



# GOD'S GREATEST GIFTS: HIS RETURN

Sermon by Ray Reynolds (12-20-09 - PM)

Text: I Thessalonians 4:13-18



Introduction: Today, we are going to study about one of God's greatest gifts: His Return. We need to study the Scriptures on this subject (**John 14:1-3, Ephesians 5:15-17, II Timothy 3:16-17, I Peter 1:7**). **II Thessalonians 4:13-18** tells us that we should encourage one another not live in fear. Let's open our Bible and study together . . . .

Discussion:

## I. The Second Coming of Jesus Christ Will Be A Gift From God

### A. The Promise of Jesus Coming Again

1. He promised to come in a cloud with power and great glory (**Luke 21:27**).
2. He was taken up into heaven in the same way He will return (**Acts 1:11**).
3. He will appear the second time without sin (**Hebrews 9:29**).
4. He will allow every eye to see Him when He returns (**Revelation 1:7**).

### B. The Purpose of Jesus Coming Again

1. He will separate the evil from the righteous (**Matthew 25:31-32**).
2. He will reveal the secrets of every person (**I Corinthians 4:5**).
3. He will judge the living, the dead, and His Church (**II Timothy 4:1**).
4. He will reward every man according to his work (**Revelation 2:10-12**).

## II. The Second Coming of Jesus Christ Will Be A Good Gift

### A. Jesus Will Reward Believers When He Comes Again

1. He will confess those who have confessed Him (**Matthew 10:32**).
2. He will bless us if we are watching for Him (**Luke 12:27**).
3. He will take us to heaven with Him to live (**John 14:3**).
4. He will change our bodies into a glorious body (**Philippians 3:20-21**).
5. He will give us a crown that cannot fade (**I Peter 5:4**).

### B. Jesus Will Condemn Unbelievers When He Comes Again

1. He will deny those who have denied Him (**Matthew 10:33**).
2. He will cause all the tribes of the earth to mourn (**Matthew 24:30**).
3. He will be ashamed of those who are ashamed to serve and worship Him (**Mark 8:38**).
4. He will take vengeance on those who do not know Him (**II Thessalonians 1:7-9**).
5. He will reveal Himself to those who pierced Him (**Revelation 1:7**).

## III. The Second Coming of Jesus Christ Will Be A Perfect Gift

### A. Jesus Will Come In The Perfect Way

1. It will be sudden like lightning (**Matthew 24:27**).
2. It will not be revealed to the angels in heaven (**Matthew 24:36**).
3. It will not be revealed to the Son of God (**Matthew 24:36**).
4. It will not be revealed men on the earth (**Luke 12:40**).
5. It will be sudden like a thief in the night (**I Thessalonians 5:2**).

### B. Jesus Will Come At The Perfect Time

1. We need to live our normal lives until that perfect time (**Philippians 4:5**).
2. We need to have faith that He will come at the perfect time (**Hebrews 10:37-39**).
3. We need to have patience and keep our hearts steady until that perfect time (**James 5:8**).
4. We need to hold strongly to what we have until that perfect time (**Revelation 3:11**).
5. We need to pray for Him to come quickly at the perfect time (**Revelation 22:7, 20**).

### C. We Need To Be Ready For That Perfect Event

1. We need to be ready for His coming (**Matthew 24:44**).
2. We need to be a good steward of God (**Luke 19:13**).
3. We need to wait patiently (**I Corinthians 1:7**).
4. We need to keep ourselves blameless (**I Thessalonians 5:23**).
5. We need to remain obedient to God's will (**I Timothy 6:14**).

Conclusion: We have the wonderful promise that one day we will appear with Christ (**Colossians 3:4**) and become like Christ (**I John 3:2**). We don't need to be ALARMED when we think about last day we just need to be ARMED and ready. We cannot hide from when Christ comes (**Psalms 139:5-12**), but my point is why would you want to hide? It will be a glorious day! A GREAT DAY IS COMING!!! Will you be ready?

**WORD OF THE DAY = "Jesus"**