# RESCUE

HOW EARTH'S HISTORY WILL END

#### GOD'S RESCUE PLAN

Does it ever seem like the world is spiraling out of control? Do you ever get the feeling that the end of the world is almost here? The good news is that in the midst of the chaos, God has a personal rescue plan for you. This plan is none other than the second coming of Jesus Christ!

**EXPECTATIONS MATTER** 

Why should we learn about what Jesus' second coming will look like? About 2,000 years ago, the people of Jerusalem were left unprepared because Jesus' first coming didn't match their expectations. Rather than coming as a glorious conqueror, Jesus came meekly as a baby, born to a poor family. Unlike Jesus' first coming, you won't have to wait to hear the news of His second coming—it will be impossible to miss! Still, even though Jesus' Second Coming will be visible to every eye and audible to every ear, it makes all the difference to know how He will return.

#### THE MANNER OF JESUS' SECOND COMING

The Bible says that at Jesus' second coming, "... every eye will see Him ..." (Revelation 1:7). His second coming will not be a mysterious event in a desert or a secret rapture. Although some say that Jesus' second coming will be a secret, the Bible actually warned us in advance against the thought. In Luke 17:23, Jesus tells us that someday people will falsely say "...'Look here!' or 'Look there!' ...", but we should not follow them. This is because any person who claims to be fulfilling Jesus' second coming, but meets privately with a group or an individual, is only an impersonation. As lightning is visible from all angles in the sky, so will His coming be visible from all directions (Luke 17:24). And don't expect to see Jesus walking down the streets of New York or Tokyo, either. When Jesus returns, the righteous will "... meet Him in the air." (1 Thessalonians 4:17)! Finally, Jesus reminds us that we must always be prepared, because no one knows the exact time of His coming (Matthew 24:36).

#### THIS LIFE, OUR ONLY CHANCE

Jesus' second coming will be the climax of earth's history. He will rescue His followers from death, pain, and disease. Those who have died following Jesus will come forth from the grave alive with new, indestructible bodies. The bodies of His faithful followers will be instantly transformed, as quickly as the "... twinkling of an eye..." (1 Corinthians 15:51-52). But as glorious as the second coming will be, that day will not offer a second opportunity to find peace with God. Today is the day to choose to follow Him, because "... now is the day of salvation." (2 Corinthians 6:2). Your eternal destiny is hanging on the choices you make.

### JESUS IS PREPARING A HOME FOR US

In John 14:2, 3 Jesus promised, "... 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." Jesus has prepared a beautiful home for us in heaven, so beautiful that no one can fully grasp just how glorious it will be (1 Corinthians 2:9). The best way to find out is to be ready to meet



## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU?

NEED PRAYER?

HAVE ... QUESTIONS?

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