Jesus comes)
  - v. 1 Thes 3.13; 5.23 (blameless in holiness before God when Jesus comes)

<sup>1</sup> Used only four times in the NT in reference to the coming of Jesus (Heb 10.37; Rev 2.25 and twice in Rev 3.3).

<sup>2</sup> Used only once in reference to the coming of Jesus (Heb 9.28).

- vi. 1 Thes 4.15–17 (the lord will descend with a shout and trumpet, the resurrection of the saints will occur and then those who will be alive will be caught up to meet them (the resurrected saints) in the air)
- vii. 2 Thes 1.6–10 (when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels in flaming fire, he will deal out retribution to those who do not know God and those who do not obey the gospel when he comes to be glorified in his saints in vindication)
- viii. 2 Thes 2.1–4 (the coming of Jesus will not come until after the apostasy occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed)
- ix. 2 Thes 2.8 (the lawless one will be slain by the breath of the Lord's mouth and brought to an end by the appearance of his coming)
- x. 1 Tim 6.14 (keep the commandment without stain until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ)
- xi. 2 Tim 4.1 (Christ Jesus will judge the living and the dead at his appearing when his kingdom comes)
- xii. 2 Tim 4.8 (crown of righteousness will be awarded by the Lord, the righteous judge, to those who love his appearing)
- xiii. Tit 2.13 (the appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ is our blessed hope for which we look)