

SEEING CHRIST THROUGH the EYES of MARK

The Return of Christ | Mark 13 | 01.06.19

1. An understanding of prophecy should discourage a materialistic lifestyle. **2 Peter 3:10**
2. An understanding of prophecy should encourage a godly lifestyle. **2 Peter 3:11**
3. An understanding of prophecy should develop an expectant lifestyle. **2 Peter 3:12-14**

Deception (in the name of Christ)	Mark 13:5 -6
Disputes and wars (political upheaval)	Mark 13:7-8a
Devastation (natural disasters)	Mark 13:8b
Deliverance up of believers (betrayal)	Mark 13:9, 11
Declaration of the gospel	Mark 13:10
Defection of false believers	Mark 13:12-13
Daniel's prophecy	Mark 13:14-23
Darkened sky	Mark 13:24-26

In **Mark 13**, we learn about deception, persecution, tribulation, and the revelation.

What did Christ empty (*kenosis*) himself of? “*Kenosis*” (1) The visible expression of His full glory (2) The acceptance of the limitations of a human nature (3) The voluntarily giving up of his independent use of some of His attributes, but not his Deity! **(Philippians 2:5-11)**

Overview of God's Prophetic Plan:

1. The Church Age: **Matthew 16:16-18, Galatians 3:26-28, Ephesians 5:25b-27**
2. The Rapture of the Church: **1 Corinthians 15:51-58, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**
3. The Judgment Seat of Believers: **1 Corinthians 3:11-15, 2 Corinthians 5:10**
4. The Great Tribulation: **Matthew 24, Revelation 6-18**
5. The Battle of Armageddon: **Revelation 19:11-21**
6. The Second (visible) Return of Christ: **Matthew 24:23-30, Mark 13:24-26, Revelation 1:7**
7. The Sheep-Goat Judgment: **Matthew 25:31-44**
8. The Millennial Kingdom Age: **Isaiah 11:1-9, Revelation 20:4-6**
9. Satan's Release and the Battle of Gog and Magog: **Revelation 20:7-9**
10. The Great White Throne Judgment: **Revelation 20:10-15**
11. Eternal Damnation of the Lost: **Revelation 20:15**
12. The New Heaven and The New Earth: **Revelation 21-22**

Revelation 19-20

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| 1. Re-entry of the Son of God | 19:11-14 |
| 2. Rule of the Son of God | 19:15-21 |
| 3. Removal of Satan | 20:1-3 |
| 4. Reign of the Saints | 20:4-6 |

5. Release of Satan	20:7
6. Revolt of Society	20:8-9
7. Resurrection of Sinners	20:11-15 (eternal judgment)

"What is the difference between the rapture and the second coming?"

The rapture and the second coming of Christ are often confused. Sometimes it is difficult to determine whether a scripture verse is referring to the rapture or the second coming. However, in studying end-times Bible prophecy, it is very important to differentiate between the two.

The rapture is when Jesus Christ returns to remove the church (all believers in Christ) from the earth. The rapture is described in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and 1 Corinthians 15:50-54. Believers who have died will have their bodies resurrected and, along with believers who are still living, will meet the Lord in the air. This will all occur in a moment, in a twinkling of an eye. The second coming is when Jesus returns to defeat the Antichrist, destroy evil, and establish His millennial kingdom. The second coming is described in Revelation 19:11-16.

The important differences between the rapture and second coming are as follows:

- 1) At the rapture, believers meet the Lord in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:17). At the second coming, believers return with the Lord to the earth (Revelation 19:14).
- 2) The second coming occurs after the great and terrible tribulation (Revelation chapters 6-19). The rapture occurs before the tribulation (1 Thessalonians 5:9; Revelation 3:10).
- 3) The rapture is the removal of believers from the earth as an act of deliverance (1 Thessalonians 4:13-17, 5:9). The second coming includes the removal of unbelievers as an act of judgment (Matthew 24:40-41).
- 4) The rapture will be secret and instant (1 Corinthians 15:50-54). The second coming will be visible to all (Revelation 1:7; Matthew 24:29-30).
- 5) The second coming of Christ will not occur until after certain other end-times events take place (2 Thessalonians 2:4; Matthew 24:15-30; Mark 13:5-26, Revelation chapters 6-18). The rapture is imminent; it could take place at any moment (Titus 2:13; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Corinthians 15:50-5)

The rapture and second coming (Revelation) are similar but separate events. Both involve Jesus returning. Both are end-times events. However, it is crucially important to recognize the differences. In summary, the rapture is the return of Christ in the clouds to remove all believers from the earth before the time of God's wrath. The second coming is the return of Christ to the earth to bring the tribulation to an end and to defeat the Antichrist and his evil world empire.

Review & Prepare:

Read **Mark 13** and review the study guide.

Read **Mark 14** in preparation for the 1.13.19 sermon.