

**Course: Jesus the Son of God****Section Five: The Exalted Son of God****Lesson Ten****Lesson Title:** The Coming King

**Text:** Titus 2: 13, 'Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;'

**Introduction:** Looking for the appearing of the Great God. The hope of the believer is the glorious appearing of Jesus.

Paul firmly declares the deity of Christ when he writes 'the Great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ' (Titus 2:13).

Paul is saying our Saviour Jesus Christ is the Great God who will return again. Not this time as a babe in a manger but as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

- 1) It is the Lord Himself who will return. 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17, 'For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.'  
We shall be caught up in the clouds to be with Him.
- 2) When we see Him as He is then we shall be changed into His likeness. 1 John 3:2  
'Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it does not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.'  
His life is in us and when the Lord returns His body, the Church, will be changed to be like Him.  
The outward body will be changed into His likeness, and sin will no longer have any association with us. No longer sinners but saved by grace.
- 3) When we have this hope in us then we will keep ourselves from sin. 1 John 3: 3 'And every man that has this hope in him purifies himself, even as he is pure.'  
The blessed hope of His appearing will keep us from sin.  
It is the armour of the believer, the helmet of the hope of salvation. 1 Thessalonians 5:8 'But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.'

**Introductory Illustration:** Royal Wedding.

Wedding of a prince with his bride.

Joyous occasion.

Many people gather to see the royal couple.

Great national pride.

Great pomp ceremony that reflects the status of the kingdom.

**Main Points:**

1. The great occasion - His appearing.

The time when the King of Kings, the Son of God returns for His Church.

Everyone is invited but only the redeemed will be there.

- a) When Jesus returns His glory will be revealed. 1 Timothy 6:13-16 'I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickens all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession; That you keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: Which in his times he shall show, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; Who only has immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.'

The word 'appearing' is the Greek word 'epiphaneia' which literally means 'shining upon'.

The same word is translated brightness in 2 Thessalonians 2:8 'And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:' This describes how the Lord will destroy the man of sin (2 Thessalonians 2:3) - by His word and His appearing.

In Him is that light which no man can see.

His glory is brighter than the sun. If we keep looking at the sun in its strength we will soon be blinded because of the brightness. If we were able to approach the sun the heat would soon destroy us.

Jesus is the eternal God. No man can see God and live.

- b) When He returns we shall see Him.

We shall be changed into His likeness, and we will have a body capable of beholding Him in His glory (1 John 3:2).

The Psalmist wrote, 'As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.' (Psalm 17:15)

- c) The coming of the Lord is also described by the Greek word 'apokalupsis' which literally means the unveiling. 1 Corinthians 1:7b '...waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:'

When the Son of God came the first time His glory was veiled. But at His Second Coming His glory will be fully revealed.

The Apostle John knew the Lord - he had his head on His chest at the Last Supper. When He saw the glorified Christ on Patmos he fell at His feet as dead, Revelation 1:17a 'And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead.' Even on Patmos His glory was not fully revealed. But when Jesus returns His glory will be revealed.

- d) His coming (Greek '*parousia*') will shine from the east to the west as lightning.  
Matthew 24:27 'For as the lightning comes out of the east, and shines even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.'  
Jesus said that an evil and adulterous generation seeks a sign (Matthew 12:39) but when Jesus comes again the sign of who He is will be given. Matthew 24:30 'And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.'

## 2. The higher standard - living as children of the King.

**Illustration:** A person who is brought into the royal family through marriage is expected to maintain the standards of royalty.

Even before the marriage, once the betrothal has been made the person who will become a part of the royal family must be more careful than an ordinary citizen.

Behaviour that is acceptable for ordinary people is not acceptable for royalty.

It is out of character for a prince or princess to act 'the fool'.

Humour must be handled carefully. Words must be used with discretion, and actions need to be carried out with wisdom.

He or she must be extremely careful in what they do and say because of the importance of the status of royalty.

We must daily live in the knowledge that Jesus is God and will one day return for His people. The people of God must be careful to live right because they represent the King of Kings. We must live as children of God. Living for His glory.

The knowledge of who we are and that the Lord will soon return should make us careful in how we live everyday. 1 Thessalonians 5:8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

- a) Good works that glorify the Lord. Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.
- b) Holiness, righteousness, clean and pure, doing all things diligently for His glory.  
This is not legalism it is being careful to glorify the Lord. Ephesians 4:17 'This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind.'
- c) We must be ready for His coming because we will give an account of our lives. This is not a judgment of condemnation but a judgment of reward.  
We have a responsibility to use the gifts the Lord has given us for His glory.  
The Bible says we will all stand before the judgment seat of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:10).  
The Lord will come at time we do not expect. What we do every moment of the day matters.

The parable of the wise and foolish virgins, Matthew 25:1-13.

The wise virgins had oil in their lamps. They were watching for the coming of the bridegroom.

They could all trim their lamps - this is man's work. But the oil had to be bought. The oil is free to us but the cost was not cheap. It cost the life of the Son of God.

The oil of the Holy Spirit is new life in Christ. This is received through repentance and faith.

We must know for certain that we are born again of the Spirit of God (John 3:3). Only those who have the oil of new life in Christ will be ready when Jesus returns.

### 3. Giving all.

The words of C.T Studd, 'If Jesus Christ be God and died for me then what sacrifice can be too great for me a mere mortal man to make for Him.'

- a) Giving all means being willing to lay our lives down for the Lord. Revelation 12:11 'And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.'  
The Son of God gave His life so that we could be redeemed.  
If He gave everything for us then how much more should we lay our lives down for Him.
  
- b) Giving all for Him means being willing to lay our lives down for one another. 1 John 3:16 'Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren.  
Love for one another in serving one another.  
When God's people are filled with the love of God there will be the freedom to serve one another. There will be closer fellowship.  
A church can preach the gospel and be filled with lovely people but there is a big difference when the people are led by the love of God. 1 John 3:17-18 'But whoso hath this world's good, and sees his brother have need, and shuts up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwells the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.'

### Summary

The deity of Jesus Christ is seen in Titus 2:13 'Looking for the God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.'

- 1) The glorious occasion - The Lord is coming back as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. His glory was veiled but now His glory will be revealed.
- 2) The higher standard - We must live daily in the knowledge that we are the children of God and that the Lord will soon return.
- 3) If Jesus Christ is God and died for us then we should give our lives for one another.

