



SERIES: Spiritual Fitness: Christian Living

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Wednesday April 28, 2021

Scripture: Acts 1:9-11; Phil. 3:20-21; Rev. 22:20

TITLE: Christ Is Coming Back

Paranormal Activity was one of the most popular “found footage” films in the 2000s. Stories and movies about ghosts have been popular for a very long time. Unfortunately, people view the return of Jesus like these paranormal stories and movies. It’s either make believe, or if it is true, Jesus’ spirit may return, but surely, not a physical return of Jesus Christ. But is this true? Is this what the Bible says? That’s what we want to talk about today.

Over the next four days, we are going to talk about the return of Christ, the future Judgment, and eternity. With only 5 minutes a day, we won’t be able to even scratch the surface, but I pray it moves you back to the Bible to keep studying. So now let’s see what the Bible has to say about the return of Christ.

After His resurrection, Jesus spent 40 days appearing to over 500 individuals (1 Cor. 15:5-8). Before ascending to the Father, Jesus spent time with His disciples and promised them baptism with the Holy Spirit. And then Luke records this in Acts 11: “After saying this, he was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, and they could no longer see him. ¹⁰ As they strained to see him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them. ¹¹ “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but someday he will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!” (Acts 1:9-11, NLT).

Jesus physically appeared to over 500 people. Thomas touched Jesus. Jesus ate fish with his friends. Then He disappeared. The angels said, *Stop staring into the sky; He is coming back the same way.* Jesus Himself will return, dismissing the theories of a spiritual, political, or philosophical return (1 Thess. 4:16; Acts 1:11). His return will be in His resurrected body, as Paul writes in Philippians 3: “But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior. ²¹ He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control (Phil. 3:20-21). He will return. He will physically return. It will be glorious.

When will Christ return? Though no one except God knows when Jesus will return (Mark 13:32), we expect an imminent return of Christ. Jesus said this in Revelations 22:20b (NIV) “Yes, I am coming soon!” To that I say, “Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!” (Rev. 22:20c)

So here's my challenge for you today: Live like Christ is coming back. He's not metaphorically coming back. He's not philosophically coming back. He's physically coming back - to resurrect The Church and finish the job. The question is, "Are you ready?" If you've never turned to Christ as Savior, do so today. Believe in His death, burial, and resurrection. Turn from your sin and turn to Christ. Salvation is found no where else.

If you are a follower of Christ, get your house in order. How do you want Christ to find you? Watching Netflix or serving? Spending all your money on Amazon or giving it away? Christ is coming. Are you ready? Be prepared so you can win the day!