

GOD'S PROMISE: JESUS WILL RETURN

(Review) Mark 16:9 & Acts 1:3, 9-11 & Luke 24:50-51

Mark 16:9 Jesus became alive again early on Sunday. Acts 1:3 For 40 days, Jesus appeared to his disciples. He proved many times that he was alive again. Luke 24:50 Then, Jesus took his disciples outside Jerusalem. 51 And God took Jesus up into heaven.

Acts 1:9 A cloud hid Jesus. And the disciples could not see Jesus. 10 They were looking up into the sky. Suddenly two angels stood beside the disciples. 11 The angels said to the disciples, "Why are you looking into the sky? God took Jesus up into heaven – and Jesus will come back in the same way."

Matthew 24:27-30 & 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 & Daniel 12:2

Matthew 24:27 When Jesus comes back, everyone will see it – it will be like lightning. You can see lightning across the whole sky. 30 All the nations of the earth will see Jesus coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory – and all the nations will cry and be very sad.

1 Thessalonians 4:16 Jesus will come down from heaven. People who believe in Jesus will go up to meet Jesus – first, dead people will become alive again. They will go up to meet Jesus. 17 Next, people who are living on earth will meet Jesus in the clouds. So everyone who believes in Jesus will be with Jesus forever.

Daniel 12:2 There are many, many people who have died [since the beginning of the world]. They are buried in the ground. They will wake up. Some people will receive eternal life. Some people will receive shame and scorn forever.

Matthew 24:36-44 & Acts 2:27-40 & 2 Peter 3:4-15

Matthew 24:36 No one knows when this will happen. Angels do not know. Jesus does not know. Only God the Father knows when it will happen. 42 So, you must always watch. You do not know when Jesus will come. 44 You must be ready. Jesus will come when you don't expect it.

Acts 2:37 So what should we do? 38 Everyone must believe in Jesus – and repent – and be baptized. Then God will forgive your sins – and God will give you his Holy Spirit. 39 This promise is for you and for your children! This promise is for everyone God calls to come to Jesus. 40 [So] save yourselves!

2 Peter 3:4 God promised that Jesus will come back. But, some scoffers say, "When will Jesus come? Every day is the same. Every day has been the same from the beginning of the world."

8But remember this: For God, 1 day is like 1000 years, and 1000 years is like 1 day.
 9God is not slow to keep his promise. God is patient with you. He doesn't want to destroy you. He wants everyone to repent. 15So, God is patient because he wants to save you.

2 Peter 3:10But God's Great Day will come suddenly. 12Fire will destroy the heavens and the earth – and everything in it. 13But God promised to make a New Heaven and New Earth – so we look forward to it!

A Prophecy About the New Earth

Revelation 21:1-5

21:1Then I saw a New Heaven and a New Earth. 3Then God will live with people on the New Earth – and they will be God's people. And God will be their God. 4God will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no death, no crying, no pain. All the old things are gone. 5God said, "I am making everything new!"

A Prophecy About Jesus

Philippians 2:9-11

2:9God the Father raised Jesus to the highest place. God gave Jesus the highest name. 10So everyone in heaven and on earth will hear Jesus' name – and everyone must bow. 11And everyone must say: Jesus Christ is Lord.

And God the Father will get the glory.

CONTENT QUESTIONS**DISCUSSION QUESTION**

- What will Jesus do in the future – what did the angels say? (Acts 1:11)
- Who will see Jesus (when he comes back)? (Matthew 24:27, 30)
- Why will everyone see Jesus? (verse 27)
- How will all the nations feel when Jesus comes back? (verse 30)
 - Will they be happy to see Jesus?

Why do you think the nations will cry and be very sad?

Who do you think will be happy when Jesus comes back?

- Who will go up to meet Jesus (when he comes back)? (1 Thessalonians 4:16)
- Who will become alive again first? Who will meet Jesus first? (verse 16)
- Who will meet Jesus next? (verse 17)
- Who will live with Jesus forever? (verse 17)
- Do we know when Jesus will come back? (Matthew 24:36)
- Who knows when Jesus will come back? (verse 36)
 - So what must we do? (verse 42)
 - How can we be ready when Jesus comes back? (Acts 2:38)
 - If we believe in Jesus, repent and are baptized, what will God do? (verse 38)
 - Is God's promise only for us? Who else is God's promise for? (verse 39)

How can our belief in God help our children?

- How does God think about time? (2 Peter 3:8)
- Why is God waiting to make a New Earth? Why hasn't Jesus come yet? (verses 9 & 15)
- What will happen to this old earth and old heaven? (2 Peter 3:12)
- What will God make (after he destroys the old heaven and old earth)? (2 Peter 3:13)
- Where will God live? (Revelation 21:3)

Why do you think God wants to live with his people?

- What will God do on the New Earth for his people? (Revelation 21:3-5)

What do you like best about the New Earth?