

T R U T H

THE CHAPEL
NOVEMBER 23, 2025

WEEK 9: THE TRUTH ABOUT CHRIST'S RETURN

Dave Gustavsen



WHAT WE BELIEVE AND WHY IT MATTERS

KEY SCRIPTURES

2 Peter 3:3-4 ...in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. They will say, “Where is this ‘coming’ he promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.”

Matthew 16:27 For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father’s glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.

Matthew 24:44 So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

John 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

Revelation 22:12 “Behold, I am coming soon.”

Matthew 25:13 “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.”

Matthew 13:32-33 But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come.

Matthew 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

Matthew 24:29 Immediately after the distress of those days “the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken. Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven.”

2 Thessalonians 2:1-4 Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers and sisters not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by the teaching allegedly from us—whether by a prophecy or by word of mouth or by letter—asserting that the day of the Lord has already come. Don’t let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God’s temple, proclaiming himself to be God.

2 Peter 3:10-12 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare. Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God...

Luke 12:43-46 It will be good for that servant whom the master finds doing so when he returns. Truly I tell you, he will put him in charge of all his possessions. But suppose the servant says to himself, ‘My master is taking a long time in coming,’ and he then begins to beat the other servants, both men and women, and to eat and drink and get drunk. The master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he is not aware of.

2 Timothy 4:8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

Philippians 3:20 But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Revelation 22:20 He who testifies to these things says, “Yes, I am coming soon.”

Colossians 4:5 Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity

READ & REFLECT on the above Scriptures using the questions below:

- What do you notice about God in these passages?
- What does this teach us about “truth?”
- Is there a word, phrase, or verse that stood out to you? Why?
- How do these verses challenge or encourage you right now?

SERMON QUESTIONS

1. What has been your experience with the promise of Christ’s return? Has this been a difficult concept for you to understand or think of? Why do you think so many people have tried to predict the timing of Christ’s return? Have you ever had misconceptions about his return or known others who have?

2. Pastor Dave walked through some views of how Jesus fits in with the biblical concept of millennium- postmillennialism (Jesus comes back after the thousand year period), amillennialism (there’s not going to be a literal thousand years where Jesus reigns on earth), and premillennialism (Jesus will return to this earth and reign for 1,000 years). Pastor Dave believes in the premillennial viewpoint, but many other biblical scholars take other viewpoints. Ultimately the most important thing is that Jesus is coming back. How do these different viewpoints shape the way you feel about His return?

3. In thinking about Jesus’ imminent return, many people point to certain signs or things that need to happen before he comes back. Is it possible that those signs have been fulfilled in ways that we just don’t realize? How does that make you think about the imminence of Jesus’ return?

4. How should the knowledge of Christ’s imminent return affect how we live? Read the verses below and reflect on how this can be applied to how you live your life now:

a. Holiness- 2 Peter 3:10-12

b. Faithfulness- Luke 12:43-46

c. Urgency- Colossians 4:5

d. Longing- Timothy 4:8, Philippians 3:20, Revelation 22:20

RESET

What practical steps can you do this week to prepare for Christ's return?

CLOSING PRAYER

- **Thank God** for the promise of Jesus' return and our future hope.
- **Invite group to pray** we'd live with holy urgency, wisdom, and peace.
- **Ask God** to help your group walk today in light of tomorrow's glory.