

THE SIGN OF THY COMING

INTRODUCTION

- I. There are several ways that our Lord is identified in the New Testament.
 - A. He acknowledged that He was the Messiah, Son of God and king. John 4:36; 9:35-37; 18:37
 - B. However, Jesus ALWAYS referred to Himself as the "Son of man"--no exceptions.
 1. It was as IF He was talking about someone else—using the 3rd person singular.
 2. However, the significance is that He was not only "man" (a human being), AND descended FROM man in that He did not come as an angel or bypassed physical ancestry, but was born of woman, with all the characteristics of a human being. Gal. 4:4
 - a. This way, He could identify with mankind in every respect **except** He did not sin, as other humans do.
 - b. As the Son of man, He had a physical body which was necessary for Him to die on the cross and shed His blood, as a perfect sacrifice for sin. Heb. 10:6; Matt. 26:26-28
 - c. As the Son of man, He could become a perfect mediator, being both divine and human, He could represent both God and man in the matter of salvation and reconciliation.
 3. The Old Testament prophetically identifies Him as "God" and "man" in the same book, making Him (God) who was also (man).
 - a. Daniel once referred His being "like the Son of God." Dan. 3:25
 - b. Then, Daniel refers to Him as one "like the Son of man" in coronation as King by the Ancient of Days". Dan. 7:13
- II. The New Testament speaks of three "comings" of the Son of man, (1) into the world from heaven, when He came **personally**, (2) when He came **representatively**, and (3) when He shall come **judicially**, and each is associated with a "sign" of some kind.

DISCUSSION

I 1st, the sign of the Coming of the Son of man PERSONALLY.

- A. God sent Him into the world to become a SAVIOR to those who really want salvation, and there would be a "**sign**" of His coming. Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:22-23
 1. Matthew records 5 things that He came to do.
 - a. He came to fulfill what the Law of Moses foretold. Matt. 5:17
 - b. He came to bring a sword because some would accept the peace He offered. Matt. 10:34
 - c. He came to call sinners to repentance. Matt. 9:13
 - d. He came to save the lost. Matt. 18:11
 - e. He came to minister or serve. Matt. 20:28
 2. His mission is summed up by John in His coming to give spiritual and eternal life to those dead in sin. John 10:10
- B. Thus, the coming of the Son of man from heaven was to do the Father's will. John 6:38; 3:16; Heb. 10:9-10

II. 2nd, the sign of the Coming of the Son of man REPRESENTATIVELY.

- A. The Son of man came to take vengeance or to punish unfaithful Israel, as He was represented BY general Titus of the Roman army, in A.D. 70.
- B. When Jesus showed the temple to 4 of His disciples, they wanted to know about the “**sign**” of that coming. Matt. 24:1-3
1. Whether the disciples understood at that moment the nature of His “coming, the Lord responded that His “coming” would be in connection with the “tribulation” the Jews would be suffering at the hands of the Romans. Matt. 23:31-36; Luke 21:22-24
 2. It was in connection with the events preceding the ultimate **FALL** of Jerusalem. Matt. 24:24-28
 3. It was a coming that would occur **immediately** “after” the signs of Jerusalem’s fall. v. 29-30
 4. Thus, Jesus would be coming THROUGH Titus, the Roman general who would carry out the invasion of Jerusalem in fulfillment of the words of Jesus, as he would be the “sign” of the coming of the Son of man.

III. 3Rd, the Sign of the coming of the Son of man JUDICIALLY.

- A. God revealed that when the Son of man came, He would come to judge the world in righteousness. Acts 17:30-31; Matt. 25:31-32; 2 Tim. 4:8; John 12:48
- B. Though His coming would be sometime “after” the great falling away of the church, no sign would be given for man to know just when He would come in judgment. Matt. 24:36-37; 1 Thess. 5:1-2; 2 Thess. 2:1-3

CONCLUSION

- I. We must always be ready, for we know not when His coming in judgment will be,.
 - A. We make preparation through out faith in repentance and immersion.
 - B. We continue our preparation by faithful living in the kingdom of God.
- II. If we can assist you in any way in your preparation for Christ’s return, the opportunity is yours right now, as we stand together and sing the invitation song,.

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