

# The History and Significance of Premillennialism

## Lesson #9 The Second Coming of Christ <sup>0653</sup>

### I. Introduction

The 1<sup>st</sup> Advent (coming) of Christ is clearly a matter of history and yet it was prophesied many years before it actually was fulfilled in the incarnation of God the Son in the person of the man Jesus known as the Christ (Messiah).

There are 3 canons (rules) by which prophecy is determined to be from God. These canons are:

**1<sup>st</sup> Canon:** “It must be such an unveiling of the future that no mere human foresight or wisdom could have guessed it.” *Dictionary of Premillennial Theology*; edited by **Mal Couch**; Article – *Advent, Christ’s First and Second* by **Donald Perkins** and **Russell L. Penney**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Canon:** “The prediction must deal in sufficient detail to exclude shrewd guesswork.” *Ibid.*

**3<sup>rd</sup> Canon:** “There must be such lapse of time between prophecy and fulfillment as precludes the agency of the prophet himself in effecting or affecting the result.” *Ibid.*

### II. Important Points in the 1<sup>st</sup> Advent of the Christ:

A. The prophecies of the 1<sup>st</sup> Advent of Christ fully met all 3 of the Canon listed above.

**1<sup>st</sup> Canon:** The prophecies of Christ’s coming related to His earthly ministry and His being crucified were told in exquisite detail that could not have been guessed by any of the many prophets.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Canon:** The detail listed in the prophecies were often minute and beyond the practices known at the time the prophecy was made.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Canon:** The time lapse between the prophecy and its fulfillment was beyond the memory of family tradition, cultural tradition, and institutional tradition by a lapse of at least 400 years (known as the silent years) in which Israel had no word from God.

(≈ 425 BC to 004 BC)

B. All of the prophecies made were in very nature “literal” in form and were fulfilled completely in a literal sense. Therefore, why would we assume or presume to interpret the very same future prophetic passages other than “literal” in meaning? In some cases, the language of the prophecies used similes or metaphors, and yet the readers knew and understood what these prophecies were saying without any substantive misunderstanding.

C. “The story of Jesus saturates the metanarrative of the Bible, and prophecies of His first advent are found throughout the Old Testament. Allusions to Him also come up in micro ways, as many people and events hint at the work He would accomplish. One scholar, J. Barton Payne, has found as many as **574 verses in the Old Testament** that somehow point to or describe or reference the coming Messiah. Alfred Edersheim found **456 Old Testament verses** referring to the Messiah or His times.

**Conservatively, Jesus literally fulfilled at least 300 prophecies in His earthly ministry.”**

<https://www.gotquestions.org/prophecies-of-Jesus.html>

### III. Important Points About the Second Advent of Christ:

Important Point	Scripture Reference of Prophecy NASU
Christ will come to earth, Himself, not another.	<b>Acts 1:11</b> <i>They also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven."</i>

Christ will return to the Mount of Olives from which He ascended.	<b>Zech 14:3-4</b> <i>Then the Lord will go forth and fight against those nations, as when He fights on a day of battle. <sup>4</sup> In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south.</i>
Christ will come in vengeance against the enemies of the saints.	<b>2 Thess 1:5-9</b> <i>This is a plain indication of God's righteous judgment so that you will be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which indeed you are suffering. For after all it is only just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, <sup>7</sup> and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, <sup>8</sup> dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.</i>
When will Christ will return. See below for details.	<b>Matt 24:29</b> <i>But immediately after the tribulation of those days THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL, from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.</i>
Christ's return will be visible to all.	<b>Matt 24:30-31</b> <i>"And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory. <sup>31</sup> "And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.</i>
All the saints, OT, NT, & Tribulation will see Christ in His second coming upon the earth.	<b>Job 19:25-27</b> <i>"As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last He will take His stand on the earth. <sup>26</sup> Even after my skin is destroyed, yet from my flesh I shall see God; <sup>27</sup> Whom I myself shall behold, and whom my eyes will see and not another. My heart faints within me!"</i>
The Church saints will return with Christ in power.	<b>1 Thess 3:11-13</b> <i>Now may our God and Father Himself and Jesus our Lord direct our way to you; <sup>12</sup> and may the Lord cause you to increase and abound in love for one another, and for all people, just as we also do for you; <sup>13</sup> so that He may establish your hearts without blame in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.</i>
Christ will return in judgment with His holy ones.	<b>Jude 14-16</b> <i>It was also about these men that Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones, <sup>15</sup> to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."</i>
Christ is returning to be ruler of the whole earth. We have been made a kingdom of priest to God the Father. Ever eye will see Him, even the Roman soldiers who crucified Him.	<b>Rev 1:5-7</b> <i>and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood — <sup>6</sup> and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father — to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen. <sup>7</sup> BEHOLD, HE IS COMING WITH THE CLOUDS, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen.</i>
Christ will sit on His throne and judge all the nations gathered before Him.	<b>Matt 25:31-3</b> <i>"But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. <sup>32</sup> "All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; <sup>33</sup> and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left.</i>
Christ was born (first advent) as a child. Yet in the end he will be a Divine ruler over the whole earth and sit on David's throne.	<b>Isa 9:6-7</b> <i>For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup> There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from then on and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this.</i>

Christ will fulfill the Davidic covenant in His millennial reign. Judah & Israel will be secure.	<b>Jer 23:5-6</b> "Behold, the days are coming," declares the Lord, "When I will raise up for David a righteous Branch; and He will reign as king and act wisely and do justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>6</sup> In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely; and this is His name by which He will be called, 'The Lord our righteousness.'
The whole earth will be ruled by One King and He will hold dominion over the whole earth	<b>Dan 7:27</b> 'Then the sovereignty, the dominion and the greatness of all the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the people of the saints of the Highest One; His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all the dominions will serve and obey Him.'
Here is a rather comprehensive prophecy of the actual effects of a fully implemented Davidic Covenant by Christ Himself.	<b>Ps 2:4-12</b> He who sits in the heavens laughs, The Lord scoffs at them. <sup>5</sup> Then He will speak to them in His anger and terrify them in His fury, saying, <sup>6</sup> "But as for Me, I have installed My King Upon Zion, My holy mountain. <sup>7</sup> I will surely tell of the decree of the Lord: He said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. <sup>8</sup> Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, and the very ends of the earth as Your possession. <sup>9</sup> You shall break them with a rod of iron, You shall shatter them like earthenware." <sup>10</sup> Now therefore, O kings, show discernment; take warning, O judges of the earth. <sup>11</sup> Worship the Lord with reverence And rejoice with trembling. <sup>12</sup> Do homage to the Son, that He not become angry, and you perish in the way, for His wrath may soon be kindled. How blessed are all who take refuge in Him!
<b>References to other prophetic passages of Christ's Second Advent:</b> Ps 72; Is 40:1-11; Is 49:6-7; Dan 7:13-14; Lk 1:32-33; Jn 5:28-29; 2 Thess 2:7-10; 1 Pet 1:6-7; 1 Pet 4:12-13; Rev 5:9-13; etc. etc.	

The entire covenant program with Israel, which has not yet been fulfilled, necessitates the Second Advent of Messiah to the earth. The principle of literal fulfilment makes it essential that Christ will return. Article: Advent, Christ's First and Second" taken from Dictionary of Premillennial Theology; by Mal Couch, General Editor; p. 36

#### IV. The Sequence of Events of the Second Advent

1. Takes place immediately after the Tribulation – (Mt 24:29)
2. Cosmic phenomena will occur in the sun, moon, and stars – (Mt 24:29)
3. The sign of the Son of Man in heaven will be seen by everyone and He will gather His elect - (Mt 24:30 & 31)
4. Heaven will open and Christ will appear on a white horse - (Rev 19:11)
5. Christ will be followed by the armies of heaven, prepared to judge the ungodly - (Rev 19:14 & Jude 14-15)
6. Christ will come in power and great glory - (Mt 24:30)
7. Christ will stand on the Mount of Olives - (Zech 14:3-5)
8. Unbelievers will mourn, for they are not ready- (Mt 24:30)
9. The Beast (Antichrist) and his armies will confront Christ- (Rev 19:19)
10. Christ casts the Beast and False Prophet into the Lake of Fire- (Rev 19:20)
11. Christ's rejectors will be killed- (Rev 19:21)
12. Satan will be cast into the bottomless pit for 1000 years- (Rev 20:1-3)
13. The Old Testament and Tribulation saints will be resurrected (Mt 24:31 & Rev 20:4)
14. Christ will judge the nations and establish His kingdom- (Mt 25)

## V. The Actual Second Coming of Christ Results in the Defeat of the Armies of the World (Armageddon)

**Rev 16:13-21** *And I saw coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs; <sup>14</sup>for they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty. <sup>15</sup>("Behold, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who stays awake and keeps his clothes, so that he will not walk about naked and men will not see his shame.") <sup>16</sup>And they gathered them together to the place which in Hebrew is called **Har-Magedon**. <sup>17</sup>Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl upon the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple from the throne, saying, "It is done." <sup>18</sup>And there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder; and there was a great earthquake, such as there had not been since man came to be upon the earth, so great an earthquake was it, and so mighty. <sup>19</sup>The great city was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. Babylon the great was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath. <sup>20</sup>And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. <sup>21</sup>And huge hailstones, about one hundred pounds each, came down from heaven upon men; and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, because its plague was extremely severe.*

Also consider reading **Zechariah Chapters 12 through 14** for a more complete prophecy of this battle.

**Rev 19:11-16** *And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war. <sup>12</sup>His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems; and He has a name written on Him which no one knows except Himself. <sup>13</sup>He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. <sup>14</sup>And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses. <sup>15</sup>From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. <sup>16</sup>And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."*

### Some Important Quotes

"What is faith?" asked the Sunday School teacher. "Oh, that's easy," replied the ten-year-old. "Faith is believing something you know is not true." Unfortunately, that little boy's definition summarizes what many people think about faith. For them, to believe is to make a "leap of faith." It isn't rational but irrational. The truth of the matter is, Christianity is a reasonable faith. It is based on a set of incontrovertible, historical facts. Contrary to being a form of intellectual suicide, given the facts, believing in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord is the most reasonable choice one can make. Now I hasten to add that certain matters of faith go beyond reason, but they don't contradict it. As Christian author and speaker Josh McDowell has said, "Christians are not to park their brains in the church's narthex."

**D. James Kennedy;** from *Skeptics Answered*; p. 19

The Scriptures have incredible power, whether a person believes that or not. So, to a certain degree, we need to learn to relax. In some ways even our terminology is wrong. Defending the faith, for example, is like saying we need to defend an uncaged lion. The lion, in almost any case I can think of, will do quite nicely by itself. What we need to learn is how to uncage the Word's power, to remove whatever obstacles we can. When an unbeliever says, "Oh, I don't believe in the Bible," it's meant as a fierce attempt to slam, bar, and lock the door in the face of such a threatening force." **D. James Kennedy;** from *Skeptics Answered*; p. 21