

01 TIME STATEMENTS OF THE SECOND COMING* DEMAND 1st CENTURY FULFILLMENT

Principle: We must give up traditional beliefs and assumptions that conflict with the veracity and divine inspiration of scripture.

1. Jesus said His coming would be in the time of the people to whom he was speaking.

- A. "You [disciples] will not have gone through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man has come." Mt.10:23
- B. "Most certainly...this generation will not pass away, until all these things** are accomplished." Mt. 24:34
- C. "Some standing here who will in no way taste of death, until they see the Son of Man coming in his Kingdom." Mt. 16:28
- D. "Hereafter shall you [Chief Priest and Jewish leaders] see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven." Mt. 26:64

2. Book of Revelation (written in 60's AD) Demands First Century Fulfillment.

- A. Rev. 1:1 "This is the Revelation of Jesus Christ...the things which must happen soon."
- B. Rev. 1:3 "Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy...for the time is at hand."
- C. Rev. 1:11 (Letter written to first century churches)
- D. Rev. 2:10 "Don't be afraid of the things which you are about to suffer."
- E. Rev. 2:10 "The devil is about to throw some of you into prison..."
- F. Rev. 3: 11. "Behold, I come quickly."
- G. Rev. 10:6 "[The angel] swore by him who lives forever and ever...that there will no longer be delay."
- H. Rev. 22:6 "The Lord God sent his angel to show to his bondservants the things which must happen soon."
- I. Rev. 22:7 "Behold, I come quickly. Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."
- J. Rev. 22:10 "He said to me, "Don't seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand."
- K. Rev. 22:12 "Behold, I come quickly. My reward is with me, to repay to each man according to his work."
- L. Rev. 22:20 "He who testifies these things says, 'Yes, I come quickly.'" Amen! 'Yes, come, Lord Jesus.'"

3. N.T. Letters (written before 70 A.D.) Demand First Century Fulfillment of "end of age."

- A. "The world is passing away...it is the final hour." I John 2:17-1
- B. "The time is short." I Cor. 7:29
- C. "The God of peace will quickly crush satan under your feet." Rom. 16:20
- D. "[We]...on whom the end of the ages has come." 1 Cor. 10:11
- E. "[God] has in these last days spoken to us by His Son." Heb. 1:2
- F. "[Christ] was manifested in the last times for you." 1 Pet. 1:20
- G. "The end of all things is at hand." 1 Pet. 4:7
- H. "The time has come for judgment to begin." 1 Pet. 4:17
- I. "Even now many antichrists have arisen; from this we know that it is the last hour." I Jn. 2:17-18
- J. "For in just a very little while, He who is coming will come and will not delay." Heb. 10:37
- K. "The coming of the Lord is at hand . . . the Judge is standing right at the door." James 5:8,9
- L. "Our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is nearly over; the day is almost here." Rom.13:11-12

4. The Gospel Had Been Preached to the "Whole World" in the First Century.

- A. "[The gospel]...has come to you; even as it is in all the world." Col. 1:6
- B. "Gospel, ...was preached to every creature which is under heaven." Col. 1:23
- C. "Your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world." Romans 1:8 (Also see: Rom. 16:25-26)

Conclusion: The understanding of these passages has been clouded by futurist interpretations ("traditions of men") and needs to be evaluated using a sound contextual method of interpretation. These passages pertain to the ending of the Old Covenant, the imminent national judgment of Israel in the first century (AD 67-70) and the ushering in of the full spiritual Kingdom of God for all believers, that is, **God With Us**.

*The term "second coming" does not appear in the Bible.

**All these things refers to the second coming and the events leading up to it.

Further study: Samuel G. Dawson, *Who is This Babylon* by Don K. Preston, William Bell Jr., Daniel Rogers, etc.