GUTHRIE MEMORIAL CHAPEL

2663 CUMBERLAND ROAD, FARMVILLE, VA. 23901 DR. FILLMER HEVENER, PASTOR, (434) 392-6255

BIBLE STUDY/WORSHIP EVERY SABBATH, SATURDAY (EXODUS 20:8; LUKE 6:3) 10:00 TO 12:00.

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THE MANNER OF CHRIST'S RETURN

John 14:1-3: A few days before His death, Jesus Christ told His small band of confused disciples, "Let not your hearts be troubled. You believe in God, believe also in Me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also." John 14:1-3. Therefore, the clear statement from the Jesus is: "I will come again."

Acts 1:9-11: How will He come? Will his second coming be invisible? Forty days after His resurrection, Jesus led His disciples to the top of a small mountain, the Mt. of Olives, which is just east of Jerusalem. Suddenly, "...while they watched, He was taken up; and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white clothing; which also said, 'Men of Galilee, why are standing there gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which

is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as you have seen Him go into heaven." Acts 1:9-11. It is obvious that Jesus ascended literally, bodily, in full view of His followers. As they watched Him go up, two angels appeared and said that He would come back "in like manner" as He went up. Therefore, the Second Coming of Jesus Christ will be literal, bodily, and visible to human eyes.

Titus 2:13: This visible, literal return of Jesus is the ultimate hope of the Christian Church. Paul told the early believers to keep "looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ." Titus 2:13. Our hope is the visible return of Jesus Christ at the end of the world.

Matthew 24:26-27: There will be nothing secretive about His return. In words of warning and clarification, Jesus Christ said, "Wherefore, if they say to you, 'Behold, he is in the desert,' go not forth; or 'Behold, he is in the secret chambers,' believe it not; for as the lightning comes out of the east and shines even to the west, so shall the coming of the Son of Man be." Matthew 24:26-27. Language could not be clearer. False teachers may speak of a "secret" coming, but they are teaching error, not the Bible. Jesus Christ's coming will be like bolts of lightning flashing across the sky.

Matthew 24:30-31: When our Lord and Savior finally returns, this event will not only be witnessed by believers, but by all nations. In addition, He's not coming alone. Jesus clarified, "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. And He shall send His angels with a great sound of the trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." Matthew 24:30-31.

2 Thessalonians 1:7-9: Jesus Christ's return will bring great joy to the saved, yet it will result in destruction to those who are lost. Paul wrote about the great day when "the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who know not God and who obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power." 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18: The return of our Lord will awaken the dead. "For the Lord himself will 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. another Wherefore comfort one with these Thessalonians 4:16-18. When Jesus Christ comes. converted children, those who are resurrected and those living at that time, will bid goodbye to the death of this earth. They shall be "caught up," literally, just as Jesus was "taken up" at His ascension, and we shall forever "be with the Lord," who willingly died for mankind

Why not bow you head at this moment and ask God to bring about conversion in your life if you have not already allowed Him to do so? For more information, contact Pastor Fillmer Hevener.

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