

The Return of Jesus and You

Overview: God works in patterns and types. The patterns and types of the first coming (Christmas) will be repeated in similar ways for the second coming of Jesus.

A. Direct Participants

1. The first coming.
 - a. Mary – submitted herself to the will of God. Luke 1:38
 - b. Joseph – heard the Word of the Lord and obeyed. Matt 1:20, 24; 2:14, 19-23
2. The second coming.
 - a. Those that purpose to walk in holiness hasten the return. 2 Pet 3:11-12, 14
 - b. Those that have grown in faith. Luke 18:8
 - c. Those walking in dominion and authority. Rev 11:3-13

B. Preparing Participants

1. The first coming.
 - a. John – sent to prepare the way for Lord. Luke 1:17; Luke 3:4-18
2. The second coming.
 - a. The elect and the very elect. Matt 24:22-24
 - b. The ark builders attracting those around them. Luke 17:37
 - c. The over-comers. Rev 2, 3, 21:7
 - d. The “cryer” preparing the way. Isa 40:3-8; 41:10-16
 - Valleys exalted – the church understanding who they are.
 - Mountains brought low – demonic realm subdued.
 - Crooked made straight – Word of God proclaimed.
 - Desert becomes a garden – great awakening, spiritual revival. Isa 41:17-20

C. Supporting Participants

1. The first coming.
 - a. Simeon – waiting for the Messiah – would not see death Luke 2:25-35
 - b. Anna – fasting and prayers day and night. Luke 2:36-38
 - c. Wise men – knew something significant was occurring – came seeking. Matt 2:1-12
2. The second coming.
 - a. Those that conform their lives to holy living and prayer. Luke 21:34-36
 - b. Those looking for his coming Luke 21:25-31

D. Unknowing Participants

1. The first coming.
 - a. Political Leaders – unknowing but crucial part of the process. Matt 2:3-8,16-19; Luke 2:1-3
 - b. Religious Leaders – unknowing but crucial part in the process. Matt 2:4-6; Luke 2:22-24
2. The second coming.
 - a. Political Leaders – in conjunction with the man of sin, the anti-christ. 2 Thess 2:3-8; Rev 13
 - b. Religious Leaders – the falling away of the church. 2 Thess 2:3

E. Unaware Participants

1. The first coming.
 - a. The world at large that did not see, know or understand.
2. The second coming.
 - a. The world at large still living the same way. Luke 17:26-36

Recommendation: Where are you participating in the return of Jesus?