



Comparison of the first and second comings of Christ

Description

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The anticipation of Christ's coming is deeply rooted in Christian theology, with scriptures foretelling both a first and a second coming. The first coming of Christ, often referred to as the Incarnation, marks the birth of Jesus Christ in Bethlehem over two thousand years ago. This pivotal event fulfilled numerous prophecies from the Old Testament, including Isaiah 7:14 which states, "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel." The second coming of Christ, on the other hand, is eagerly awaited by believers and is prophesied to occur in the future. Scripture provides vivid descriptions of this event, emphasizing its significance and the transformative impact it will have on the world.

Fulfillment of Prophecies

The first coming of Christ fulfilled numerous prophecies, validating his identity as the promised Messiah. For instance, Micah 5:2 prophesied the birthplace of Jesus, stating, "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times." Similarly, the second coming of Christ is anticipated to fulfill additional prophecies, signaling the culmination of

God's redemptive plan for humanity.

Purpose and Mission

Christ's first coming was characterized by humility and servanthood, as he came to reconcile humanity to God through his sacrificial death and resurrection. This is echoed in Philippians 2:6-8, which describes Jesus' humility, stating, "Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!" In contrast, Christ's second coming will involve judgment and the establishment of his eternal kingdom, as depicted in Revelation 19:11-16.

Timing and Expectation

The timing of Christ's first coming was meticulously orchestrated by God, fulfilling prophetic timelines and expectations. Galatians 4:4-5 emphasizes this divine timing, stating, "But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship." Similarly, the second coming of Christ will occur at an appointed time known only to God, generating anticipation and vigilance among believers.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the first and second comings of Christ are pivotal events in Christian theology, each fulfilling distinct purposes within God's redemptive plan. While the first coming demonstrated Christ's humility and servanthood, the second coming will usher in his eternal kingdom and establish his reign over all creation. As believers eagerly await the fulfillment of these prophecies, let us remain vigilant and faithful, knowing that our redemption draws near.

Salvation Prayers : Dear Lord Jesus, I come to you today acknowledging my need for salvation. I confess that I have sinned and fallen short of your glory. But I believe that you died for my sins and rose again. I ask that you come into my heart and be my Lord. I commit to following you and living for you every day. Thank you for your love and for the gift of eternal life. In your name I pray, Amen.

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Example: Joy, Love, 1 John 1:3

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Multiple Choice Questions

1. What event marks the first coming of Christ?
 - a) His baptism
 - b) His crucifixion
 - c) His birth
 - d) His ascension

2. Which prophet foretold the birthplace of Jesus?
 - a) Isaiah
 - b) Jeremiah
 - c) Micah
 - d) Malachi

3. What is the primary purpose of Christ's first coming?
 - a) To establish his eternal kingdom
 - b) To fulfill prophecies
 - c) To reconcile humanity to God
 - d) To perform miracles

4. What event will characterize Christ's second coming?
 - a) Humility and servanthood
 - b) Judgment and the establishment of his eternal kingdom
 - c) Preaching and teaching
 - d) Healing and miracles

5. According to Galatians 4:4-5, when did God send his Son?

- a) When humanity was righteous
- b) When the world was at peace
- c) When the set time had fully come
- d) When humanity least expected it

FAQs

1. Q:How do we know when Christ will return?

The exact timing of Christ's return is known only to God. However, scripture encourages believers to remain vigilant and prepared for his coming.

2. Q:Will everyone be judged at Christ's second coming?

Yes, scripture teaches that all people will be judged, and those who have accepted Christ will inherit eternal life, while those who reject him will face judgment.

3. Q:What signs should we look for to indicate Christ's imminent return?

Various signs, such as wars, natural disasters, and the spread of the gospel, are mentioned in scripture as indicators of Christ's return. However, the precise timing remains unknown.

Multiple Choice Answers

- 1. c) His birth
- 2. c) Micah
- 3. c) To reconcile humanity to God
- 4. b) Judgment and the establishment of his eternal kingdom
- 5. c) When the set time had fully come

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