

JOURNEY THROUGH THE STARS

**AMAZING
ADVENTURE**

Bible Guides

When you look up at the sky on a clear night, some of the stars you see aren't really stars. They're actually gigantic clusters of stars called "galaxies." They only look small because they are so far away. We happen to live in a galaxy called the Milky Way. Our sun is a star — but it is just one out of 100 billion stars in our home galaxy. The Milky Way is also about 100,000 light-years across. That means that if you traveled at the speed of light (186,000 miles per second!), it would take you 100,000 years just to fly across our neighborhood of stars. God's universe is huge!

Have you ever wondered what it must be like to travel through space?

How would you like to fly just above the red surface of Mars — zigzagging through its massive canyons and craters?

What about zipping around the rings of Saturn while dodging oncoming asteroids?

And imagine racing a shooting star!

But have you ever wondered what you would see in space — beyond the stars? Wouldn't that be an exciting adventure? Well, you really can!

The un-manned Voyager spacecrafts explored all the giant planets in the outer reaches of our solar system: Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune — and 48 of their moons. They photographed massive volcanoes blowing up on one of Jupiter's moons and took amazing pictures of Saturn's rings.

These spacecrafts also passed beyond all the planets in our solar system, traveling at 38,000 miles per hour, sending information back to earth for more than 30 years!

Today, of course, it's impossible for any person to go on such a long voyage — but did you know that someday you will be able to go farther than any spacecraft has ever gone? That's right! We will even be able to travel past the stars — and see with our own eyes what is out there. *Do you want to go?*

The Bible tells us about an amazing journey through the stars that begins when Jesus comes to take us to His city of gold! Let's open our Bibles and learn more about this incredible adventure.

But first, let's say a prayer to God, asking that He teach us and help us understand His Word. You might say,

"Dear God, Please teach me the truth about your coming, and help me to understand how to be ready. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen."

1 Will Jesus really come back to earth again and take us through the stars to heaven?

ANSWER: Yes! Jesus told His disciples, just before He went to heaven, **"In My Father's house are many mansions. ... 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 14:2, 3). **"And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me"** (Revelation 22:12).

Wow! We have Jesus' own promise that He will come again! He says, I'm preparing a place so:

"Where _____ am, there _____ may be also."

Can you imagine living with the King of the universe?

Do you know how absolutely AWESOME that will be?

He is coming to give a reward for everyone's good works. And what a reward it is! What could be more exciting?! We have the **"hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised"** (Titus 1:2).



2

The first time Jesus came to this earth, He came as a tiny baby. But the second time He comes, He will come as a mighty King. He won't come quietly or unnoticed either — but with all the angels of heaven and with the blast of a trumpet!

How will Jesus come the second time — when He comes to get us?

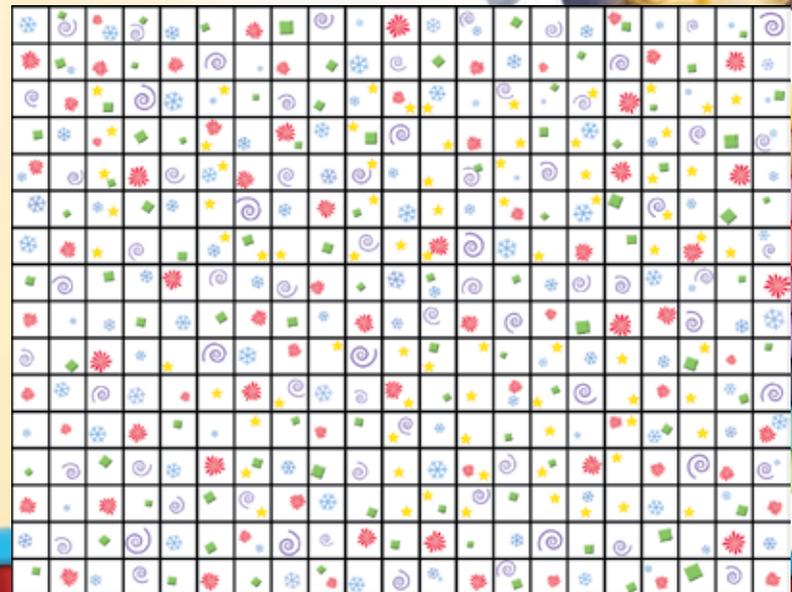
ANSWER: **"While they [the disciples] watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said ... 'Why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven'"** (Acts 1:9-11).

Jesus will come as a real person with a body like He had before. Don't be fooled! If someone comes to you and says Jesus has already come, don't you believe it! When Jesus comes the second time, everybody will know!

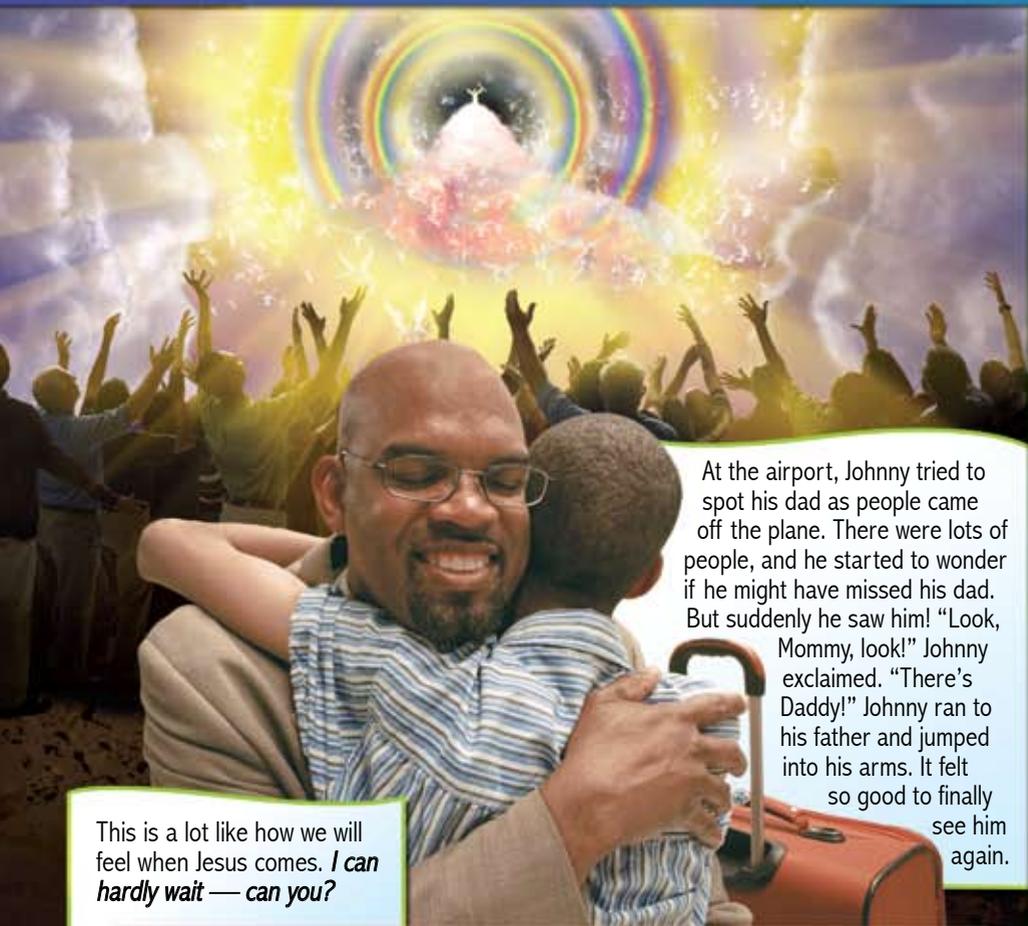
Will Jesus just come as a spirit or a good feeling?
(circle correct answer)

YES
or
NO

These squares hold flowers, snowflakes, spirals, squares, and stars. Color only the blocks that have a star to find out what you will say to Jesus when He comes again.



Have you ever waited for someone to return home after taking a long trip? Johnny did. His father left on a business trip for a long time, and Johnny missed him very much. Every day, he asked his mother when his dad was coming home. Then finally, one day, his mother said, "Yes, Johnny, Daddy is coming home today; it's time to go pick him up at the airport." How excited Johnny was — Daddy was finally coming home! He could hardly wait.



At the airport, Johnny tried to spot his dad as people came off the plane. There were lots of people, and he started to wonder if he might have missed his dad. But suddenly he saw him! "Look, Mommy, look!" Johnny exclaimed. "There's Daddy!" Johnny ran to his father and jumped into his arms. It felt so good to finally see him again.

This is a lot like how we will feel when Jesus comes. *I can hardly wait — can you?*

Jesus said He would prepare a place for us (John 14:3), and take us there when He comes again. There is a special place we can prepare for Jesus today. Find the synonyms, then take the first letter of each word to spell out that special place.

Joyful is a synonym for → _ _ _ P _

Anxious is a synonym for → _ _ G _ _

Outlook is a synonym for → _ _ _ _ T _ _ _

Uncovers is a synonym for → _ _ V _ _ _ _

Facts is a synonym for → _ _ _ T _

Answer: Happy, Eager, Attitude, Reveals, Truth = HEART



Will we be able to see Jesus when He comes? Or will He arrive secretly?



ANSWER: "If they say to you, 'Look, He is in the desert!' do not go out; or 'Look, He is in the inner rooms!' do not believe it. For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be" (Matthew 24:26, 27).

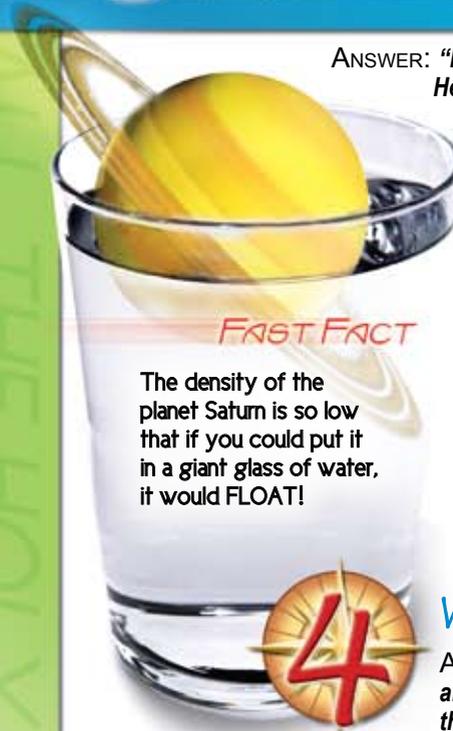
... every eye will see Him.

"Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him" (Revelation 1:7).

The Bible says we will get to see Jesus come back ... and what a day that will be! You might be able to sleep through a thunderstorm, but you will never be able to sleep through the second coming. Jesus won't be somewhere secret so that we'd have to go looking for Him. His coming will be as bright as a flash of

FAST FACT

The density of the planet Saturn is so low that if you could put it in a giant glass of water, it would FLOAT!



Who is with Jesus when He comes?

ANSWER: "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory" (Matthew 25:31).

"He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other" (Matthew 24:31).

Jesus will then send them to gather His faithful children from off the earth. No matter where you live, God will never leave you behind if you love Him.

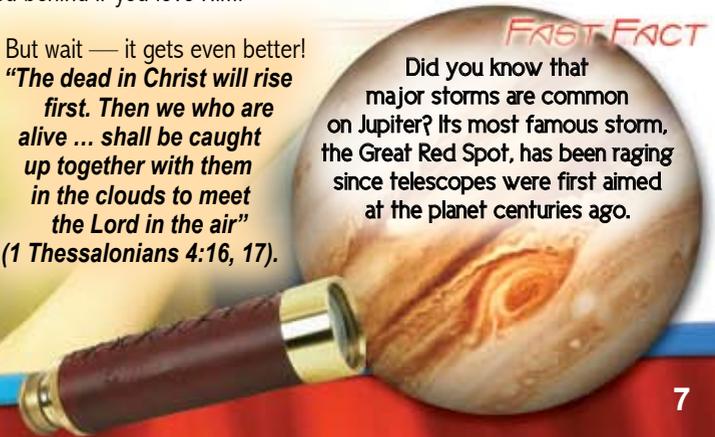
Who comes with Jesus?

"All the holy _____."

But wait — it gets even better! "The dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive ... shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air" (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17).

FAST FACT

Did you know that major storms are common on Jupiter? Its most famous storm, the Great Red Spot, has been raging since telescopes were first aimed at the planet centuries ago.



THE HOLY ANGELS

It was the saddest day of Mary's life. All she wanted to do was cry. Her grandmother had gotten sick, and even though the doctors did everything they could to help her, Grandma kept getting worse — until finally she died.

That night, after crying herself to sleep, Mary had a dream. In her dream, she was standing by the grave of her grandmother when suddenly there was a bright light. She looked up to see Jesus coming in the clouds with all His angels!

Next she heard the sound of a trumpet, and the grave of her grandmother opened up — and Grandma was resurrected! Mary awoke from her dream and despite her sadness, she now hopes and longs for Jesus to come.

Grandma was looking forward to Jesus coming because she knew she would be able to throw away her glasses and her cane. Here is a Bible verse she often quoted, but the sentence is written backwards and the words are spelled backwards! "Noitpurrocni no tup tsum noitpurroc."

“ _____ ”

Hint: 1 Corinthians 15:53

The Bible teaches the wonderful news that when Jesus comes, the dead in Christ will be resurrected. But what about the living? What will happen to them?

The Bible says, **“We shall all be changed — in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye... For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. ... This mortal must put on immortality” (1 Corinthians 15:51–53).**

You see, right now, only God has immortality — the ability to never get old or die. But when Jesus comes, all those who are going to heaven will be changed, as fast as the blink of an eye. Wow! Imagine getting a whole new body that will never get sick or old. There will be no more death, sorrow, or pain in heaven.

One of Russia's oldest people, Varvara Semennikova, died March 9, 2008, at 117 years of age. In just two months, she would have turned 118! Cruz Hernandez, the oldest person alive in modern times, lived in El Salvador and almost lived to 128 years old. But imagine what it will be like to never get old or die!



Will everyone go to heaven when Jesus comes?

ANSWER: No. Sadly, the wicked, who don't love Jesus, won't want to even see Him, much less live with Him. The Bible says they will say **“to the mountains and rocks, ‘Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne’” (Revelation 6:16).** **“With the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked” (Isaiah 11:4).** All the wicked on the earth will be slain when Jesus comes.

Jesus will be so sad that they didn't want to love Him and live with Him — for He loved them and wanted them to be saved, but they chose a different master.



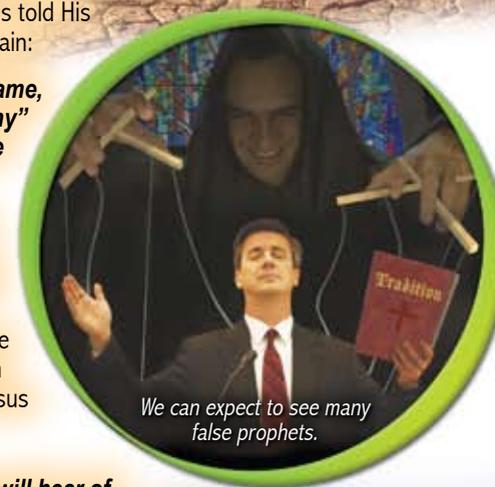
What are some signs of Jesus' coming?

Good question! Jesus' disciples wanted to know the same thing. **“As He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying ... ‘What will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?’” (Matthew 24:3).**

ANSWER: Here are some of the things Jesus told His disciples would happen before He comes again:

A. False Prophets: **“Many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many” (Matthew 24:5).** **“Many false prophets will rise up and deceive many” (Matthew 24:11).**

You can't always believe what you see with your eyes. The Bible tells us that before Jesus comes we can expect to see many false prophets. Some will even work miracles and claim to be Jesus, but if their actions or what they say doesn't agree with the Bible, stay away from them! (Read Isaiah 8:20 and 2 Corinthians 11:14, 15.) Thanks to Jesus and His Word, we don't have to be deceived.



B. Wars and Disasters in the World: **“You will hear of wars and rumors of wars. ... There will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places” (Matthew 24:6, 7).**

Perhaps you've heard about the Twin Towers in New York being attacked and of different wars. We also often hear about earthquakes and famines. Jesus said all of this would take place more frequently before He comes. These things are a message for us to get ready now — Jesus is coming soon!



C. Knowledge Will Increase: *“But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase” (Daniel 12:4).*

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 E S T S T E L E V I S I O N L D E
 S A H C E L I N G T N W R M D O S

Circle all the major inventions above since the year 1900...

BONUS:
Find the hidden words.

CELL PHONES AUTOMOBILES ROCKETS
 TELEVISION INTERNET SUBMARINES
 COMPUTERS AIRPLANES REFRIGERATOR

You live in an *amazing* age! Many of your great grandparents remember a world where there was no radio, television, internet, and no airplanes, or an International Space Station. Just in the last century, knowledge has increased more than all the rest of the recorded history of man put together!

FAST FACT
 In the 20th century, there were ten times as many earthquakes resulting in 1,000 or more deaths than in any other century. And seventy percent of the deadliest disasters have occurred since 1800.

D. Gospel to the World: *“This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world ... and then the end will come” (Matthew 24:14).* Nearly 95 percent of the world can now learn the gospel if they want to. Through radio, satellite, DVDs, the internet, printed materials, and traveling missionaries — the message of salvation is going to the whole world. Jesus is coming soon! God wants to give every person in the whole world the opportunity to know that He loves them and has a gift of salvation through Jesus for them. He is *“not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9).*

FAST FACT
 Mars is home to the largest known volcano in the solar system: Olympus Mons. It is 16 miles high (almost twice as high as Mount Everest) and covers an area about as large as the state of Arizona!

FAST FACT
 If the sun suddenly stopped shining, it would take eight minutes for people on earth to even be aware of it.

E. Selfishness: *“In the last days ... men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, ... lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God” (2 Timothy 3:1, 2, 4).* Have you ever met anyone who had to have everything their own way — or else? A lot of people think only of themselves. They love their money, and entertainment, and video games much more than they love God. The Bible says this selfishness is a sign that we are living... **When?**

... In the _____ days before Jesus comes!



F. Cold Hearted – No Love: The Bible says, *“Because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold” (Matthew 24:12).* People will also be *“disobedient to parents, unthankful, ... unloving, unforgiving, ... without self-control, brutal” (2 Timothy 3:2, 3).* Families are losing their love for each other and are breaking up. Crime is increasing. People are afraid. We hear about people, even children, shooting and killing others. They do not care if they break the law; they are disobedient to their parents.

Jesus said all this would happen before He came back again. He doesn't want us to hang around cold-hearted people, because He doesn't want us to be influenced by them. He says, *“From such people turn away!” (v. 5).* Jesus also says, *“When you see all these things, know that it [His coming] is near — at the doors!” (Matthew 24:33).*

Suppose your teacher is walking over to your house to visit with you. But you know you need to clean your room before it will be presentable.

If you have a long, straight driveway, you might be able to see your teacher coming from quite a ways away, and be able to know when he or she will soon be there. But how far away does Jesus say His coming is when we see all these things we've just read? At the doors! And when someone is at the door, it's too late to get ready! It's time to let them in, isn't it?

Jesus says, *“But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only” (Matthew 24:36).* No one can really know the exact day Jesus is coming, but we can know that it is near. *Are you ready for Jesus to come?*

The signs of Jesus' return can be listed in these boxes. Some of the letters are already filled in. You can go up, down, across, or diagonal.

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ANSWER: Rumors of Wars, False Prophets, False Christs, Earthquakes, Knowledge, Selfishness, Famines, Pestilences



How can I get ready for Jesus to come?

ANSWER: *Jesus says, “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in” (Revelation 3:20). “As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name” (John 1:12).*

Jesus wants you to receive Him. He is knocking at the door of your heart, saying, “If you let Me, I will come into your heart and change your thoughts and make you My child.” Doesn't that sound awesome — a son or daughter of God? Not just the son or daughter of a king or a president — but a son or daughter of the King of the universe!?

The Bible says, *“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).* Jesus will forgive your past life of sin and will help you to *“walk just as He walked” (1 John 2:6).* As you try to copy the loving ways of Jesus, you will become like Him and will be ready when He comes.

Here is a little prayer poem. Fill in the missing words and read the prayer to Jesus. Here is the word bank to choose from:

You instead hour fear free eye

I've read in Your Word that Your coming is near

At times when I look at myself I feel _____

But then when I think of Your promise to me

I rest in the knowledge that You set me _____

Free from sin's punishment, free from its power

And free from its presence in that final _____

For if I receive You, the promise is true

I'll live in Your presence, forever with _____

So now when I think of You there in the sky

Surrounded by angels, seen by every _____

It's joy that I feel, no more fear, no more dread

But happiness, rest, and rejoicing _____



Do you believe that Jesus is coming again soon ...
and do you want to be ready when He comes?

Do you want to take that amazing trip
through the stars to Jesus' kingdom? _____

Do you want to open your heart's
door and invite Him in? _____

How can I prepare for Jesus' coming?

- A)** Keep **"looking unto Jesus"** (*Hebrews 12:2*). Read about the love of Jesus in the Bible every day — and you will love Him with all of your heart!
- B)** Pray to Jesus. Talk to Him as a friend. He understands you and will help you.
- C)** Choose to do things that make God happy — obey your parents, turn from evil things. Jesus gives you His armor and strength to fight Satan, the dragon. **"Submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you"** (*James 4:7, 8*). Jesus will always be with you when you ask Him to.
- D)** Share what you've learned with others.



Did you enjoy this lesson? We hope so!
Now do the questions on the **SUMMARY SHEET**.

Notes

SUMMARY SHEET

Please read the Bible Guide before answering the questions. Fill in the circles of ALL that are correct. Hint: The number of correct answers for each question is in red.

1. How will Jesus come again? (3)

- a) in a space ship
- b) on the clouds, with the angels
- c) as a spirit or ghost
- d) as a person, like He was before
- e) in an airplane
- f) secretly
- g) with all His angels

2. What will happen when Jesus comes? (4)

- a) it will be quiet and dark
- b) He will blow His trumpet loudly
- c) He will shout and wake the dead
- d) the sky will be cloudless
- e) bells will ring and bands will play
- f) everyone will see Him
- g) we will get immortal bodies

3. Why is Jesus coming? (4)

- a) to whip us into line
- b) to take us to heaven
- c) to take us to Jupiter to live
- d) to raise the righteous dead
- e) to teach and preach on earth
- f) to reward those who love and obey Him
- g) to put an end to sin and suffering

4. What are some signs of Jesus' soon coming? (5)

- a) poisonous snakes biting everyone
- b) lots of wars
- c) lawless, unloving people
- d) a lot of people going to Hawaii
- e) false prophets
- f) winning the lottery
- g) famines and disasters
- h) people loving pleasure more than God

5. What will happen to the wicked when Jesus comes? (2)

- a) they will be converted
- b) they will be destroyed
- c) they will cry for rocks to fall on them
- d) they will keep living on earth
- e) they will rebuild the Tower of Babel

YOUR COMMENTS:

6. What new things have you discovered in this lesson?

7. Do you want to prepare to meet Jesus when He comes? _____

- Answer:
1. How will Jesus come again?
b) on the clouds, with the angels
d) as a person, like He was before
g) with all His angels
 2. What will happen when Jesus comes?
b) He will blow His trumpet loudly
c) He will shout and wake the dead
f) everyone will see Him
g) we will get immortal bodies
 3. Why is Jesus coming?
b) to take us to heaven
d) to raise the righteous dead
f) to reward those who love and obey Him
g) to put an end to sin and suffering
 4. What are some signs of Jesus' soon coming?
b) lots of wars
c) lawless, unloving people
e) false prophets
g) famines and disasters
h) people loving pleasure more than God
 5. What will happen to the wicked when Jesus comes?
b) they will be destroyed
c) they will cry for rocks to fall on them



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