



LESSON 29

Foundations Curriculum

The Jesus Who Will Come

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Introduction

The Jesus Who Will Come

In this twenty-ninth lesson, we will speak about the Jesus who will come. We will seek to answer the question: who will return — the Almighty or the suffering Servant? We will consider two aspects of Him: the Jesus who was put to death on the cross, and the One who is seated at the right hand of the Father.

Some ask: will the Jesus who comes be the divine Son of God, or the incarnate Son of Man? Will He be the Almighty or the suffering Servant?

1) Looking at Jesus in All His Aspects

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:1–2 (NKJV)

The writer of Hebrews highlights two aspects of Jesus: the One who endured the cross, and the One who is seated at the right hand of God.

01 The Jesus Who Endured the Cross

In His first coming, Jesus was born in a manger. He lived a simple, humble life. His chief characteristics here on earth were: servant, meek, humble and humiliated, wronged, and a man of suffering.

They placed a crown of thorns on His head, mocked Him, struck Him, and crucified Him as the worst of criminals. Jesus went through all this humiliation like a silent lamb. He suffered and died

in silence. We have learned to look at this Jesus who endured the cross so that we might become like Him.

02 The Jesus Who Is Seated at the Right Hand of God

Jesus endured the cross, but He rose again, was exalted, and is seated at the right hand of God.

Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters; He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength. And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last."

Revelation 1:12–17 (NKJV)

John was very close to Jesus. He used to lean his head on Jesus' chest. Jesus was humble, simple, and approachable. But when John comes face to face with the glorified Jesus, the exalted Jesus, whose eyes are like a flame of fire and whose face shines like the sun in its strength, he could not bear that glory and fell at His feet as though dead.

John was accustomed to looking at Jesus the worker. But in this passage, he comes face to face with the King of kings, the Lord of lords, the First and the Last.

John stood before the One who will judge the living and the dead, the Almighty.

We have learned to look at Jesus the worker, so that we might become like Him, and that is correct. Yet Jesus rose again and was exalted; He sat down on the throne, beside the Father, and today He wears diadems upon His head.

The book of Revelation reveals the greatness and glory of Jesus. In Revelation 1:5, Jesus is described as the Firstborn from the dead and the Ruler over the kings of the earth.

and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood

Revelation 1:5 (NKJV)

Firstborn, because He is the first to rise from the dead. Afterward, many others whom He purchased with His precious blood will also rise at the time of His coming. He is the Ruler over the kings of the earth — that is, He is above every king, president, emperor, and ruler of this world.

In chapter 11:15, it is declared that the kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and that He will reign forever and ever.

Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"

Revelation 11:15 (NKJV)

Revelation 1:8 — Jesus presents Himself to John, saying:

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

Revelation 1:8 (NKJV)

Now He was no longer the suffering Servant who came to serve and to give His life. He is the Almighty, the King of kings, the Lord of lords.

In chapter 4, we see a throne set up in heaven, and Someone seated on it:

The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!"

Revelation 4:8 (NKJV)

In chapter 5, we see the Father with a scroll in His hand — no one in the universe could open it or even look at it:

And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals. Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?" ... And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it.

Revelation 5:1–3 (NKJV)

Then an announcement is made: there is One who can open the scroll. Jesus, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, has prevailed! Hallelujah! When John looks, he sees a Lamb:

But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals." And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

Revelation 5:5–6 (NKJV)

To the Church, Jesus presents Himself as a lamb, not as a lion; He shows Himself as the One who died for us. He takes the scroll, opens it, and brings to pass everything written in it. He alone has this power; He alone has this authority.

Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

Matthew 24:30 (NKJV)

Jesus will no longer come in a manger; He will come with power and great glory. In His first coming, He arrived quietly, and no one welcomed Him except Joseph and Mary. He was visited by a few shepherds and by wise men from the East. But when Jesus comes again, He will appear in heaven, and every eye will see Him. His coming now will be compared to lightning that comes from the east and flashes to the west. It will not be an event for only a few, an event only for the Church, nor a secret event. All the peoples of the earth will see Him.

Revelation 19 narrates the coming of Jesus and how it will happen:

Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Revelation 19:11–16 (NKJV)

This passage relates the greatness, the glory, and the sovereignty of Jesus; it shows that He will come with all the power and authority that belong to Him alone. The Word of God will come from heaven. His battle and His judgment are righteous. Out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, and with it He will strike the nations. This is the great “warrior-king” whom the Jews so longed for, at the time when Jesus entered Jerusalem riding on a young donkey.

Verse 15 refers to a great wrath. It says that He treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. The winepress was the place where grapes were put to be trodden and pressed, in order to extract the wine. The text shows how the Lord has this wrath against all sinners who do not repent and who want to live far from Him.

Many think and declare that God is love and will not send anyone to the lake of fire. But this is a great mistake. Wrath against the presence of sin is something inherent to the Lord; it is part of who He is.

Jesus was the One who loved this world the most, to the point of giving His holy and perfect life to die as the worst of sinners. Yet, as Marcos Moraes likes to say, Jesus was the only One who spoke of hell. Not Hades — the realm of the dead — but Gehenna, the lake of fire.

The flood was a demonstration of the wrath of God. The Lord nearly swept humanity from the earth because of sin. And the wrath of the Lord will be revealed again.

In chapters 15 and 16 of Revelation, seven plagues are mentioned, which are the completion of the wrath of God, of the great wrath of God upon the inhabitants of the earth.

At the Second Coming, no one will mock Jesus, no one will humiliate Him. On the contrary, He will come with all power and glory to establish His thousand-year reign here on earth. Every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

But when Jesus returns, what body will He have? The body of a man — will we see the marks in His hands and feet? Or will He come as John saw Him in Revelation 1, with eyes like flames of fire?

We know that Jesus will have the body of a man for all eternity. When He rose from the dead, it was in the body of a man. There is a Man in control of the universe.

In Matthew 28:18, Jesus states that all authority has been given to Him in heaven and on earth.

Paul also states, in his first letter to Timothy, that we have a Mediator between God and us: Jesus Christ, the Man.

Yet, even though it is the body of a man, it is a heavenly or spiritual body. He can present Himself in different forms. We have seen in Revelation 19 how Jesus will come.

There are differences between earthly bodies, which is what we have today, and heavenly or spiritual bodies. Paul states in 1 Corinthians 15:40:

There are also celestial bodies and terrestrial bodies; but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another.

1 Corinthians 15:40 (NKJV)

He also states that when we rise from the dead, we will have a new body, no longer earthly, but a body in glory.

There is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differs from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption.

1 Corinthians 15:41–42 (NKJV)

So it was with Jesus. He had an earthly body, a natural body, but when He rose from the dead, He received a body in glory, a spiritual body.

This body is different from our earthly body, which has many limitations. The heavenly or spiritual body is not limited by space. Jesus appeared to His disciples when they were inside a room with the doors shut, and He did not need to open the door to enter. He simply appeared to them there inside.

Since we do not understand how a heavenly or spiritual body functions, we cannot make definite statements about how Jesus will show Himself to the world.

However, we can imagine that He will show Himself in a glorious, powerful, majestic way, as we see in Revelation 19.

He comes to establish a thousand-year kingdom over the nations here on earth. All will be compelled to serve Him and worship Him. The prophet Zechariah announces that all nations will

go up year after year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and whoever does not worship Him will be punished.

And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles... If the family of Egypt will not come up and enter in, they shall have no rain; they shall receive the plague with which the Lord strikes the nations who do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. This shall be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

Zechariah 14:16, 18–19 (NKJV)

Jesus will come to make Israel the head of the nations. He will be the lawgiver and the judge over all the earth.

We need to look at the glorified Jesus and fear Him. Today He is our advocate, but one day, very soon, He will be the Judge. We must recognize our own insignificance and know that we will stand face to face with the Lord to hear Him say, “Come, blessed of My Father,” or, “Depart from Me, cursed, into the everlasting fire.”

The elder announced the Lion of the tribe of Judah. But John saw a Lamb.

Before whom do we want to present ourselves: Lion or Lamb? That will depend on how we are living today, on how we are preparing ourselves.

At midnight someone will cry out: behold, the bridegroom! And all who wait for Him will need to have their lamps well lit, with plenty of oil, so that they may enter through the door and, at last, dwell forever with our beloved Jesus.

CONCLUSION

In this twenty-ninth lesson of the Foundations Curriculum, we learned what the Jesus who will come is like. Two aspects of Him were highlighted: the One who endured the cross, and the One who is seated at the right hand of God. In His first coming, He was humble, a servant, a man of suffering. But when He returns, He will come powerful and crowned with glory. We also saw that He had an earthly body, but when He rose from the dead, He received a glorious, spiritual body, one not limited by space. In His second coming, He will judge the nations and separate the blessed of the Lord from those who will be cursed. Therefore, we must be prepared to meet our Lord.

CONSIDER CAREFULLY

01 In His first coming, Jesus was born in a manger and lived a very humble life. What will His second coming be like?

02 How does the book of Revelation present Jesus?

03 When Jesus returns to the earth, no one will humiliate Him or mock Him anymore. What does He come to establish here on earth with power and great glory?

*having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone.*

Ephesians 2:20 (NKJV)

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