

“10 Compelling Reasons To Believe Christ Will Return In Our Lifetime”

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Jesus wants his church to not simply believe in his return, but to be prepared and eager for his return.

While many Christians have been embarrassed by false predictions regarding the exact date of Christ's return, we have no reason to be ignorant and unaware of the signs of his return. While we do not know the day or the hour, we most certainly understand the season.

“He answered them, ‘When it is evening, you say, ‘It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.’ And in the morning, ‘It will be stormy today, for the sky is red and threatening.’ You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times.” Matthew 16:2-3

God always activates his prophetic voice prior to his activity.

“For the Lord God does nothing without revealing his secret to his servants the prophets.” Amos 3:7

“Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” Luke 21:28

These are 10 compelling reasons to believe Christ will return in our lifetime.

1. Increased Deception.

“For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and they will lead many astray.” Matthew 24:5

“And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray.” Matthew 24:11

“Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false.”

2 Thessalonians 2:11

When an ideology takes precedence over truth, deception will prevail.

ILLUSTRATION: When the Communist Party took over Russia, they took control of the news feed and allowed only one central newspaper, Pravda, for the entire nation, which was owned and operated by the Communist Party. Lenin used this to his advantage to perpetuate Communist ideology at the cost of truth.

Today there are three major ideologies that sacrifice truth and open the door to increased deception.

A religious ideology.

A moral ideology.

An ethical ideology.

There is a darkening cloud of deception rising over the world today.

2. Global Amoralism.

“And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold.”

Matthew 24:12

Morality is the standard by which we determine good and evil.

Immorality is the violation of the standard of good and evil.

Amorality is the denial of the standard of good and evil.

There is an aggressive movement of amorality all over the world, and Bible-believing Christians are the only obstacle to the amorality agenda.

“Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.”

Romans 1:32

“But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,” 2 Timothy 3:1-4

3. Rising Antichristism.

“Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake.”

Matthew 24:9

“For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be. And if those days had not been cut short, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.” Matthew 24:21-22

Severe persecution of Christians is increasing all over the world.

“Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. Therefore we know that it is the last hour.” 1 John 2:18

“Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.” 1 John 4:1-3

4. False Doctrine and YouTube theology.

“And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray.” Matthew 24:11

“For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.”

2 Timothy 4:3-4

5. Falling Away.

"For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand." Matthew 24:24

In the past 12 years the Southern Baptists have lost a record 2.5 million people, or almost 8%.

In the past 30 years the Presbyterian Church-USA have lost 58%, the United Church of Christ 52%, the United Methodist 31%, and the American Baptist Church have lost 23%.

"Therefore we know that it is the last hour. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us." 1 John 2:19

"Woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!" Revelation 12:12

6. The Rise of the Nation of Israel.

The rise of the nation of Israel is a historical anomaly; that is to say, never in history have a people been completely displaced from their nation and scattered throughout the world, and then reassembled into their homeland.

1918- Only 60,000 Jews in Israel.

1945- 3 million Jews began migrating.

2020- 6.8 million, or 48% of the world's Jewish population.

All this was prophesied.

"The Lord your God will restore your fortunes and have mercy on you, and he will gather you again from all the peoples where the Lord your God has scattered you." Deuteronomy 30:3

Jews have returned to Israel from more than seventy nations.

Today Israel is one of the wealthiest nations on earth per capita, ranking in the top 20.

"Then the Lord your God will restore your fortunes and have mercy on you, and he will gather you again from all the peoples where the Lord your God has scattered you. If your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there the Lord your God will gather you, and from there he will take you. And the Lord your God will bring you into the land that your fathers possessed, that you may possess it. And he will make you more prosperous and numerous than your fathers." Deuteronomy 30:3-5

"I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land." Ezekiel 36:24

Not only are Jews returning to the physical Israel, but they are returning to God through Jesus.

One out of ten Jews in the US today, identify Jesus as their Messiah. Jews who are 60 years and older, less than 20% value their religious heritage; but for those who are 30 years and under, over 40% value their religious heritage. (Barna Research)

"Lest you be wise in your own sight, I do not want you to be unaware of this mystery, brothers: a partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in." Romans 11:25-26

"I will give you a new heart and put in a new spirit in you. I will remove from you a heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh." Ezekiel 36:26

"Therefore prophesy, and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel.'" Ezekiel 37:12

7. Globalism.

Globalism is not only a reality; it has become an aggressive political agenda.

ILLUSTRATION: In *The World Is Flat*, Thomas Freedman brilliantly identifies ten major factors of globalization. 1. The fall of the Berlin Wall opened the floodgates to free markets; 2. The internet gave everyone access to virtually all information; 3. Workflow software enables machines to talk to other machines without human involvement; 4. Uploading, including blogs, Wikipedia, etc.; 5. Outsourcing and digital access; 6. Offshoring work to other nations; 7. Supply chaining, which avoids huge inventories of merchandise; 8. Insourcing, where UPS can repair Toshiba computers rapidly; 9. In-forming, Google is a prime example, where never in history have so many people had unlimited access to so much information; 10. "The Steroids", personal handheld devices that interface GPS, internet, phone, text, Twitter, TikTok, livestream, real-time news, and access to virtually everything; or Artificial Intelligence. Globalization has benefited us all, but globalism is perhaps the most demonized political force in history.

Political globalism has picked up the mantra of Babel, "We will be like God."

"Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?"

The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against his Anointed." Psalm 2:1,2

"Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be marked on the right hand or the forehead, so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name."

Revelation 13:16,17

ILLUSTRATION: When the UN was established in 1945, they discussed whether or not to include God in their charter and articles of establishment, and they voted a resounding NO.

8. Clashing Kingdoms.

The clash between the kingdom of darkness and the kingdom of light is increasing. For this reason, the last days are properly described as the best of times and the worst of times.

"He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son." Colossians 1:13

"Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!" Revelation 12:12

"For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect." Matthew 24:24

"And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams." Acts 2:17

"Thus says the Lord of hosts: In those days ten men from the nations of every tongue shall take hold of the robe of a Jew, saying, 'Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.'" Zechariah 8:23

"So that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish." Ephesians 5:27

9. The Timeline of Human History.

It may be more than coincidental that the timeline of history culminates in only ten years. 2033 marks the two thousandth anniversary of the death burial, resurrection, and ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ. While this is not proof of any particular date when Christ will return, it may point us in the right direction.

0-2,000 (Abraham)

2,000-4,000 (Christ)

4,000-6,000 (Return of Christ)

6,000-7,000 (Millennium)

10. The Harvest.

“As a testimony to all nations (ethnos) and then the end will come.” Matthew 24:14

Sociologists recognized 12,000 ethnos worldwide. Missiologists now focus on the final unengaged and unreached ethnos on earth. They now use the term UUPGs, or unengaged, unreached people groups. In 2005, there were yet 3,500 UUPGs. By 2015 that number had been cut to only 1,400 remaining UUPGs. As of 2019, there were only 300 UUPGs, and today that number is far smaller (Douglas Cobb, *And Then The End Will Come*, 2021).

“Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.” Revelation 5:9

“Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” Luke 21:28

