

would live to witness the time of judgment and rewards (Rev. 20:11-15). The closing verses of the book of Revelation record the faithful words of Jesus to his followers: “*And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work*” (Rev. 22:12). How amazing it is to notice that these very words are nearly **identical** to what Jesus had promised to “*some standing here who will not taste death till they see the Son of Man coming in his Kingdom*” (Matt. 16:28).

Now we can begin to understand and to answer the question, “*When is Jesus Coming?*”

- ⇒ His coming would be during the lifetime of those who were present with him **then**.
- ⇒ His coming would be to execute judgment and to give rewards to his followers who were present with him **then**.
- ⇒ His coming would be with power and glory to establish his Kingdom **then**.

Is it possible that honest and sincere people have been **mistaken** about the time, manner and purpose of Christ’s return? The answer, based upon the brief presentation here is “Yes!”

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PLACE  
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**When  
Is Jesus  
Coming?**

**YEAR 2014-2015**

Passover 4/15/14	Sukkot 10/08/14	Passover 4/4/15	Sukkot 9/28/15

**BLOOD MOON TETRAD**

The Second Coming, by Harry Anderson, © 1911

## When Is Jesus Coming?

**E**very generation of people living on planet earth has witnessed the tragedy of pain and human suffering. Even in our own communities there is crime, violence and poverty. Acts of terrorism, foreign and domestic, combined with the looming threat of war and global economic devastation, continues to increase fear and uncertainty, leaving humanity to question whether or not the ‘end’ is near.

For 2,000 years most Christians have taken comfort in those passages that discuss the second coming of Jesus Christ and the Kingdom



of God, believing that only divine intervention can rescue distressed humanity from the brink of self-destruction. The apostle Paul referred to the return of Christ as, the “blessed hope” (Titus 2:13). “*When is Jesus coming?*”

Over the centuries, many have tried diligently to answer the question. Some have pointed toward certain dates or events as conclusive evidence that demonstrates the nearness of Christ’s foretold return. But as each date and each event simply passed in silence, believers were left with a sense of bewilderment and utter disappointment. As the words of the ancient proverb expressed it, “*Hope deferred makes the heart sick*” (Prov. 13:12).

Is it possible for honest and sincere people to have been **mistaken**? Sincerity is not the measure of truth. Truth is the measure of truth. Jesus told his followers that God’s word is truth (John 17:17). He promised that the truth revealed would make them free (John 8:31, 32). Since God is the one “declaring the end from the beginning” (Isa. 46:10), and what He promised always comes to pass (Isa. 55:11), then what the Bible teaches about the time, manner and purpose of Christ’s return is certain. Is it possible that believers have somehow misunderstood the time, manner and

purpose of Christ’s return and the establishment of His Kingdom?

### THE PROBLEM OF TIME...

Just before his sacrificial death, Jesus told his followers: “*For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works. Assuredly, I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom*” (Matt. 16:27, 28).

In these words are found some vital clues as to **when** Jesus would return, **how** he would return, and for what **purpose** he would return. Perhaps having a better understanding of **what** Jesus foretold would happen will help us come to a better understanding of **when** his foretold return would take place.

The “Son of Man is going to come” (v. 27), expresses the absolute certainty of the event, and in the original language, his statement also expressed the **nearness** of when it would take place. More literal translations of the

Bible say, the “Son of Man is **about to** come” (YLT, Darby, Diaglott, GNB, TLV).

Even without this more accurate translation, the **time** of expectation is modified by, “*Some standing here shall not taste death till they see the Son of Man coming in His Kingdom*” (v. 28). Both Jesus and John had foretold the nearness of the arrival of the Kingdom of God (Matt. 3:2; 4:17). Many of those same people who were present with Jesus on this occasion would be alive to witness, (1) his **coming**, and (2) the arrival of his **kingdom** with “power” (Mark 9:1).

**How** did Jesus promise to return? “*In the glory of His Father with His angels*” is connected to what Jesus later revealed to those who asked him about the “*end of the age*” (Matt. 24:3, 30, 31). The “*some standing here who shall not taste death*” had reference to the “*generation*” (Matt. 23:36; 24:34) who were living at **that** time—not 2,000 years later.

**What** did Jesus promise would happen at the time of His return? “*then He will reward each according to his works*” (v. 27). Jesus tells his followers who were present **then** that **they**



Is it possible for people to have been mistaken?

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