

Loris First Baptist Church
“52 Vital Doctrines of The Bible”

Doctrine #13: “God the Son: His Coming With His Saints”

Note: Based on pages 82-86 of the book “Major Bible Themes” by Lewis Sperry Chaffer.

Some Important Facts:

1. Jesus coming “for” His saints (i.e. the true believers) is a critical biblical doctrine that is associated with His second coming (1Thess 4:13-18).
2. Jesus coming “with” His saints is an “equally” critical biblical doctrine that is associated with His second coming which can easily be confused with Christ coming “for” His saints.
3. It is important that the two events (Christ coming “for” His saints as well as Christ coming “with” His saints) be studied together in order that the contrast which appears between the two in Scripture may be seen at almost every point.

Important Events Preceding the Second Coming of Christ:

1. As will be discussed later in connection with prophecies of the end-time, the period between the rapture of the church and Christ’s second coming to set up His kingdom is divided into three well-defined periods:
 - a. A period of preparation will follow the rapture in which ten nations will be formed into a confederacy in a revival of the ancient Roman Empire. Out of this will emerge a dictator who will control first three then all ten of the nations.

Daniel 7:7-8 “After that, in my vision at night I looked, and there before me was a fourth beast—terrifying and frightening and very powerful. It had large iron teeth; it crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left. It was different from all the former beasts, and it had TEN HORNS. While I was thinking about the horns, there before me was another horn, a little one, which came up among them; and THREE OF THE FIRST HORNS WERE UPROOTED BEFORE IT. This horn had eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth that spoke boastfully.”

Revelation 13:1-2 “And I saw a beast coming out of the sea. HE HAD TEN HORNS AND SEVEN HEADS, with TEN CROWNS ON HIS HORNS, and on each head a blasphemous name. The beast I saw resembled a leopard, but had feet like those of a bear and a mouth like that of a lion. THE DRAGON GAVE THE BEAST HIS POWER and his throne and great authority.”

- b. A period of peace will be brought about by the dictator in the Mediterranean area, beginning with a covenant with Israel planned for seven years.

Daniel 9:25-27a *“Know and understand this: From the issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One, the ruler (i.e. “Mediterranean Dictator”, the Anti-Christ), comes, there will be seven ‘sevens,’ and sixty-two ‘sevens.’ It will be rebuilt with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble. After the sixty-two ‘sevens,’ the Anointed One will be cut off and will have nothing. The people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end will come like a flood: War will continue until the end, and desolations have been decreed. He (i.e. “Mediterranean Dictator”, the Anti-Christ) will confirm a covenant with many FOR ONE ‘SEVEN.’”*

- c. A time of persecution for Israel and for all believers in Christ will be brought about when the dictator breaks his covenant after the first three and one half years.

Daniel 9:27b *“IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ‘SEVEN,’ he (i.e. “Mediterranean Dictator”, the Anti-Christ) will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing of the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him.”*

- 1) At the same time he becomes a world dictator, abolishes all religions of the world in favor of the worship of Himself, and seizes control of all business operations in the world so that no one can buy or sell without his permission.

Revelation 13:14-17 *“Because of the signs he (i.e. “False Prophet) was given power to do on behalf of the first beast (i.e. “The Anti-Christ), he deceived the inhabitants of the earth. He ordered them to set up an image in honor of the beast who was wounded by the sword and yet lived. He was given power to give breath to the image of the first beast, so that it could speak and cause all who refused to worship the image to be killed. He also forced everyone, small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on his right hand or on his forehead, so that no one could buy or sell unless he had the mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of his name.”*

- 2) This period of three and one half years is called the Great Tribulation (i.e. the last half of the Seven Year Tribulation Period).

Daniel 12:1 *“AT THAT TIME Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be A TIME OF DISTRESS SUCH AS HAS NOT HAPPENED SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE NATIONS UNTIL THEN...”*

Matthew 24:21 *“For then there will be GREAT DISTRESS, unequalled from the beginning of the world until now—and NEVER TO BE EQUALED AGAIN.”*

Revelation 7:13-14 *“Then one of the elders asked me, ‘These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?’ I answered, ‘Sir, you know.’ And he said, ‘These are they who have come out of THE GREAT TRIBULATION; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.’”*

Revelation 13:5-9 *“The beast (i.e. “The Anti-Christ) was given a mouth to utter proud words and blasphemies and to EXERCISE HIS AUTHORITY FOR FORTY-TWO MONTHS (i.e. Three and one-half years). He opened his mouth to blaspheme God, and to slander His name and His dwelling place and those who live in heaven. He was given power to make war against the saints and to conquer them. And he was given authority over every tribe, people, language and nation. All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast—all whose names have not been written in the book of life belonging to the Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world. He who has an ear, let him hear.”*

- 3) During the “Great Tribulation” (last 3 ½ years of 7 year Tribulation period), God will pour out great judgments (described in Revelation 6:1 – 18:24).
- 4) The Great Tribulation will climax in a great world war.

Revelation 16:12-16 *“The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings from the East. Then I saw three evil spirits that looked like frogs; they came out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet. They are spirits of demons performing miraculous signs, and they go out to the kings of the whole world, TO GATHER THEM TO THE BATTLE on the great day of God Almighty. ‘Behold, I come like a thief! Blessed is he who stays awake and keeps his clothes with him, so that he may not go naked and be shamefully exposed.’ Then they gathered the kings together to the place that in Hebrew is called ARMAGEDDON.”*

Revelation 19:19 *“Then I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together TO MAKE WAR against the rider on the horse and His army.”*

- 5) At the height of this war, Christ will come back to deliver the saints who have not yet been martyred, to bring judgment on the earth, and to bring in His righteous kingdom.

Revelation 19:11-16 *“I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. WITH JUSTICE HE (i.e. Jesus Christ) JUDGES AND MAKES WAR. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on His head are many crowns. He has a name written on Him that no one knows but He Himself. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and His name is the Word of God. THE ARMIES OF HEAVEN WERE FOLLOWING HIM, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Out of His mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. ‘He will rule them with an iron scepter.’ He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On His robe and on His thigh He has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.”*

2. From the many passages that describe this period, it is evident that these great and stirring events **MUST PRECEDE** the second coming of Christ, and it would be impossible to regard the second coming to the earth as “imminent” inasmuch as these events have not yet taken place.

Vital Facts Relating To The Second Coming:

1. The Bible teaches that the Lord Jesus Christ is going to RETURN:
 - a. To the Earth:

Zechariah 14:3-4 *“Then THE LORD will go out and fight against those nations, as he fights in the day of battle. ON THAT DAY HIS FEET WILL STAND ON THE MOUNT OF OLIVES, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south.”*

- b. Personally:

Matthew 25:31 *“WHEN THE SON OF MAN COMES IN HIS GLORY, and all the angels with Him, He will sit on His throne in heavenly glory.”*

c. On the clouds of Heaven:

Matthew 24:30 "At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY, with power and great glory."

Acts 1:9-11 "After He said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and A CLOUD HID HIM FROM THEIR SIGHT. They were looking intently up into the sky as He was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 'Men of Galilee,' they said, 'why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back IN THE SAME WAY you have seen Him go into heaven.'"

d. The Entire World will see:

Revelation 1:7 "Look, He is COMING WITH THE CLOUDS, AND EVERY EYE WILL SEE HIM, even those who pierced Him; and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of Him."

2. According to the revelation given by Christ Himself, His glorious appearing will be like lightning shining from the East to the West.

Matthew 24:26-27 "So if anyone tells you, 'There He is, out in the desert,' do not go out; or, 'Here He is, in the inner rooms,' do not believe it. For as LIGHTNING THAT COMES FROM THE EAST IS VISIBLE EVEN IN THE WEST, so will be the coming of the Son of Man."

3. Immediately BEFORE Christ, Himself, returns to the earth, described as "the tribulations of days", there will be significant disturbances noticed in the "universe" of stars and planets:

Matthew 24:29 "Immediately after the distress of those days 'the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.'"

Revelation 6:12-14 "I watched as he opened the sixth seal. There was a great earthquake. The sun turned black like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole moon turned blood red, and the stars in the sky fell to earth, as late figs drop from a fig tree when shaken by a strong wind. The sky receded like a scroll, rolling up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place."

4. When Christ returns, the nations will "mourn" because they consist of a majority of unbelievers who will now be facing judgment because of their lack of faith.

Matthew 24:30 "At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and ALL THE NATIONS OF THE EARTH WILL MOURN. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory."

Revelation 6:15-17 "Then the kings of the earth, the princes, the generals, the rich, the mighty, and every slave and every free man hid in caves and among the rocks of the mountains. They called to the mountains and the rocks, 'Fall on us and HIDE US FROM HIM WHO SITS ON THE THRONE AND FROM THE WRATH OF THE LAMB! For the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?'"

Revelation 20:11-15 *"Then I saw a great white throne and Him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from His presence, and there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. THE DEAD WERE JUDGED according to what they had done as recorded in the books. The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, HE WAS THROWN IN THE LAKE OF FIRE."*

5. In His second coming to the earth, Christ is accompanied BY SAINTS AND ANGELS in a dramatic procession.

Revelation 19:11-16 *"I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. WITH JUSTICE HE (i.e. Jesus Christ) JUDGES AND MAKES WAR. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on His head are many crowns. He has a name written on Him that no one knows but He Himself. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and His name is the Word of God. THE ARMIES OF HEAVEN WERE FOLLOWING HIM, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Out of His mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. 'He will rule them with an iron scepter.' He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On His robe and on His thigh He has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS."*

- a. The fact that this is a procession in which Christ is accompanied by all the saints and holy angels indicates that it is gradual and may take many hours.
 - b. During this period the earth will rotate, permitting the entire world to see the event.
6. The second coming itself will terminate on the Mount of Olives, the same place from which Christ ascended into heaven.

Acts 1:10-12 *"They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 'Men of Galilee,' they said, 'why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.' Then they returned to Jerusalem FROM THE HILL CALLED THE MOUNT OF OLIVES, a Sabbath day's walk from the city."*

Zechariah 14:1-4a *"A day of the LORD is coming when your plunder will be divided among you. I will gather all the nations to Jerusalem to fight against it; the city will be captured, the houses ransacked, and the women raped. Half of the city will go into exile, but the rest of the people will not be taken from the city. THEN THE LORD WILL GO OUT AND FIGHT against those nations, as He fights in the day of battle. ON THAT DAY HIS FEET WILL STAND ON THE MOUNT OF OLIVES..."*

7. At the moment His feet touch the Mount of Olives, it will cleave in two and form a great valley extending from Jerusalem east to the Jordan valley.

Zechariah 14:4 *"On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives WILL BE SPLIT IN TWO FROM EAST TO WEST, FORMING A GREAT VALLEY, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south."*

8. At His coming, Christ will bring stern judgment to those who are living in rebellion against Him on the earth.

- a. First the “beast” (i.e. “The Anti-Christ”) and his False Prophet:

Revelation 19:19-20 “*Then I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to make war against the rider on the horse and his army. But the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who had performed the miraculous signs on his behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped his image. THE TWO OF THEM WERE THROWN ALIVE INTO THE FIERY LAKE OF BURNING SULFUR.”*

- b. Then the Armies gathered in battle against Him:

Revelation 19:21 “*The rest of them (i.e. the kings of the earth and their armies) WERE KILLED WITH THE SWORD THAT CAME OUT OF THE MOUTH OF THE RIDER ON THE HORSE, and all the birds gorged themselves on their flesh.”*

- c. Then Satan will be captured and bound in chains for 1000 years:

Revelation 20:1-3 “*And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. HE SEIZED THE DRAGON, THAT ANCIENT SERPENT, WHO IS THE DEVIL, OR SATAN, AND BOUND HIM FOR A THOUSAND YEARS. He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time.”*

9. Christ will then bring in His kingdom of righteousness and peace on the earth, with Satan bound and all open rebellion judged.

The Second Coming Contrasted With The Rapture:

1. When coming “for” His saints, Christ is called the “Morning Star”:

Revelation 2:28 “*I will also give him THE MORNING STAR.”*

Revelation 22:16 “*I, JESUS, have sent My angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and THE BRIGHT MORNING STAR.”*

2Peter 1:19 “*And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and THE MORNING STAR rises in your hearts.”*

When coming “with” His saints, Christ is called the “Sun of Righteousness”:

Malachi 4:1-3 “*‘Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and that day that is coming will set them on fire,’ says the LORD Almighty... ‘But for you who revere My name, the SUN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS will rise with healing in its wings.... Then you will trample down the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I do these things,’ says the LORD Almighty.”*

2. When coming “for” His saints, it is called “The Day of Christ”:

1Corinthians 1:7-8 *“Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on THE DAY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.”*

2Corinthians 1:14 *“...as you have understood us in part, you will come to understand fully that you can boast of us just as we will boast of you in THE DAY OF THE LORD JESUS.”*

Philippians 1:6 *“...being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until THE DAY OF CHRIST JESUS.”*

Philippians 1:9-10 *“And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until THE DAY OF CHRIST...”*

Philippians 2:14-16 *“Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life—in order that I may boast on THE DAY OF CHRIST that I did not run or labor for nothing.”*

When coming “with” His saints, it is called “The Day of the Lord”:

Isaiah 13:6-9 *“Wail, for THE DAY OF THE LORD is near; it will come like destruction from the Almighty. Because of this, all hands will go limp, every man’s heart will melt. Terror will seize them, pain and anguish will grip them; they will writhe like a woman in labor. They will look aghast at each other, their faces aflame. See, THE DAY OF THE LORD is coming—a cruel day, with wrath and fierce anger—to make the land desolate and destroy the sinners within it.”*

Joel 2:30-31 *“I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and dreadful DAY OF THE LORD.”*

2Peter 3:10 *“But THE DAY OF THE LORD will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.”*

3. Before coming “for” His saints, there are no “signs” to look for indicating His coming:

1Corinthians 15:50-52 *“I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— IN A FLASH, IN THE TWINKLING OF AN EYE, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and WE WILL BE CHANGED.”*

Before coming “with” His saints, there are many “signs” to look for indicating His coming:

Matthew 24:15-30 *“So when you see standing in the holy place ‘the abomination that causes desolation,’ spoken of through the prophet Daniel—let the reader understand— then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Let no one on the roof of his house go down to take anything out of the house. Let no one in the field go back to get his cloak. How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant*

women and nursing mothers! Pray that your flight will not take place in winter or on the Sabbath. For then there will be great distress, unequalled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again. If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened. At that time if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'There he is!' do not believe it. For false Christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect—if that were possible. SEE, I TOLD YOU AHEAD OF TIME. 'So if anyone tells you, 'There he is, out in the desert,' do not go out; or, 'Here he is, in the inner rooms,' do not believe it. For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Wherever there is a carcass, there the vultures will gather. Immediately after the distress of those days 'the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.' At that time THE SIGN OF THE SON OF MAN WILL APPEAR IN THE SKY, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. THEY WILL SEE THE SON OF MAN coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory."

NOTE: From Revelation 6:1 through Revelation 18, the Bible gives us prophecies of 7 "seal" judgments, 7 "trumpet" judgments, and 7 "bowl" judgments that occur "before" Jesus Christ returns to the earth "with" His saints for the Battle of Armageddon in Revelation 19.

4. Christ coming "for" His saints could happen at "any" moment:

Titus 2:11-13 "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say 'No' to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—THE GLORIOUS APPEARING of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ..."

Christ coming "with" His saints have prophecies that need to be fulfilled "before" He comes:

2Thessalonians 2:1-4 "Concerning THE COMING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST and OUR BEING GATHERED TO HIM, we ask you, brothers, not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by some prophecy, report or letter supposed to have come from us, saying that THE DAY OF THE LORD has already come. Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for THAT DAY WILL NOT COME UNTIL the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God."

5. No details about Christ dealing with "evil" while coming "for" His saints:

1Thessalonians 4:15-18 "According to the Lord's own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. FOR THE LORD HIMSELF WILL COME DOWN FROM HEAVEN, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left WILL BE CAUGHT UP TOGETHER WITH THEM in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage each other with these words."

Many details about Christ dealing with "evil" on the earth when He comes "with" His saints:

2Thessalonians 2:8 "And then THE LAWLESS ONE (i.e. the Anti-Christ) will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor OF HIS COMING."

Revelation 19:20 “*But the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who had performed the miraculous signs on his behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped his image. The two of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur.”*

Revelation 20:1-3 “*And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a thousand years. He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time.”*

6. The nation of Israel not mentioned or involved when Christ comes “for” His saints:

The nation of Israel has all her covenants with God fulfilled when Christ comes “with” His saints:

Jeremiah 23:5-8 “*‘The days are coming,’ declares the LORD, ‘when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right IN THE LAND (i.e. “Israel”). In His days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The LORD Our Righteousness. ‘So then, the days are coming,’ declares the LORD, ‘when people will no longer say, ‘As surely as the LORD lives, who brought the Israelites up out of Egypt,’ but they will say, ‘As surely as the LORD lives, who brought the descendants of Israel up out of the land of the north and out of all the countries where he had banished them.’ THEN THEY WILL LIVE IN THEIR OWN LAND.”*

Jeremiah 30:3-11 “*‘The days are coming,’ declares the LORD, ‘when I will bring my people Israel and Judah back from captivity and restore them to the land I gave their forefathers to possess,’ says the LORD. ‘These are the words the LORD spoke concerning Israel and Judah: ‘This is what the LORD says: ‘Cries of fear are heard— terror, not peace. Ask and see: Can a man bear children? Then why do I see every strong man with his hands on his stomach like a woman in labor, every face turned deathly pale? How awful THAT DAY (i.e. “The day of the Lord”) will be! None will be like it. It will be a time of trouble for Jacob, but he will be saved out of it. ‘In that day,’ declares the LORD Almighty, ‘I will break the yoke off their necks and will tear off their bonds; no longer will foreigners enslave them. Instead, they will serve the LORD their God and David their king, whom I will raise up for them. ‘So do not fear, O Jacob my servant; do not be dismayed, O Israel,’ declares the LORD. ‘I will surely save you out of a distant place, your descendants from the land of their exile. Jacob will again have peace and security, and no one will make him afraid. I am with you and will save you,’ declares the LORD. ‘Though I completely destroy all the nations among which I scatter you, I will not completely destroy you. I will discipline you but only with justice; I will not let you go entirely unpunished.’”*

7. The church removed from the earth (1Thessalonians 4:13-18) when Christ comes “for” His saints:

The church returns with Christ when Christ comes “with” His saints:

Jude 14-15 “*Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men: ‘See, THE LORD IS COMING WITH THOUSANDS UPON THOUSANDS OF HIS HOLY ONES to judge everyone, and to convict all the ungodly of all the ungodly acts they have done in the ungodly way, and of all the harsh words ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.”’*

Revelation 19:13-14 “*He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. THE ARMIES OF HEAVEN WERE FOLLOWING HIM, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean.”*

8. Creation goes through “cataclysmic” changes after Christ comes “for” His saints:

Revelation 6:12-14 *“I watched as he opened the sixth seal. There was a great earthquake. The sun turned black like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole moon turned blood red, and the stars in the sky fell to earth, as late figs drop from a fig tree when shaken by a strong wind. The sky receded like a scroll, rolling up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place.”*

Revelation 16:3-11 *“The second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it turned into blood like that of a dead man, and every living thing in the sea died. The third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood...The fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and the sun was given power to scorch people with fire. They were seared by the intense heat and they cursed the name of God, who had control over these plagues, but they refused to repent and glorify him. The fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom was plunged into darkness. Men gnawed their tongues in agony and cursed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, but they refused to repent of what they had done.”*

Creation is delivered from the bondage of corruption after Christ comes “with” His saints:

Isaiah 35:1-10 *“The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the LORD, the splendor of our God. Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; say to those with fearful hearts, ‘Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you.’ Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert. The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs. In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow. And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness. The unclean will not journey on it; it will be for those who walk in that Way; wicked fools will not go about on it. No lion will be there, nor will any ferocious beast get up on it; they will not be found there. But only the redeemed will walk there, and the ransomed of the LORD will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.”*

Isaiah 65:17-25 *“Behold, I WILL CREATE NEW HEAVENS AND A NEW EARTH. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create, for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy. I will rejoice over Jerusalem and take delight in my people; the sound of weeping and of crying will be heard in it no more. ‘Never again will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his years; he who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere youth; he who fails to reach a hundred will be considered accursed. They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit. No longer will they build houses and others live in them, or plant and others eat. For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of my people; my chosen ones will long enjoy the works of their hands. They will not toil in vain or bear children doomed to misfortune; for they will be a people blessed by the LORD, they and their descendants with them. Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox, but dust will be the serpent’s food. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain,’ says the LORD.”*

Romans 8:18-22 *"I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope THAT THE CREATION ITSELF WILL BE LIBERATED FROM ITS BONDAGE TO DECAY and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that THE WHOLE CREATION HAS BEEN GROANING as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time."*

9. Christ appears as Bridegroom, Lord, and Head of the Church when He comes "for" His saints:

Matthew 25:1-13 *"AT THAT TIME the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet THE BRIDEGROOM. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. The wise, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.' 'No,' they replied, 'there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.' ...Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour."*

John 14:1-3 *"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in Me. In My Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with Me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going."*

Ephesians 5:25-27 *"Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved THE CHURCH and gave Himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, AND TO PRESENT HER TO HIMSELF AS A RADIANT CHURCH, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless."*

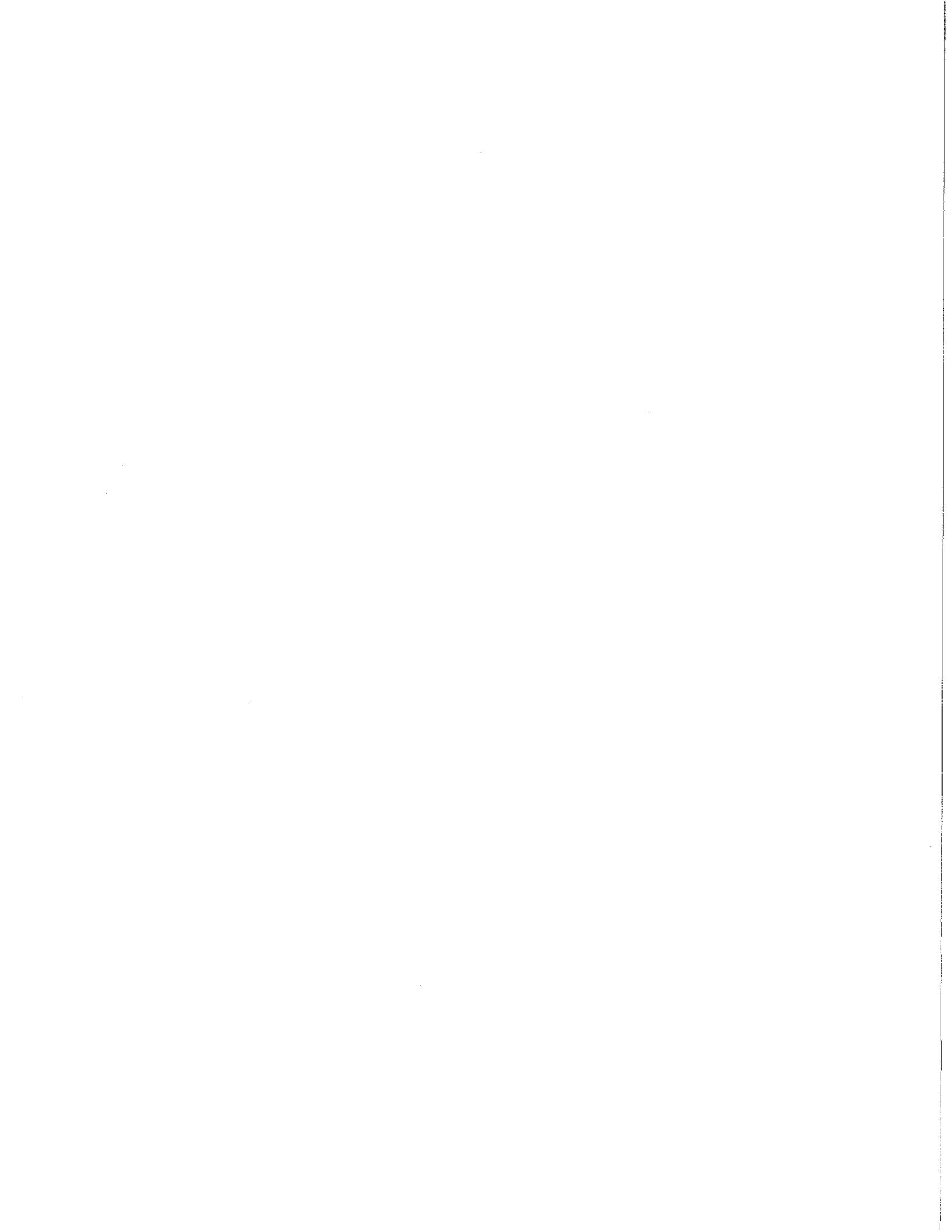
Titus 2:13-14 *"...while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and TO PURIFY FOR HIMSELF A PEOPLE THAT ARE HIS VERY OWN, eager to do what is good."*

10. Christ appears as King, Messiah, and Immanuel to Israel when He returns "with" His saints:

Isaiah 7:14 *"Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call Him IMMANUEL."*

Isaiah 9:6-7 *"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end. He WILL REIGN ON DAVID'S THRONE, AND OVER HIS KINGDOM, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this."*

Isaiah 11:10-12 *"In that day THE ROOT OF JESSE (i.e. "the Messiah") will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to Him, and His place of rest will be glorious. In that day the Lord will reach out His hand a second time to reclaim the remnant that is left of His people from Assyria, from Lower Egypt, from Upper Egypt, from Cush, from Elam, from Babylonia, from Hamath and from the islands of the sea. He will raise a banner for the nations and gather the exiles of Israel; He will assemble the scattered people of Judah from the four quarters of the earth."*



Loris First Baptist Church
“52 Vital Doctrines of The Bible”

Doctrine # 13 God the Son: His Coming With His Saints

1. Read Pages 1-11 from the Doctrine#13 Study Guide by next Wednesday.

2. Answer the following Questions about “God the Son” as you read:

a. The Facts of the Second Coming of Christ:

1. True or False. Jesus coming back “for” His saints is a more important biblical doctrine than Jesus coming back “with” His saints. (page 1, top)

2. What are the three well-defined periods of time revealed in Biblical prophecy between the “rapture of the church” (i.e. Christ coming “for” His saints) and Christ coming to set up His kingdom on earth (i.e. Christ coming “with” His saints)? (middle page 1 through middle page 2)

3. According to Revelation 13:14-17, the coming world dictator (known as “the Antichrist”) will have everyone killed that does not worship his image as their god. Why did he force everyone who does worship him to have a “mark” on their right hand or on his forehead?

4. What is the last half (a period of 3 ½ yrs) of the seven year tribulation period called?
(page 2, middle; see also Revelation 7:13-14, Revelation 13:5-9)

5. According to prophecies revealed in Revelation 15:1-18:24, what will God do during the “Great Tribulation” Period? (page 3, top)

6. What happens at the climax of the Great Tribulation period?
(page 3, top; see also Rev 16:12-16 and Rev 19:19)

7. According to Revelation 16:16, what is the name of the place in which the kings of the earth gather their armies together for the last world war on earth before Christ returns?

8. According to Revelation 19:14, when Christ comes to the earth to destroy the armies of the AntiChrist, who was following Him from heaven to the earth? (see also Revelation 19:8)

9. True or False. The second coming of Jesus Christ to the earth to destroy the enemies of God and to set up the millennial kingdom of God on earth where He sets on David’s throne in Jerusalem is NOT “imminent” (i.e. many “signs” must be fulfilled first!). (page 3, middle-bottom)

b. Vital Facts Relating to The Second Coming

1. What are four characteristics of Christ’s Second Coming that is revealed in Scripture?
(page 3, bottom thru page 4, top; see also Zech 14:3-4, Matt 25:31, Matt 24:30, Rev 1:7)

2. True or False. Just as the Jehovah Witnesses teach, Jesus Christ’s return to the earth will be in secret and only true “believers” (i.e. true “Jehovah” witnesses!) will see Him.
(page 4, top; see Revelation 1:7)

3. According to Matthew 24:26-27, what “visible” event in nature does Jesus use as a comparison to explain His glorious return to the earth that will be seen from East to West?

4. Immediately “before” Christ, Himself, returns to the earth, what will happen to the sun, the moon, the stars, and other heavenly bodies in the universe? (Matthew 24:29)

5. Why will all the nations of the earth “mourn” when Jesus Christ returns to the earth?
(page 4, bottom; see also Matthew 24:30 and Revelation 6:15-17)

6. True or False. When the unbelievers of the earth physically “see” the power of Jesus Christ and know for certain that He is the “King of kings and Lord of lords”, they will repent of their sins and ask God for forgiveness as they willingly accept Jesus’ authority over them.
(Revelation 6:15-17; see also Revelation 9:20-21)

7. According to Revelation 20:15, when Christ sits on His Great White Throne and judges the nations of the world, what happens to anyone “whose name is not found written in the book of life”?

8. Where physically on the earth does Christ first come to when He returns?
(page 5, middle; see also Acts 1:10-12 and Zechariah 14:4)

9. What will happen the moment Jesus Christ’s feet touch the ground when He returns again?
(page 5, bottom; see also Zechariah 14:4)

10. Who are sternly judged first when Christ returns to the earth? (page 6, top; Revelation 19:19-20)

11. What happens to the AntiChrist's armies who fight against Christ when He returns? (Revelation 19:21)

12. For how long will Satan be bound and chained and remain in The Abyss when Christ returns?
(page 6, middle; Revelation 20:1-3)

c. The Second Coming Contrasted With The Rapture:

1. When Christ comes "for" His saints, the Bible refers to Him as the "Morning Star" (Revelation 22:16).
What is Christ called when He comes to the earth "with" His saints? (page 6, bottom; Malachi 4:1-3)

2. When Christ returns to the earth to bring judgment on all the unbelievers left on the earth, what is that
"DAY" called in Scripture? (page 7, middle; Isaiah 13:6-9, Joel 2:30-31, 2Peter 3:10)

3. How many more "signs" need to be revealed before the "rapture" of the church can occur?
(page 7, bottom; see also 1Corinthians 15:50-52)

4. According to Scripture, Christ could come "for" His saints at what time? (page 8, middle)

5. According to Titus 2:11-13, what is the "blessed hope" that current believers on earth waiting for?

6. True or False. Many of the major prophecies of the Bible concerning the nation of Israel and the Jews
will NOT be fulfilled into Christ "physically" returns to the earth "with" His saints to
rule over Israel and the entire world while sitting on David's throne in Jerusalem.
(page 9, middle; Jeremiah 23:5-8, 30:3-11)