

Christian Foundations Class

Anchorage City Church

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Christian Foundations Class

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Christian Foundations Class – Class 1

Introduction: The need for theological foundations

2Tim 3:13-17 – Wise for salvation and equipped for service.

1Tim 4 13-16 – Watch your doctrine closely.

I) Nature

A) Nature of God;

1) His incommunicable attributes: What he does not share with his creation.

Self-Existence: Ex 3:14 – I am who I am.

Eternality: Psalms 102:25-27 – In the beginning you... Your years will never end.

Immutability: Psalms 102:25-27 – You remain the same.

Omniscience: Psalms 139:1-6 – You know me.

Omnipresence: Psalms 139:7-12 – ...you are there.

2) His communicable attributes: What he does share with his creation.

Holiness: Is 6:3 – Holy, holy, holy – *The Great Tri-Hagion*

Love: 1John 4:19 – We love because he first loved us.

3) God is creator, controller and owner of all.

He created the universe: John 1:3

He sustains the universe: Col 1:16-17 – In him all things hold together.

He controls everything: Eph 1:11 – Works everything according to his will

He owns everything: Hag 2:8, Psalms 24:1 – The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it.

4) The unity of God.

Exodus 20:3 – No other gods

Deut 6:4 – The Lord our God, the Lord is one – *The Great Shama*

5) The Trinity of God.

One eternal, transcendent, omnipotent, personal God in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Not three Gods who are sometimes related in a loose association

Not one God who changes roles or modes. (One personality revealed in different forms.)

John 6:27, 1Pet 1:2 – The Father is God.

Col 1:16-17 – Jesus is God.

Acts 5:1-4 – Holy Spirit is God

John 5:20-26 – Jesus is co-equal with the Father.

Matt 28:19 – The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are co-equal.

6) The eternal Christ: His humanity and deity.

He had human intellect: Luke 2:52 – He grew in stature and favor.

He had human emotions: Luke 7:13 – He was moved with compassion.

He had human will: Luke 9:51 – He determined to go

He had a human body: Luke 2:52 – He grew in stature.

He is self-existent: Heb 7:3 – Without genealogy or beginning.

He is immutable: Heb 13:8 – Same yesterday, today and forever.

He is omnipresent: Mat 28:20 – With you always.

He is omnipotent: Mat 8:16 – Healed all.

He is omniscient: John 21:17 – You know all things.

He judges and forgives sin: John 5:22, Mat 9:2-6 – All judgment belongs to the Son.

He receives worship: Heb 1:6, Mat 28:9 – Worshipped by men and angels.

He claims to be God: John 8:24, 28, 58 I – AM; John 10:30-33 – I and my Father are one.

Hypostatic Union: “In the incarnation of the Son of God, a human nature was inseparably united forever with the divine nature in the one person of Jesus Christ, yet with the two natures remaining distinct, whole, and unchanged, without mixture or confusion so that the one person, Jesus Christ, is truly God and truly man.”

Evangelical Dictionary of Theology

More biblical evidence: Phil 2:5-11, John 1:1-14, Rom 1:2-5, Heb 1:1-3, 1John 1:1-3

Christian Foundations Class – Class 2

I) Nature - Continued

B) Nature of Revelation

1) General Revelation is learning about God from studying his creation.

Psalms 19:1-6 – The heavens declare the Glory of the Lord.

2) Specific Revelation is learning about God from things that he has divinely revealed.

Psalms 19:7-11 – The law of the Lord is perfect.

3) The Bible is our primary form of Specific Revelation.

a) The Bible's Inspiration

II Tim 3:16 – Scripture is God breathed.

Heb 1:1-2 – God spoke through prophets.

II Pet 1:21 – Men spoke from God by the Spirit.

b) The Bible's Transference

Dead Sea Scrolls prove the reliability of the Old Testament.

Extreme care in copying is proven by the remarkable agreement of the many ancient texts.

There are many more ancient manuscripts of the New Testament than any other ancient book.

The agreement of these texts prove their long term accuracy.

N.T. has over 24,000 mss, several of which were written very close to the originals.

John Ryland's fragment of John dates to 125 ad. — Chester Beatty's Papyri to 155 ad.

Compare Homer's Iliad, the second most documented ancient writing.

646 manuscripts – the oldest of which was copied over 500 years after first written.

Julius Cesar's *Gallic Wars*, written in 58 bc: earliest of 9 manuscripts dates to 950 ad.

Aristotle (Greek philosopher/teacher from 340 bc): 5 manuscripts, earliest is 1100 ad.

Nearly all of the New Testament is quoted (the same way) by the early church fathers.

c) The Bible's Translation

Which one is best? Are some more (or less) accurate? Are some biased to a particular viewpoint?

Pick one, any one. Almost all of them are pretty good.

Some use “word for word” translation to stress verbal accuracy. – NASB, KJV

Some use “thought for thought” translation to stress the same meaning of phrases. – NIV, NLT

Some are not translations so much as paraphrased versions. – LB, MSG
Some mix translation concepts to give you some of both. – AMP

No one translation can accurately portray all that is in the original language and still not add to it.

But some translations are written to prove a point.

New World Translation (Jehovah's Witnesses) written to validate their low view of Christ.
Joseph Smith's Translation (Mormonism) written to validate his Book of Mormon.

d) The Bible's Reliability

It is God's word.

It is infallible in its original form. (Translations are not, however.)

Modern archeology consistently shows the reliability of the New Testament.

Many details can now be verified that had been previously questioned.

Quirinius was governor – *twice*

Census details are accurate – in spite of their seeming implausibility.

Date and place of Nazareth – it really did exist before Christ's birth.

“There is no historical writing contemporary with the time of Christ that speaks to evidence of such a person.”
Thomas Paine (*Age of Reason, Common Sense*)

“Historically it is quite unlikely that Jesus ever lived, and if he did, we know nothing about him at all.”
Bertrand Russell (*Why I am not a Christian*)

Consider the following points about the reliability of the Gospel story.

- The Gospel authors are either **eye witnesses** themselves or received their information from eye witnesses.
John 19:35, 1Jn 1:1-3 I saw, I heard & I proclaimed
Lk 1:1 Luke claims to have interviewed eye witnesses
Some argue about who the authors really were, but the evidence supports Mat, Mk, Lk & Jn.
Other early writings faithfully ascribe that the authors were who they said they were.
Polycarp, Papias, Eusibius, Irenaeus all claim authentic authorship of the Gospels.
- There are numerous **early writings that verify** the accounts of the Gospels
Tacitus (Roman historian ~100 ad) makes three references to Jesus of Nazareth
Josephus (ancient Jewish historian) makes several more references to Jesus.
There are over twenty non-biblical references to Jesus written before 130 ad.
Twelve of them refer to his death and give details that confirm the gospel writings.
Ten refer to his resurrection, or report rumors of it.
- The Gospels were written **before enough time passed** to create legends and myths.
Wm. Albright: “There is no solid evidence for dating any N.T. book after 100 ad, and most were written between 50-75 ad.”

- The Gospels were all written while many **other eye witnesses** were still living.
If they were falsified or exaggerated the Gospels would have been rejected by their own audience.
Acts 4:10 ...*whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead...*
Acts 26:24-28 Paul before Festus & Agrippa. *"This wasn't done in a corner. You knew about it."*
- The disciples had **no reason to fabricate** the life of Jesus.
There was no gain in it for them, and they were later willing to die for these writings rather than recant.
- The Gospels are full of **irrelevant details**, just the way a witness would tell what he saw.
Day of week, time of day, who was running fastest, and who got passed, stooping down to look in, Peter's boldness to enter, then John follows, Jesus grave clothes, His folded head cover.
- The Gospels have many **self damaging details**.
Disciple's lack of faith, internal squabbling, women reporters of resurrection.
- The Gospels contain many **difficult statements** of Jesus.
If this was made up later they would have written it in a way that was easier to explain.
"If you look at a woman..." "Why have you forsaken me?" "Don't touch me..."
- Each Gospel is very similar in the way they portray Christ, but **differ in the details** they show.
Similar to multiple accounts of an accident. If **all** the details are the same we expect coaching & lying.
- No one of the era claimed that Jesus did not **perform the miracles** that were ascribed to him.
They had all seen them happen, and too many healed people were still around.
- No one of the era questioned the reality of Christ's **death and burial**.
There is no way that he could not have died after the beating and crucifixion.
They knew where the tomb was and where the body should have been.
- No one of the era claimed that the tomb was **not empty**, or ever produced a body to disprove the Gospel story.
If anyone knew where his body had been taken, they would have produced it.
They didn't because they couldn't.
- **Stories of body theft** were made up by people who had a contrary agenda and their stories can't be explained.
Who would have done it? Jews? Romans? Disciples? -- Why would they do it?
How would the disciples get past the Roman guards?
Why were the disciples surprised, and why did they suspect foul play from the Jews and Romans?
What would the disciples motives be? What money, power, glory could have been expected?
Why didn't the disciples later recant upon threat of death? – No one dies for what he knows is a lie.
- The Gospel accounts of the crucifixion agree with **medical facts** that we know today.
Death came by fatigue induced asphyxiation.
Build up of fluids around the pericardium sack produced the "blood and water" from the spear wound.
- Over 500 people claimed to have **seen Jesus alive** after he was killed.
Many of these people talked with him, ate with him, and some even embraced him.
These people were all surprised by the appearance of Christ.
Many were around after the Gospels were published and would have refuted them if untrue.

Yet, hundreds of years later we find ignore-ant people repeating the lies and nonsense about the Gospel story.

"There is no historical writing contemporary with the time of Christ that speaks to evidence of such a person."
Thomas Paine (*Age of Reason, Common Sense*)

"Historically it is quite unlikely that Jesus ever lived, and if he did, we know nothing about him at all."
Bertrand Russell (*Why I am not a Christian*)

Christian Foundations Class – Class 3

I) Nature – *Continued*

C) Nature of Creation

1) Creation of Man

Gen 1:26-31 – Created in the image of God. – Reflecting God in form, function and personality.

Man has three parts. – Body, soul and spirit.

Heb 4:12 – Dividing soul and spirit.

1Thes 5:23 – Spirit soul and body.

The human soul is our natural inner person.

Mind, intellect, knowledge, reasoning

Will, desires, choices

Emotions, passions, feelings, affections

The soul is mostly represented in the Bible by the Greek word, *psuche*.

Breath (breath of life), life of a person, immortal part of a person

The human spirit is that part within us that connects with God.

The human spirit is mostly represented by the Greek word *pneuma*.

Wind, breath, life giving spirit,

The Bible both uses these two words interchangeably, and also distinguishes between them.

The spirit and soul are immortal while the body alone is temporal.

2) Creation for Relation

Deut 6:5 – You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart... soul... strength.

Mat 22:37-40 – Greatest commandment.

1Cor 16:22 – If anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed...

Jude 1:21 – Keep yourselves in the love of God...

Eph 4:21-33 – Comparing our relationship to God with marriage.

Mat 23:37 – God's unrequited love.

Gen 3:8-9 – Why did God come looking for Adam & Eve?

Gen 1:26-27 – Created in the image of God.

3) Corrosion of Corruption

Mat 19: 3-5 – Adam & Eve were real, literal people.

Gen 3 – They committed a real, literal sin.

Gen 2:15-17 – The command of God

Gen 3:1-5 – Satan questions God's goodness and denies his justice

Gen 3:6 – Classic temptation: lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. (1Jn 2:16)

Gen 3:6-8 – Their fall into sin.

Rom 5:12-21 – Their sin really and literally affected all of mankind.

Imputed Sin: Adam is the first of the human race, and since all of us were in him, and he acted as our representative, so we participated in his sin. When Adam sinned God counted (imputed) all of his descendents to be as guilty as Adam. God counted Adam's guilt as belonging to us, and as God is the perfect judge of all and can make no mistakes in such matters, Adam's guilt does in fact belong to us. God rightly imputed Adam's guilt to us, and we continue to bear the consequences of this sin.

Gen 3:16 – Suffering in childbirth, loss of position and authority for the woman.

Gen 3:17-19 – Suffering in work, creation working against man.

Gen 3:19 – Ultimately death for all.

Eph 2:1 – Dead in sin. (positionally)

Eph 2:3 – Living under God's wrath. (positionally)

Rom 5:10-19 – Enemies of God, under his judgment & condemnation, all of which we inherited.

Character of sin. – Four key words from Rom 5.

Hamartia – vs 12, 16 – Missing the mark, an archery term for failure to be accurate. (sin)

Parabasis – vs 14 – Disregarding the rule or boundary. (transgression)

Parakoe – vs 19 – Disregarding or refusing God's instruction or command. (disobedience)

Paraptoma – vs 15, 17, 18 – Falling sideways, false step, deviation from path. (offense)

All these terms, as used in scripture, imply willfulness – choosing to do wrong.

People are guilty of sin whether they feel guilty or not. Feelings are not a basis for judging sin.

Consequences of sin.

Gen 2:17, Ezek 18:4, 20, Rom 6:23, James 1:15 – Death.

Eph 4:18 – Alienation from God.

2Thes 1:6-9 – Punishment and banishment from God's presence.

Christian Foundations Class – Class 4

II) Redemption

D) Redemption from Sin and Death

1) Sacrifice of God

Rom 3:24-25 – Redemption came by Christ Jesus. God presented him as a sacrifice.

Redemption (*apolutroseos*) = release by paying a ransom.

Atonement or propitiation (*hilasterion*) = appease or satisfy.

Heb 9:22, 1Pet 1:18-19 – Blood is required for redemption and atonement.

Mark 10:45, 1Tim 2:6 – Christ's sacrifice was substitutionary.

2) Grace, faith, works

Eph 2:1-5 – Saved by grace.

Eph 2:6-8 – Through faith.

Eph 2:9-10 – Saved to **do** good works, not saved **by** good works.

3) Election

Eph 1:4-11 – Chosen before the creation of the world.

Eph 1:12-13 – You were marked for this election because you believed.

This is an interpretive issue. Were some chosen to be saved, while others were chosen not to be saved as John Calvin taught? Or were we chosen based on the foreknowledge of God as Jacobus Arminius taught? Were we chosen because God knew we would respond to the Gospel message, or chosen in some random arbitrary manner?

Calvanist Predestination – *The majority view of Protestantism since 1550. (Baptist, Presbyterian, Reformed)*

- Total depravity. Sin is in every part of one's being, including the mind and will, so that no one can move towards God.
- Unconditional election. God chooses to save people unconditionally; they are not chosen on the basis of their own merit.
- Limited atonement. The sacrifice of Christ on the cross was for the purpose of saving the elect only, not everyone.
- Irresistible grace. When God has chosen to save someone, He will cause that person to come to saving faith.
- Perseverance of the saints. Those people God chooses cannot lose their salvation; they will continue to believe.

Arminian Remonstrance – *The minority view of Protestantism. (Methodist, Church of God, Pentecostal)*

- The divine decree of predestination is conditional, not absolute. An individual must choose to believe of his own free will.
- The Atonement is in intention universal. It is available to anyone who chooses to believe.
- Man cannot of himself exercise a saving faith. It is the grace of God that we believe at all. This grace is available to all.
- Though the grace of God is required to draw us towards God, it does not act irresistibly in man.
- Believers are able to resist sin, but are not beyond the possibility of falling from grace and losing their salvation.

4) Regeneration: God's action.

Titus 3:5 – rebirth and renewal.

John 3:3 – Born again.

Col 2:13, Eph 2:5 – Made alive.

5) Conversion: Our action.

Repentance – Ps 51:1-17

Acknowledgement of guilt: vs 3, 7, 11

Sorrow for sin: vs 1, 2, 10, 14

Change of purpose: vs 5, 7, 10

Faith – Rom 10:9-17

Intellectual belief in the truth of the Gospel message.

Emotional conviction that this truth is personally significant.

Volitional action of surrender to the lordship of Christ.

Christian Foundations Class – Class 5

II) Redemption – Continued

E) Reconciliation to God

Reconciliation = Man's state of alienation and separation from God and enmity towards God are abolished by the act of God's grace so that man can come freely into God's presence. Reconciliation brings us back into the state of relationship we had with the Father before the fall of Adam.

1) Justification & Sanctification: A new relation with God.

Justified = Declared to be right or righteous.

Rom 3:24, 5:1-2 – Justified by grace, we gained access by faith.

Sanctified = Prepared and set aside for a holy purpose.

1Cor 6:11 – Positionally, every believer **is** sanctified. We are saints.

Phil 1:6 – Experientially, we are **being** sanctified. We are being cleansed & prepared.

What are we being prepared and set aside for? What is the purpose of sanctification?

2) His destiny for you.

Eph 1:4-19 –

Rom 8:29 – Predestined to be conformed to the image of Christ.

2Cor 3:18 – (Gen 1:26-27) Transformed into his image.

3) His purpose in you.

*Ephe 3:2 (NIV) Surely you have heard about **the administration of God's grace that was given to me** for you... ..7 I became a servant of this gospel **by the gift of God's grace given me** through the working of his power. 8 Although I am less than the least of all God's people, **this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles...***

Rom 12:3-8 – Gifts of administration.

1Cor 12:1-11 – Gifts of the Spirit.

4) His relationship with you

Micah 6:8 – What does God want from you?

Deut 30:19-20, Jer 13:11 – That you may cling to God.

1John 3:1-2 – Behold the love that the Father has bestowed upon us.

John 3:29, Eph 5:22-32, 2Cor 11:2, Rev 19:7-8, 21:1-2 – We are Christ's bride.

Christian Foundations Class – Class 6

III) Spirituality

F) Immersion in the Spirit.

Prophecies concerning the coming of the Spirit.

Joel 2:28,29 – "It shall come to pass" --- Acts 2:16-18 – "This is that spoken by Joel."

John 7:37-39 – Out of his belly shall flow...

Luke 24:49 – You shall be filled with power from on high.

Acts 1:4-5 – Jesus told them to wait for it.

Acts 1:8 – Jesus said it would empower them

Acts 2:1-4 – The initial baptism in the Spirit on the Day of Pentecost.

Acts 2:5-21 – The results of changed and empowered lives.

Acts 2:41-47 – The explosion of the church.

All Christians receive the Holy Spirit when we are born again. The new spiritual birth is accomplished by the Holy Spirit. However, we do not normally receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit at this time. This is the same way it happened to the first Christians.

The Apostles were born of the Spirit – John 20:22 – and later baptized in the Spirit - Acts 1:5-8; 2:1-4

Samaritans were born of the Spirit – Acts 8:12 – and later baptized in the Spirit - Acts 8:14-17

Ephesians were born of the Spirit – Acts 19:1-2 – and later baptized in the Spirit - Acts 19:6

Praying in Tongues: The reason and the practice.

Tongues are consistently associated with the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:4 – ...and began to speak with other tongues...

Acts 10:44-48 – For they heard them speak with tongues.”

Acts 19:6 – They spoke with tongues.

Acts 11:15-17 – God gave them the same gift.

In every case speaking in tongues was the evidence of their having received the gift of the Holy Spirit. It is the only evidence given in scripture.

Who are tongues for?

Mark 16:17 – Jesus said believers would speak in tongues.

1Cor 14:5 – Paul wanted every Christian to speak in tongues.

1Cor 14:8 – Paul said he spoke in tongues more than anyone.

Obviously not all Christians speak in tongues, but all Christians can.

What are tongues for?

1Cor 14:2 – To speak to God.

1Cor 14:4 – To edify yourself.

1Cor 14-15 – For your spirit to pray.

Jude 1:20 – To build yourself up in the faith.

Like worship, reading the Bible and other prayer, praying in tongues is a personal discipline used for personal edification.

How do we receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit and the gift of tongues?

Luke 11:9-13 – Ask for it.

Gal 3:1-3 – Receive it by faith.

Faith requires action, and the action required here is to boldness to speak, trusting that God will empower you with the ability to speak in an other tongue.

Acts 2:38-39 – It is a gift. There are no strings attached.

Christian Foundations Class – Class 7

III) Spirituality – *Continued*

G) Walking in the Spirit.

Abiding in the Spirit.

Importance of knowing the Bible.

Josh 1:8 – ...meditate on it...observe to do...be prosperous...have success.

Pr 13:13 – He who despises the Word will be destroyed.

John 8:32 – Truth shall set you free.

Matt 16:18 – Upon this rock...

Foundational principals of the nature of God, who is Christ, authority of his church, etc.

The Spirit never gives individual instructions that violate God's written Word.

Not all spiritual voices are from God.

Luke 4:1-12 – Satan talks and even uses scripture.

1John 4:1 – Don't believe every spirit.

1Tim 4:1 – There are seducing spirits.

It is easy to mistake our own internal voice with God's.

People tell you what they believe, and sometimes they seem spiritual.

God wants a personal relationship with you.

Gen 3:8 – Enoch walked with God... God took him.

Heb 11:6 – God rewards those who seek him.

Matt 23:37 – I wanted to gather you.

Communication: prayer is talking *and* listening

Working with the Spirit.

John 16:13 – But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. (NIV)

1Cor 12:1-11 – Spiritual gifts.

Vocal gifts.

Gift of tongues – 1Cor 12:30.

All believers can receive the gift of tongues for personal edification.

However, tongues, as it is used in this list, is for delivering a message from God.

Gift of interpretation of tongues – 1Cor 14:4-5, 26-28.

Tongues and interpretation should always be used together in a church meeting.

Gift of prophecy.

Acts 11:28, Acts 21:10-11 – Predicts the future.

1Cor 14:3 – Edifies, exhorts, comforts.

1Tim 4:14 – Imparts gifts.

1Cor 14:24-25 – Reveals and convicts of sin.

Knowledge gifts.

Gift of words of wisdom – Luke 21:12-15, Acts 6:9-10, Acts 23:1-7, James 1:5
Supernaturally given wisdom fit for the occasion.

Gift of words of knowledge – Matt 16:12-17, Acts 5:1-5, Acts 27:9-10.
A piece of the knowledge of God supernaturally given.

Gift of discerning of spirits.

To understand, detect, separate and make distinction between spirits.

Angelic spirits, Satanic spirits, Human spirits, God's Holy Spirit

Power gifts

Gifts of healing – Acts 3:1-7 – Peter heals a cripple.

Gift of faith – We all have faith – Rom 12:3.

Acts 3:1-7 – But the Spirit also gives supernatural faith to some.

Gift of miracles.

John 2:1-11, 6:1-14, 11:41-45 – Miracles of Jesus.

Acts 9:39-43, Acts 20:9-11 – Peter and Paul raised the dead.

Acts 13:9-11 – Paul causes a man to become blind.

Acts 5:1-11 – Peter causes two people to become dead.

Rom 12:3-8 – Administrative gifts –

How are you used by the Spirit in kingdom life?

How do you influence others? What is your style of relating and interacting?

Prophesying

Serving

Teaching

Encouraging

Contributing to the needs of others

Leadership

Showing mercy

Christian Foundations Class – Class 8

III) Spirituality – *Continued*

H) Walking in Love.

Loving God.

Matt 22:35-40 – Love is the greatest commandment.

1Cor 13:1-3 – Without love I am nothing

1Cor 13:4-7 – Love is...

1Cor 13:8-12 – Love never fails.

1Cor 13:13 – Love is the greatest Christian attribute.

John 14:15, 14:21-24, 14:31, 15:10-14 – If you love me, you will obey my command.

1John 2:3-5, 5:2-3 – To love him is to obey him

Loving each other.

John 15:17, 1John 3:21-23, 2John 1:4-6 – The command is to love one another.

1John 4:19-21 – To love God you have to love his kids.

Gal 3:13-23 – Loving your neighbor.

Practical love.

1John 3:16-18 – Love in truth and action.

As with faith, love without works is dead.

Love is: a decision, commitment, action, doing the highest good.

Heb 13:16 – Do good and share.

Heb 10:24-25 – Provoke and encourage each other.

Phil 2:3-4 – Look out for the interests of others.

Gal 6:1-2 – Restore the weak and lighten their loads.

Rom 15:1-2 – Support the weak.

Rom 14:19 – Pursue things that edify.

Evangelism through love.

John 17:20-23 – Our unity displays the reality of Christ.

John 13:34-35 – We are known as the disciples of Christ by our love.

Christian Foundations Class – Class 9

IV) Anticipation

I) Awaiting His Return

The glory of his coming – Eminence.

Job 19:25-26 – He will be the last man standing anywhere.

Mat 16:27 – He will come in the glory of his father.

Mat 25:31-32 – He will come and judge the nations.

Mat 26:64 – With power and the clouds of heaven.

Mark 8:38 – Coming with glory and angels

Luke 21:25-27 – He comes with a cloud, power and glory.

Jude 1:14 – Coming 10,000's of his saints.

Rev 1:5-7 – Every eye shall see him.

Rev 11:15 – He shall reign forever and ever.

Rev 19:11-16 – King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

1Thes 4:13-18 – He comes with a shout and a trumpet blast that raises the dead.

2Thes 1:7-10 – He comes with vengeance and destruction, and to be glorified in his saints.

2Tim 4:1 – He shall judge the living and the dead at his appearing.

The suddenness of his coming – Imminence.

Mat 24 & 25 – Jesus prophecies his own return.

Luke 12:37-40 – Coming when you don't expect.

Luke 17:22-37 – Like in the days of Noah and Lot.

Luke 21:25-36 – Preceded by ecological calamity, then they will see him.

1Thes 5:1-3 – He is coming as a thief in the night.

2Thes 2:1-8 – Many shall be deceived about his coming.

James 5:7-9 – Be patient, he is at hand.

2Pet 3:3-13 – Some will scoff, but the lord is not slack about his coming.

Rev 16:15 – I am coming as a thief.

Rev 22:20 – I am coming quickly.

The transformation of his coming.

Phil 3:20-21 – We will be conformed to his glorious body.

Col 3:4 – We will appear with him in glory.

1Pet 5:4 – When he appears we get a crown of glory.

1John 3:2 – When he is revealed, we shall be like him.

Parting shots...

Matt 24:13 – ...he who stands firm to the end will be saved.

Gala 6:9 – ...in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

Hebr 10:35-37 – So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. 36 You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. 37 For in just a very little while, "He who is coming will come and will not delay.