

The States of Christ (Pt. 2)

Tom Pennington, April 8, 2018



CHRISTOLOGY
The States of Christ

I. Christ's Humiliation

A. His Incarnation

B. His Suffering & Death

C. His Burial



II. Christ's Exaltation

- A. His Resurrection
- B. His Ascension
- C. His Session
- D. His Second Coming



A. His Resurrection



A. His Resurrection

1. The Nature of the Resurrection
2. The Doctrinal Consequences of the Resurrection
3. The Arguments for the Resurrection



Reasons to Believe in His Resurrection

- 1) The Prophecy of the OT
- 2) The Prophecy of Jesus Himself
- 3) The Certainty of Jesus' Death
 - The Biblical Evidence
 - John 19:31-33
 - John 19:34-35



Reasons to Believe in His Resurrection

3) The Certainty of Jesus' Death

- The Extra-Biblical Evidence
 - Josephus: "Pilate, upon hearing him accused by men of the highest standing among us, ... condemned him to be crucified."
 - Tacitus: "Nero fastened the guilt [of the burning of Rome] and inflicted the most exquisite tortures on a class hated for their abominations, called Christians by the populace. Chrestus, from whom the name had its origin, suffered the extreme penalty during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurator's, Pontius Pilatus."
 - The Jewish Talmud: "On the eve of the Passover Yeshu was hanged."



Reasons to Believe in His Resurrection

4) The Confidence of the Disciples

- They believed & proclaimed that Jesus had been raised from the dead and had appeared to them.
 - Acts 2:24, 32; 3:15, 26; 4:10; 5:30; 10:40-43; 13:30-31, 33-37; 17:31; 22:12-15; 26:22-23
 - 1 Cor. 15:3-4, 11
- They died for their testimony that Jesus had been raised from the dead and had appeared to them.



Reasons to Believe in His Resurrection

5) The Post-resurrection Appearances

- 1st - Mary Magdalene (John 20:18)
- 2nd - The other women (Matt. 28:9-10)
- 3rd - Peter (Luke 24:34; 1 Cor. 15:5)
- 4th - Two disciples on the Emmaus Road (Luke 24:13-32)
- 5th - Ten apostles, w/o Judas & Thomas (John 20:19-25)



Reasons to Believe in His Resurrection

5) The Post-resurrection Appearances

- 6th - Thomas and the other apostles (John 20:26-28)
- 7th - Seven apostles at Galilee (John 21:1-14)
- 8th - James, his half brother (1 Cor. 15:7)
- 9th - All the apostles in Galilee (Matt. 28:16-20)



Reasons to Believe in His Resurrection

5) The Post-resurrection Appearances

- 10th - All the apostles at the ascension (Acts 1:4-9)
- 11th - Stephen (Acts 7:56)
- 12th - Paul (Acts 9; 1 Cor. 15:8)
- 13th - John (Rev. 1:12-20)



Reasons to Believe in His Resurrection

6) The Conversion of the Persecutor Paul

- Before his Conversion
 - Acts 7:57—8:3
 - Acts 22:3-5; 26:9-11
- After his Conversion
 - Gal. 1:22-23 - I was still unknown by sight to the churches of Judea which were in Christ; but only, they kept hearing, "He who once persecuted us is now preaching the faith which he once tried to destroy."
 - Rom. 1:1 - Paul, a bond-servant [slave] of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,
 - 2 Cor. 4:5 - We do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord.



Reasons to Believe in His Resurrection

6) The Conversion of the Persecutor Paul

- After his Conversion
 - Acts 22:12-15; 26:15-18
 - 1 Cor. 9:1 - Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord?
 - 1 Cor. 15:8 - last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.



Reasons to Believe in His Resurrection

7) The Conversion of the Skeptics James & Jude

- Before the Resurrection
 - Mark 6:3 – "Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? Are not His sisters here with us?" And they took offense at Him.
 - Cf. Mark 3:21, 31-35; cf. Matt. 12:46-50; Luke 8:19-21
 - John 7:5 – "for not even his brothers were believing on him."



Reasons to Believe in His Resurrection

7) The Conversion of the Skeptics James & Jude

- After the Resurrection

1) James

- 1 Cor. 15:7 - He appeared to James.
- Acts 1:14 - These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.
- Acts 15:12-21
- Gal. 1:19 - But I did not see any other of the apostles except James, the Lord's brother.
- Jam. 1:1 - James, a bond-servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ.



Reasons to Believe in His Resurrection

7) The Conversion of the Skeptics James & Jude

- After the Resurrection

2) Jude

- Jude 1 - Jude, a bond-servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James
- Jude 4 - certain persons have crept in unnoticed, those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, ungodly persons who turn the grace of our God into licentiousness and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.



Reasons to Believe in His Resurrection

8) The Empty Tomb

- On that first day there were multiple witnesses to the empty tomb: two angels, the Roman soldiers, Mary Magdalene, at least three other women, Peter, and John.
- Jesus' enemies admitted his grave was empty and his body was gone.
- The Jewish leaders bribed the Roman guard to say that Jesus' disciples had stolen the body (Matt. 28:11-15).
- Neither the Romans nor the Jewish leaders ever furnished the body to silence the apostles.



Reasons to Believe in His Resurrection

9) The Inadequacy of Other Explanations

- Jesus never really died but swooned.
- The resurrection was a group hallucination.
- The story of Jesus grew into a legend as time passed.
- The resurrection was a fraud.
- The women and the other witnesses mistakenly went to the wrong tomb.



B. His Ascension into Heaven



B. His Ascension into Heaven

- Jesus promised he would ascend to the Father
 - John 6:62; 14:2, 12; 16:5, 10, 17, 28; 17:5; 20:17
- Luke recorded the actual event
 - Luke 24:51 - While He was blessing them, He parted from them and was carried up into heaven.
 - Acts 1:9-11 - And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. 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."



B. His Ascension into Heaven

- The Apostles affirmed it.
 - Acts 2:33 - "Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear.
 - Eph. 1:20 – [The Father] raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly *places*,
 - Eph. 4:8 - HE ASCENDED ON HIGH.



B. His Ascension into Heaven

- What was the significance of the ascension?
 - 1) It demonstrated the visible ascent of the human nature of Jesus from earth to heaven.
 - 2) It demonstrated that the Father accepted the work of Christ because He welcomed Him back into eternal glory.
 - 3) It demonstrated the eventual ascension of all believers.
 - 4) It allowed Christ to send the Spirit (John 16:7).
 - 5) It allowed Christ to go and prepare a place for His own (Jn. 14:1-2).
 - 6) It established the reality and manner of the Second Coming (Acts 1:11).



C. His Session at God's Right Hand



C. His Session at God's Right Hand

- Acts 2: 33-36; 5:31; Eph.1:20-22; Heb. 10:12; 1 Pet. 3:22; Rev. 3:21; 22:1
- Apologetic Purpose: It proves His Deity (Matt. 26:63-65)
- Other Purposes:
 - Reigns as King
 - Rom. 14:9; 1 Cor. 15:24-28; Heb. 2:7-8
 - Serves as Prophet
 - John 14:26; 16:7-15
 - Serves as Priest
 - Heb. 4:14; 7:24-25; 8:1-6; 9:11-15, 24-26; 10:19-22; 1 John 2:2



The Nature of His Intercession

- He provides a constant reminder of His atonement as basis for the Father's pardoning grace.
 - Cf. Heb. 9:24 – Christ's presence is a perpetual reminder of His perfect sacrifice.
- He answers all the charges Satan brings against us.
 - Rev. 12:10; Rom. 8:33-34
- He sanctifies our spiritual activities.
 - 1 Pet. 2:5 – "spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ"



The Nature of His Intercession

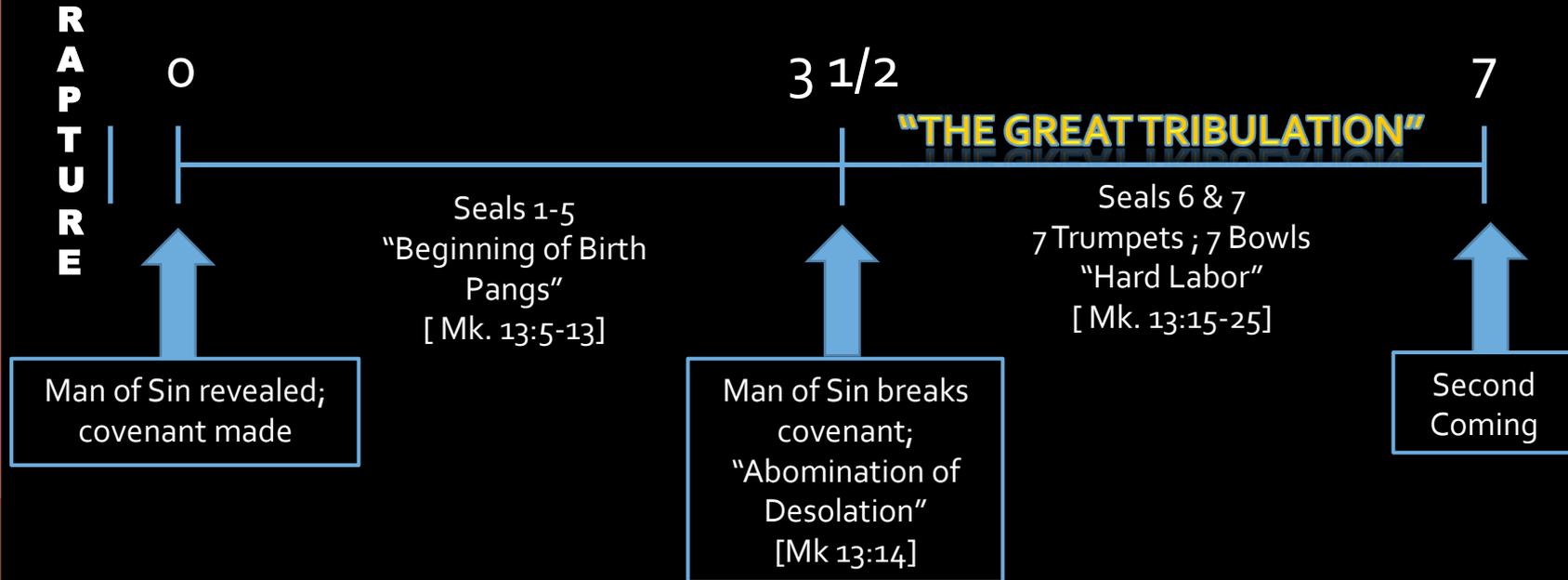
- He provides help for the hurting and tempted.
 - Cf. Heb. 2:18; 4:14-15
- He prays for us:
 - For spiritual protection (Luke 22:31)
 - For our sanctification (John 17:17)



D. His Second Coming



The 7-Year Tribulation (Daniel's 70th Week; 9:24-27)



The Rapture

- No hint of judgment
- No warning signs precede
- Rapture of living believers
- Resurrection of dead believers
- Before the Tribulation
- Christ comes in the air
- For His saints
- To take the saints to heaven

The Second Coming

- Emphasis on Judgment
- Dramatic signs precede
- No Rapture of living believers
- No Resurrection of dead believers
- After the Tribulation
- Christ returns to the earth
- With His saints
- To defeat His enemies / establish His kingdom



The Importance of the Second Coming

- It is a fundamental doctrine of our faith.
- 23 of 27 NT books refer to Christ's Second Coming.
- It's mentioned more often than the first coming.
- The Apostles' Creed, the Nicæan Creed, the Athanasian Creed, and all the major confessions of the church speak of Christ's return.



The Knowledge & Predictions of the Second Coming

- Before the Flood

- Jude 14-15 – *It was* also about these men Enoch, *in* the seventh *generation* from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones, 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."

- By Job (during the time of the Patriarchs)

- Job 19:25 – "As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, And at the last He will take His stand on the earth."



The Knowledge & Predictions of the Second Coming

- By David
 - Acts 2:30-31 - And so, because he was a prophet and knew that GOD HAD SWORN TO HIM WITH AN OATH TO SEAT *one* OF HIS DESCENDANTS ON HIS THRONE,³¹ he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that HE WAS NEITHER ABANDONED TO HADES, NOR DID His flesh SUFFER DECAY.
- By All the Prophets
 - Zech. 14:1-6; Mal. 4:1-3
 - Acts 3:21— whom heaven must receive until *the* period of restoration of all things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from ancient time.



The Knowledge & Predictions of the Second Coming

- By Christ Himself

- Matt. 24:27, 29-30 - "For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes even to the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man be ... 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. "
- Matt. 25:31 - "But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne.

- By Angels

- Acts 1:11 - 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."



The Knowledge & Predictions of the Second Coming

- By the Apostles
 - Acts 3:19-20 - "Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord; and that He may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you,
 - Titus 2:13 - looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,



The Date of the Second Coming

- Exact Time Unknown

- Matt. 24:36 - "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.
- Acts 1:6-7 - So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority.

- After the Tribulation

- Matt. 24:29-30 - "But immediately after the tribulation of those days ... 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.



The Purpose of the Second Coming

- To be Glorified in His Saints
 - 2 Th. 1:10 - when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed.
- To Judge the World
 - Matt. 16:27 - "For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and WILL THEN REPAY EVERY MAN ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS.
 - 2 Th. 1:7-10 - the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day.



The Purpose of the Second Coming

- To Bring Salvation to Israel
 - Zech. 12:10 - "I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn.
 - Zech. 13:1 - "In that day a fountain will be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for impurity.
 - Rom. 11:26 - so all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, "THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION, HE WILL REMOVE UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB."



The Purpose of the Second Coming

- To Destroy Antichrist & his Followers
 - 2 Th. 2:8 - Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming;



The Purpose of the Second Coming

- To Vindicate Christ
 - Matt. 24:27 - "For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes even to the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man be.
 - Matt. 26:63-64
 - Luke 21:27 - Then they will see THE SON OF MAN COMING IN A CLOUD with power and great glory.
 - Rev. 1:7 - 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.



The Manner of the Second Coming

- Personally

- Matt. 24:44 - the Son of Man is coming.
- Acts 1:11 - 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."
- Tit. 2:13 - looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,
- Heb. 9:28 - Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without *reference to sin*, to those who eagerly await Him.



The Manner of the Second Coming

- Bodily

- Zech. 14:4 - In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east.
- Acts 1:11 - 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."



The Manner of the Second Coming

- Visibly

- Matt. 24:27 - "For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes even to the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man be.
- Matt. 24:30 - "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.
- Titus 2:13 - looking for...the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus.



The Manner of the Second Coming

- Suddenly
 - Several interesting illustrations are used of its suddenness:
 - The coming of a bridegroom (Matt. 25:6)
 - The bridegroom returning from a wedding (Luke 12:6)
 - A thief (Luke 12:39)



The Manner of the Second Coming

- Suddenly

- Matt. 24:44 - "For this reason you also must be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think *He will*."
- Mark 13:36 - in case he should come suddenly and find you asleep.
- Rev. 3:3 - I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you.
- Rev. 16:15 - "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."



The Manner of the Second Coming

- Gloriously
 - Clouds will be his chariot.
 - Matt. 24:30 - they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory.
 - Luke 9:26 - "whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when He comes in His glory, and *the glory* of the Father and of the holy angels.
 - He will come with the saints.
 - 1 Th. 3:13 - The coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.



The Manner of the Second Coming

- Gloriously

- He will come with His angels.

- Matt. 16:27 - "For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and WILL THEN REPAY EVERY MAN ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS.
 - Matt. 25:31 - "But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne.
 - 2 Th. 1:7-8 - The Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire.



The Manner of the Second Coming

- Gloriously

- He will come in the glory of the Father (Matt. 16:27).
- He will come in His own glory (Matt. 25:31)
- Rev. 1:7 - 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.

- Victoriously

- Rev. 19:17-21



The Application of the Second Coming

- It is an impetus to believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
 - Acts 17:30-31 - "Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all *people* everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."



The Application of the Second Coming

- It is a reminder of blinding power of unbelief.
 - Matt. 24:37-39 – "For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. "For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be.
 - 2 Pet. 3:3-4 – Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with *their* mocking, following after their own lusts, and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For *ever* since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation."



The Application of the Second Coming

- It is a comfort in trial.
 - 2 Th. 1:4-7
- It is a source of encouragement in the battle for sanctification
 - Phil. 1:6 - *For I am* confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.
 - 1 John 3:3 - And everyone who has this hope *fixed* on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.
 - Jude 24 - Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy,

