

A Different Take on the ‘Coming of the Lord Jesus’

The promised return of Jesus (as King Jesus) has been anticipated for millennia, and is often referred to as ‘The Second Coming’. Even today, most Christians are looking forward to it and even praying for it to happen sooner than later. But, are futurists right in their expectations?

For two reasons I (and others)¹ are not looking for him to return in the way Futurist Eschatology pictures it.

1. Jesus returned as judge of the Jews in 70AD when he destroyed the temple, ended the Old Covenant and disbursed them among the nations. He has already come as he promised.
2. Our King has given us insight into what his return actually means from a Kingdom perspective.²

The first is belief systems, just like ‘The Second Coming’. The second is what we have received from the King himself, so it must be accurate. But, is there any scriptural reason for disagreeing with the futurist’s ‘Second Coming’?

Here’s what François Du Toit wrote about that:

*“Do not be distracted though by extended meanings you will find in dictionaries. See my rendering of the word *parousia* in 1 Thessalonians 2:19 “We expect nothing less in the context of the gospel than you enjoying a face to face encounter in the immediate presence of our Lord Jesus Christ. This is our delight and wreath of honor.”³ (Commentary note: Face to face encounter; The word G1715 ἔμπροσθεν, *emprosthen*; from G1722, “in” and G4314 *pros*; in front of - in place [literally or figuratively] or time): - face to face, before, (in sight) of.*

*The word *parousia* speaks of the immediate presence of the Lord. From *para*, a preposition indicating close proximity, intimate connection; and *eimi*, I am. There is not even a hint of judgment or punishment in this word.*

*While there are great and accurate definitions in Strong’s^{4,5} please do not believe everything you read there. “G3952 *parousia* from the Present Participle of G3918 [*pareimi*]; a being near; that is, advent; often, return; specifically of Christ to punish Jerusalem, or finally the wicked.”? [This is blatant nonsense.*

**Parousia* occurs 24 times in the NT, and 22 times it wrongly implies a 2nd coming or coming judgment. Only twice it is translated as presence – 2 Corinthians 10:10, Philippians 2:12. Of all the English translations that I have checked, only the Young’s Literal has it correct. What a shame that this word has been so dramatically twisted over the years.*

*In the Greek Septuagint Psalm 138:8 [in the Hebrew Psalm 139] reads, “If I make my bed in Hades, your presence already fills it”. LXX - πάρεμι *pareimi* your immediate presence - I am.”⁶*

So, all is not what it seems.

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(Readers will need to look up for themselves any scriptures alluded to in this document)

1 – “A Different Take on the Return of the King”

canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/A-Different-Take-on-the-Return-of-the-King.pdf

2 – “How Will the King Return?”

canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/How-Will-the-King-Return.pdf

3 – Notice of copyright: “Scripture taken from THE MIRROR. Copyright © 2012. Used by permission of The Author.”

4 – Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance www.biblestudytools.com/concordances/strongs-exhaustive-concordance

5 – SEE: www.bibletools.org/index.cfm/fuseaction/Lexicon.show/ID/G3952/parousia.htm

6 – Francois Du Toit (2012) In 'The Mirror Bible' Resources “Why Another Translation” (Mirror Bible app.mirrorword.net)