

Forerunners for Christ Los Angeles

December 7, 2024 – The True Meaning of Christ's First Coming – Harold S. Marti

The True Meaning of Christ's First Coming (Part 7)

4. JESUS CAME TO PREPARE FOR A SECOND COMING

We learn by reading Hebrews 9:28 that "Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him, shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." At this season of the year our thoughts turn with gladness to the first coming of Jesus. We are reminded of the songs that the shepherds heard, and of the hope that filled their hearts. We rejoice to read about the star that shone over the place where the child lay. And yet, we are all conscious of the fact that this present age cannot continue on like it has been going. Sin abounds on every hand. Crime is on the increase. Lawlessness and sexual immorality are sometimes even encouraged. Peace and righteousness have not been established. The weapons which technicians have developed threaten to wipe civilization off the face of the earth. Deep down within we realize that something more is needed.

The first coming of Jesus was merely the preparation for a great consummation that is still to come. The text in Hebrews 9:28 says that Christ shall appear a second time. One cannot read the New Testament carefully without coming to the conclusion that the Christ who came is still to come. The angel said at the time of Jesus' ascension into Heaven, "This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go" (Acts 1:11).

One main theme that recurs over and over again in the Bible is the teaching that Jesus Christ is coming to this earth twice. Most people live as if life as we know it today is going to continue on like it has been forever. They say that the grass is still green, cows still give milk, hens lay eggs, and dogs bark at the moon just like they always have done. This is the way things always have been. But we must remember that God's Word declares that the same Jesus who came to Bethlehem is going to come a second time. Life as we know it today will come to an end.

From Erlinda Cruz:

Let us allow ourselves to enjoy the benefit of all we have been given through the finished work of Jesus on the cross. Yet in all this, we must come with a deeper understanding that there's so much more than just what we gained from the cross, so much more beyond the cross.

Beyond the cross is the new world of God! Heaven on earth! Kingdom come! Throne of God dwelling with man! The second coming will open the way for ABBA's heart to be fulfilled. He be our God, we be His people. HE DWELL with MAN FOREVERMORE!