

# THE GOSPEL OF MARK

2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of Jesus  
Mark 13:21-27



## SYNOPSIS

This sermon provides a detailed review of the "Second Coming of Jesus". The main themes revolve around the disciples' questions to Jesus about the timing and signs of his return and the end of the age, Jesus' subsequent prophecy involving cosmic disturbances and the arrival of the Son of Man in glory, and the gathering of believers. We can look forward with hope to the ultimate return of Christ in power and glory.

## QUESTIONS

1. How does the Old Testament relate to the concept of the Second Coming?
2. What are some of the signs Jesus described that will precede his Second Coming?

3. What is the significance of Jesus coming "in clouds with great power and glory"?

4. What does the passage in Revelation 19:11-16 describe about Jesus' return?

5. Does the text suggest there will be another opportunity to accept Jesus after the Rapture?

## FURTHER STUDY

Revelation 19:11-16

Daniel 7:13-14

Isaiah 13:9-10

Joel 2:30-31

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## ANSWER KEY

1. The Old Testament contains numerous prophecies about the future coming of the Lord, often referred to as "The Day of the Lord." While some prophecies pertained to Jesus' first coming, around 200 mentions specifically point towards his second coming. Passages like Daniel 7:13-14, Isaiah 13:9-10, and Joel 2:30-31 describe events and characteristics associated with this future "Day of the Lord," which the New Testament equates with the Second Coming of Jesus. This concept was not entirely new to the disciples, as they were familiar with these Old Testament prophecies.
2. Jesus described a period of great distress followed by cosmic disturbances. These signs include the darkening of the sun and moon, the falling of stars (interpreted as rogue planets being thrown off course), and the shaking of the heavenly bodies. These cataclysmic events will cause anguish, perplexity, and terror among the nations as people become aware of the impending judgment. Before this period of tribulation, the text also suggests an event known as the Rapture of the Church. The trumpet judgments involve a series of devastating events triggered by angels blowing trumpets. These include global storms with hail and fire mixed with blood that destroy a third of the earth's vegetation, a large burning object falling into the sea causing it to turn to blood and killing a third of marine life and destroying a third of ships, a poisonous star falling on freshwater sources making them bitter and causing death, the darkening of a third of the sun, moon, and stars, the release of demonic locusts from the Abyss, and the unleashing of four angels to kill a third of mankind. The seventh trumpet announces the Second Coming of Jesus.
3. Jesus' return in clouds echoes his ascension into heaven, as described in Acts 1:9-11, where a cloud hid him from the disciples' sight with the promise that he would return in the same way. The clouds symbolize his divine presence and majesty. The phrase "with great power and glory" signifies the immense authority and radiant splendor that will accompany his return. This power will be sufficient to defeat his enemies, including the antichrist and Satan, and to usher in his eternal kingdom.
4. The vision in Revelation portrays Jesus returning on a white horse, signifying conquest and righteousness. He is called "Faithful and True," highlighting his just nature in judgment and warfare. His eyes are like blazing fire, representing his piercing insight, and he wears many crowns, indicating his universal sovereignty. He has a unique, unknowable name, emphasizing his transcendent nature. His robe dipped in blood symbolizes the sacrifice he made for humanity. A sharp sword coming from his mouth represents the power of his word and justice. He is accompanied by the armies of heaven and is identified with the title "King of Kings and Lord of Lords," underscoring his ultimate authority.
5. The text suggests that individuals who do not accept Jesus before the Rapture may still have an opportunity during the subsequent Tribulation period. However, this period will be marked by extreme hardship and persecution. The text cautions against delaying this decision, as there is no guarantee of survival until that time, and individuals could face death without having reconciled with God. The current moment is presented as the opportune time to accept Christ and avoid the trials of the Tribulation.