



5 FACTS ABOUT JESUS' RETURN

When we see the world in disarray, we wonder: when is Jesus coming back? And how can we be prepared? Love Worth Finding's five-day email challenge, "5 Facts about Jesus' Return," draws from rich messages Pastor Adrian Rogers delivered concerning end-time prophecy. Your faith will be encouraged by prophecy that declares Jesus' certain and timely return, confirms the reality of the Rapture of all believers, and demonstrates the grace God displays in His patience.



Day One: **JESUS IS COMING!**

FROM GOD'S WORD

“And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven’” (Acts 1:10-11).

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Jesus' Second Coming is certain; it is settled biblical fact, just as much a part of the Gospel as His first coming, His death on the cross, and His resurrection.

His return is the completion of the Gospel story. Through sin, man parted ways with God in the Garden of Eden. Through perfect sacrifice, God provided a way back to Himself on Calvary. Through the empty tomb, eternal life was demonstrated and guaranteed. Soon, and very soon, the fullness of the Gospel will be fulfilled. Jesus will come for His bride, the Church, and restore relationship between God and man for all eternity.

Peter warned us that “scoffers” would ask, “Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation” (2 Peter 3:4). But Jesus promised us that “one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled” (Matthew 5:18). We can be certain that the prophecies throughout the Bible, including in the Book of Revelation, will hold true. After all, the final book of the Bible is “The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants—things which must shortly take place” (Revelation 1:1).

Jesus made sure we would know we haven't been forgotten. Just before His crucifixion, Jesus comforted His disciples with these words: “Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also” (John 14:1-3).

He will come again. We can be certain.

FOR YOUR JOURNAL

1. Write about a time when someone scoffed about Jesus' return, saying something such as: “People have been talking about that for centuries. You don't really believe it, do you?” How did you react? How can you better prepare to answer with the certain hope of His return?
2. Record the Scriptures in this email for your journal. Search the Bible for other Scriptures that talk about Jesus' return, or access our [Scripture Writing Plan here](#), and record those Scriptures as well.
3. Write about what it means to you personally to be assured Jesus is coming back for you.



Day Two: **JESUS IS COMING ON TIME!**

FROM GOD'S WORD

“...looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:13).

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

We hear the news. We remember Jesus spoke of the days before His return and referenced “wars and rumors of wars...famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.” (See Matthew 24:6-7.) We hear of food shortages, see rising prices, and read Revelation 6:6, which talks about two pounds of wheat costing a day’s wages.

It’s natural to ask: When will Jesus return? The truth is, we don’t know. The Apostle Peter encouraged us: “Beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day” (2 Peter 3:8).

Pastor Adrian Rogers likened our wait to a walk near the ocean. If the ocean is eternity with Christ, our feet are in the sand, just touching the water. It is not that we have been journeying to the ocean from 2,000 miles away; we have been walking at surf’s edge since Jesus’ ascension in the first century.

“Now some people have the idea we’re way over here and the Second Coming is off over there somewhere,” Pastor Rogers said. “No, no, no, no, no. Friend, we’re right on the edge; we’re just walking along the seashore. We are living on the edge of eternity.” In other words, eternity isn’t in front of us; it’s right beside us. Jesus could come at any moment.

Jesus will return exactly on time. Pastor Rogers said: “God doesn’t punch a time-clock when He goes to work. He doesn’t wear a wristwatch. God is not concerned with time. ...I’ll tell you one thing: It’s two thousand years nearer than it’s ever been before. Jesus Christ is coming. I’ve stopped looking for the signs and started listening for the trumpet.”

FOR YOUR JOURNAL

1. Write about the encouragement you experience as you consider that God is concerned about every detail of your life, now and eternally, but is unconcerned with time.
2. Tell God about any personal fears you have related to the current state of the world.
3. Thank God for His comforting presence with you in troubling times.



Day Three: **JESUS WILL RESCUE HIS BRIDE**

FROM GOD'S WORD

“When Christ, who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory” (Colossians 3:4).

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

In first century Jewish culture, brides didn't plan their own weddings. A bride prepared her clothing, kept herself well groomed, and anticipated the moment when the groom would unexpectedly appear and sweep her off to a secret place. This was followed by the marriage celebration.

Scripture says that when Jesus returns for His bride, the Church, He will come at an unexpected time, “catch us up” in the air, and we will “be forever with the Lord.”

The Rapture we await is not only a reunion but also a rescue.

The Book of Daniel describes a period theologians call the Great Tribulation: “And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time” (Daniel 12:1). The Book of Revelation outlines seven years of devastation that will be the worst time in our planet's history and provides details about the Antichrist, a man who will gain worldwide power and, as Pastor Adrian Rogers said, “will make Hitler look like a Boy Scout.”

The Apostle John, speaking prophetically in past tense as if having seen it already occur, says of this time, “And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, and said to the mountains and rocks, ‘Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?’” (Revelation 6:15-17).

“The Church will be taken out at the Rapture, before the Great Tribulation,” Pastor Rogers said. “God chastises His children, but He never pours His wrath on His children. But there's coming a time known as the Day of the Lord when God is going to pour out His wrath upon this world, and I'm going to tell you this, that even now, right now, the raging waters of God's wrath are furiously pounding against the dam of his mercy.”

FOR YOUR JOURNAL

1. Consider the story of Noah: The world was in terrible disarray. God destroyed every living being through a cataclysmic flood—except for Noah and his family, who believed God and escaped judgment, and the animals God preserved. Write about the similarities between Noah's experience—sealed in the ark and saved—and believers' prospects in the last days—sealed by the Holy Spirit and saved.
2. Review the story of Lot, who was transported to safety by angels before the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. Write about the parallels between this story and prophecy regarding the Rapture and the Great Tribulation.
3. Write about what it means to you that “God chastises His children but never pours His wrath on them.”



Day Four: **JESUS WILL REUNITE HIS FAMILY**

FROM GOD'S WORD

“But I do not want you to be ignorant brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. ...We who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first” (1 Thessalonians 4:13-16).

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

All believers are members of Jesus' family. In the Book of Matthew, Jesus responds to a question about His family. “Then one said to Him, ‘Look, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside, seeking to speak with You.’ But He answered and said to the one who told Him, ‘Who is My mother and who are My brothers?’ And He stretched out His hand toward His disciples and said, ‘Here are My mother and My brothers!’” (Matthew 12:47-49).

Jesus was not disavowing His blood-related family but rather affirming His blood-bought family. He will reunite all those who belong to Him at the Rapture. New Testament writers used the word “asleep” or “dead in Christ” to describe believers who died before Jesus' return. That includes all of your friends and loved ones who put their faith in Jesus before they died. It is right to mourn their passing because living without them is painful. Jesus never asked us to deny the pain and sorrow we feel, but He wants us to hold onto the hope of His coming. He told us, “In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

All believers will not only be together with Jesus but also perfectly united. There will be no disagreements; all passion and purpose will be for the praise of our Lord. There will be no misunderstandings. Paul described the relationship we will have with Christ and with one another: “But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away. ...For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known. And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love” (1 Corinthians 13:10-13).

FOR YOUR JOURNAL

1. Compose a prayer of gratitude to Christ for including you in His blood-bought family.
2. Write about what it means to you to be reunited with believing loved ones who have died.
3. Journal about what it will mean to know Christ and others fully—to know just as you also are known.



Day Five: **JESUS' GRACE COMPELS US**

FROM GOD'S WORD

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed" (Luke 4:18).

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

During this Email Challenge, we've looked at some of the events ahead of us and at the hope and encouragement we should have as we anticipate the return of Jesus Christ. But we should also be broken-hearted for those who do not know this hope. We must be about God's business, just as Jesus was.

When Jesus began His ministry, He said He had been anointed to preach the Gospel and sent to heal the brokenhearted. He proclaimed freedom to those in bondage to sin and death; he gave literal sight to those literally blind and spiritual sight to those walking in darkness.

He ended His ministry with this instruction to His disciples just before He ascended to Heaven: "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:18-20).

Following His command, we find members of the first century Church not passively waiting for Jesus but loudly proclaiming the Gospel. They worked to persuade others, reasoning from Scripture. They testified before rulers and preached to angry mobs.

We must do the same. Jesus' grace compels us! Peter said of Christ's return: "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9). God is patiently waiting to send Jesus back until all those who are willing have accepted His offer of salvation.

Yes, we are to live longing for, watching for, and prepared for, the return of Jesus Christ. But while our hearts are stretched toward the unimaginable above, our arms are stretched out in love to reach others beside us...before it is too late.

FOR YOUR JOURNAL

1. You have friends, family, coworkers or fellow students who do not know Jesus. Write about what you will do to reach out personally and make certain they have every opportunity to accept Jesus as Lord and Savior.
2. Have you considered hosting a Bible study? Make a list of people you might invite to join you for study at your home, school or workplace. Make a list of topics you might consider. Be sure and check out our [studies for small groups](#).
3. Finally, please ask yourself whether you are personally certain you have a saving relationship with Jesus Christ. If you need assurance, or if you want some no-cost resources that will help you with a decision to follow Jesus, go to lwf.org/i-believe.