

COULD JESUS REALLY COME BACK *TODAY*?

1 Corinthians 1:7-8; 15:51-52; 16:22
Philippians 1:6, 10; 3:20-21; 4:5
Colossians 3:4
1 Thessalonians 1:9-10; 4:15-17; 5:23
1 Timothy 6:14
Titus 2:13

James 5:7-9
Hebrews 9:28; 10:37
1 Peter 1:13; 4:7
1 John 2:28; 3:2-3
Revelation 1:1, 3; 3:10-11; 22:6, 7, 10, 12, 20

A. THE PRE-TRIBULATIONAL TRUTH OF IMMINENCY

1. The word “imminence” simply means _____ and is used theologically to describe the biblical truth that Christ’s return for His church is hanging overhead, ready to occur at any moment.

- *What does “imminence” not mean?*

2. Only the Pretribulational Rapture position is _____ with Christ’s imminent return for His church because it teaches that no prophesied events _____ occur before He returns.

B. THE PROOFS OF IMMINENCY

1. The _____ used for Christ’s coming paints a picture of imminency.

a) Christ says He is coming “_____ [taxys].” (Rev. 3:11; 22:7, 12, 20).

b) Christ’s coming will happen in a “_____ [taxei]” time. (Rev. 1:1; 22:6)

c) Christ’s coming is “_____ [eggys].” (Phi. 4:5; Jam. 5:8-9; 1 Pt. 4:7; Rev. 22:10)

d) Christ’s coming has drawn “_____ [eggizō].” (Rev. 1:3)

e) Christ’s coming is in a very “_____ [micron] while.” (Heb. 10:37)

2. Believers actually _____ Christ to come. (1 Cor. 16:22; Rev. 22:20)

3. In the epistles, believers are always described as being _____ in the Rapture by the use of the first- and second-person pronouns I, we, us, you, and your. (John 14:1-3; 1 Cor.1:7-8; 15:51-52; Phil. 1:6, 10; 3:20; Col. 3:4; 1 Thess. 4:15-17; 2 Thess. 2:1; 1 Tim. 6:14; Titus 2:12-13; Jam. 5:7-9; 1 Peter 1:13; 1 John 2:28; 3:2-3)

4. In the epistles, believers are described as _____ looking, watching, and waiting for Christ. (1 Cor. 1:7; Phil. 3:20; 1 Thess. 1:10; Titus 2:13; Heb. 9:28)

5. There is a _____ in the *expectation* of believers living today in the Church age (epistles) versus believers alive during the Tribulation (Olivet Discourse).

In the epistles (Church age), believers are instructed to be looking/watching/waiting *immediately* for _____, not _____. (1 Cor. 1:7; Phi. 3:20; 1 Thess. 1:10; Titus 2:13; Heb. 9:28)

But in the Olivet Discourse (future Tribulation), believers are never told to look/watch/wait specifically “for Christ.” They are to expect Christ’s return only *after* they see the _____ of the Tribulation. (Matt. 24:3, 32-33; Mark 13:4, 28-29; Luke 21:7, 28-31).

6. In the epistles, believers are never given instruction on preparing for the _____.

- *Is the 70th week of Daniel (the seven-year tribulation) intended for the Church or Israel?*

7. Believers are instructed to maintain a holy condition of life right up _____ Christ appears. (1 Cor. 1:8; Phil. 1:6, 10; 1 Thess. 5:23; 1 Tim. 6:14; Jam. 5:7; 1 Peter 1:13; 1 John 2:28; 3:2-3)

- *How does all of this apply to you?*