



## STUDY GUIDE

“SECOND COMING: JESUS CHRIST WILL RETURN TO THE EARTH IN GLORY”

“GENERAL RESURRECTION: THE DEAD IN CHRIST WILL RISE IN GLORY”

(pg. 250-257)

### **What is the Main Takeaway?**

Jesus will come again to judge the world in righteousness and to bring His people home. When He comes, the dead in Christ will rise first and we all will be gathered to our Savior.

### **What are the Potholes, the problems, the alternate views?**

- 1) There are differing beliefs about the millennium and when Jesus will come back, but all within orthodox Christianity believe that Jesus will physically, visibly, and triumphantly return. However, in efforts to arrive with confidence at an orthodox (nonetheless differing) view, the tertiary details of a particular view are often elevated to first-order importance.
- 2) The Sadducees did not believe in the resurrection of the dead, the afterlife, or any existence of the spiritual world. They vehemently denied Jesus' bodily resurrection.
- 3) Too many believers do not dwell enough on the truth of their own resurrection. The here and now tends to override the promises of eternity.

### **What are some of the Gracious Answers for those who may push back?**

- 1) As with all of Scripture, the authorial intent ought to be paramount when interpreting the passage. The details of the passage will support the main thrust or implication of the text. Of first importance is the truth that Christ will return and judge the world in righteousness and gather His people to Himself. In each millennial view, we are called to faithfulness today, not knowing when He will come, but certain that He will.
- 2) Christ was the firstborn of the dead (Acts 26:23; Colossians 1:18; Rev. 1:5). If Christ did not rise from the dead, then there is no promise of resurrection for any of His followers, and there is no Gospel. (1 Corinthians 15:12-22)
- 3) The glorification of believers (when we are transformed into sinless creatures in deathless bodies) is the desired goal of God for His children. We will be uninhibited in our love for Him and our ability to perform what He commands. This is a promised truth (Romans 8:30) and ought to be foundational in our thinking.

### **What Applications arise from this study?**

Rejoice that every promise of God will be fulfilled, just as they always have. Eagerly await Christ's glorious appearing. Warn the lost of the coming judgement from the risen and conquering King. Press on toward the goal of the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. "But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like His glorious body, by the power that enables Him even to subject all things to Himself." (Philippians 3:20-21)

*Sample questions could include:* "Do the distinctives within the different views distract you from the clear truths of Christ's Return?" "Are you ready for His Coming?" "How does the fixed reality that you will be glorified motivate you today in worship and holiness?"

### **What are some Additional Resources?**

<https://www.gotquestions.org/two-comings-of-the-Messiah.html>

<https://www.ligonier.org/podcasts/simply-put/the-millennium>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/resurrection-first-second.html>

<https://www.ligonier.org/guides/glorification>