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By Dan Maines

Second Coming

Many Christians today are still waiting for what the Bible says has already happened.

The "Second Coming" of Christ is one of the most misunderstood teachings in the Church. Jesus clearly said, "Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place" (Matthew 24:34, NASB). He wasn't speaking in riddles. He was addressing His disciples about events that would happen in their own lifetime - not 2,000 years later.

Jesus tied His coming to the destruction of the Temple: "Do you

not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone will be left upon another, which will not be torn down" (Matthew 24:2, NASB). That happened in 70 AD, just as He said it would.

Hebrews 9:28 says, "So Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him." This was not about a future fleshly return to give people new physical bodies. It was the completion of redemption, bringing full salvation to those in Christ.

Paul wrote that Jesus would be "glorified among His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed" (2 Thessalonians 1:10, NASB). That "day" wasn't postponed. It came just as promised.

Revelation ends with Jesus saying, "Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to reward each one as his work deserves" (Revelation 22:12, NASB). "Quickly" meant soon to them, not 2,000 years and counting.

The Second Coming was not about the end of the physical world. It was the end of the Old Covenant world and the full establishment of the New Covenant. The Kingdom does not come with signs to be observed (Luke 17:20-21). The Church is the New Jerusalem. We are not waiting for Christ to return. We are living in the age of His fulfilled presence and completed work.

It's time to stop looking forward to what's already behind us. The promises were fulfilled. The Kingdom is here.

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