

## LESSON - 25

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# SECOND COMING OF JESUS CHRIST

## II. OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES

**Reading** : 2 Pet. 1:16-21; Isa. 11:1-12; 65:17-25

**Memory verses** : 2 Pet 1:19-21

**Theme** : Prophecies about the second coming of Christ give light and hope to the people of God even in adverse circumstances. Hence it is necessary to learn about them carefully and fill our lives with hope.

**Introduction** : Which are the reasons that make us disappointed and sorrowful? Sicknesses, poverty, deaths and cruel behaviour produce distress in man. In the midst of all this, the promises of God concerning the second coming of Jesus Christ give us courage and hope. The plan that God has for mankind reaches its completeness with the coming of the Lord. This truth was revealed to His prophets even in the Old Testament days. Prophecies are words spoken with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit (2Pet. 1:20-21). They are to be born in our hearts as lamps shining in darkness.

### PROPHECIES CONCERNING THE FIRST COMING OF JESUS CHRIST

All the prophecies spoken by the Old Testament prophets concerning the first coming of Christ were fulfilled. Here are a few examples:

1. Virgin birth : Isa. 7:14 (Matt. 1:22)
2. Place of birth : Micah 5:2 (Matt. 2:1)
3. Ministry : Isa. 61 : 1-3 (Luke 4: 18-21)
4. Sufferings and death : Isa. 53: Psa. 22 (Mark 15; John 19)
5. Resurrection : Psa. 16:10-11 (Luke 24:1-7)

## 6. Ascension : Psa. 68: 18 (Acts 1:9)

Therefore prophecies concerning the second coming of the Lord will also be fulfilled at the right time. Old Testament prophets starting with Enoch down to John the Baptist have revealed different aspects of the second coming.

### **OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES CONCERNING THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST**

1. Enoch: Enoch belonging to the seventh generation from Adam, walked with God and received messages from God (Gen. 5:24; Heb. 11:5). He prophesied that the Lord would come along with thousands of saints to judge the earth. This prophecy is recorded in the epistle of Jude (Jude 15,16). It is pointing to the second phase of the Lord's coming.

2. Job. Job was sustained in his faith by the hope of Messiah's advent during the days when he was sitting in ashes, afflicted with boils all over his body. He said, "I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: - whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another" (Job 19:25-27). Do you have this assurance?

3. Moses: Moses described the coming of Messiah and the resurrection of the dead in the psalm which he sang at the death of his brother Aaron. "Thou turnest man to destruction and sayest, Return, ye children of men" (Psa. 90:3). He prayed: "Return, O Lord, how long?" (Psa. 90:13). Moses had the assurance that man would resurrect at the advent of Christ.

4. Asaph: Asaph prophesied about the appearance of messiah to gather His saints (Psa.50:3-5). Gathering of His saints at the first phase and the judgement at the second phase of Christ's coming are both mentioned in this passage.

5. David: In psa.110, David prophesies about Messiah who is sitting at the right hand of His father until all His enemies are brought to His feet and who will appear on earth after that. His people will resurrect "from the womb of the morning." Messiah will appear in glory (Psa.102:15) and He will reign as king from the holy hill of Zion (Psa.2:6-8).

6. Isaiah: There are many prophecies in the book regarding the second coming of Messiah.

a) Isa. 26: 19-20: Saints who are dead will be resurrected at His coming. During the days of the great tribulation, they will be with Him in heavenly places. see also: 1 Thes. 4:16-18.

b) Isa. 40:10: "Behold, the Lord God will come with strong hand, His reward is with Him, and His work before Him. "The reference here is to the distribution of rewards to His saints after the rapture (and not to punishment) See also: Rom. 8:1; John 2:28; 2 Cor.5:10; Rev. 22:12.

c) Isa. 2:2-4;11:1-13; 60:1-12: These are prophecies about His glorious appearance and His reign as a King. The Lord will return to the earth with His saints, Jews will be gathered from different parts of the world into Jerusalem where Christ will establish His kingdom. In those days there will be no war or rumours of war. There will be complete amity even in the animal kingdom.

7. Daniel : Saints will resurrect to receive their portion at the coming of Messiah (Dan. 12:13). The Lord will destroy all worldly kingdoms and establish His eternal kingdom, which will never end (Dan. 2:44-45). Moreover, His saints will rule with Him (Dan.7:1). The book of Daniel as a whole deal with the event associated with the coming of the Lord.

8. Amos: Amos exhorts people of God to be prepared to meet the Lord when He comes in the heaven (Amos 4:12). The Lord and the apostles have spoken about the need to be watchful and ready (Matt. 24:44; 1 Thes. 5:2-8; Titus 2:12, 1 John 3:2-3).

9. Zachariah : He has prophesied that Messiah would set His foot on the Mount Olives on the east of Jerusalem and the mountain will split in the middle (Zech. 14:4). The Lord will then reign over the whole world (Zach. 14:9;9:10).

10. Malachi: The Old Testament ends with Malachi's prophecy concerning the destruction of the unrighteous and the blessing of the people of God at the appearance of Messiah (Mal.4: 1-3).

11. John the Baptist: He declared that when Messiah comes, His saints will be gathered as wheat and the unrighteous ones will be burned in fire as chaff (Matt. 3:12).

Without doubt the prophecies about the second coming of our Lord will be fulfilled. Let us be prepared and wait for this great event.

## **QUESTIONS**

1. Recount the Old Testament prophecies regarding the Lord's first advent and say how they were fulfilled.
2. What has Enoch prophesied about the Lord's second coming and where is it recorded?
3. Prove that Job believed in the second coming of the Lord and the resurrection of the dead.
4. Which are the psalms which have prophetic sayings about the second coming and who are the authors? What are the truths revealed in them?
5. Quote the important prophecies recorded in Isaiah about the Second Advent.
6. In what way is the book of Daniel related to the Lord's coming?
7. Quote the verses from Amos, Zachariah and Malachi regarding Messiah's appearance.
8. Who is the last prophet of the Old Testament period? What has he foretold about the coming of Messiah?