

Beloved of the Lord:

In the midst of the world's revelry and excitement today, it little realizes that at the second appearing of Christ what it faces! It rejected and crucified Him at His first Advent, but will universally mourn at His second coming, for then He will appear as the "Judge of all the earth" - Gen. 18:25 and John 5:22. Consider Rev. 1:7 carefully and prayerfully.

- 1 - THE CERTAINTY OF HIS COMING - "Behold, He cometh". All previous promises of this event, both in Old and New Testaments, are concentrated in three words. The whole theme of Revelation is condensed in Rev. 1:7, for Jesus Christ is to be unveiled in power and glory before the whole universe. The call is given - pay attention - "Behold, HE COMETH"!
- 2 - THE MANNER OF HIS COMING - "with clouds". Before Caiaphas and the rulers, at His trial, Jesus said - "hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven" - Matt. 26:64. See Matt. 25:31; Jude 14,15; 2 Thess. 1:7; Rev. 19:14. Saints and angels will be attending Him on His return to earth.
- 3 - THE PUBLICITY OF HIS COMING - "every eye shall see Him". This Jesus also foretold - "Then shall they SEE the Son of man coming in power and great glory" - Luke 21:27. The Rapture of the Saints, when He comes FOR His Saints (1 Thess. 4:15-18), will be invisible to the world, but this glorious appearing to earth will be visible to all! "Every eye shall see Him". When all the judgments recorded in Revelation are completed (Rev. 20:11-15). EVERY human person will have seen Him face to face as their Judge-John 5:25-27.
- 4 - THE SPECIAL CLASS WHO WILL SEE HIM - "and they also which pierced Him" - It is to be recognized that specific persons who were guilty of crucifying the Son of God will face Him; Pilate, Caiaphas the High Priest, the Roman centurion, soldiers and the one who pierced His side, and all who said "away with Him", will be surprised to meet Him again face to face. Yet there is a special distinction suggested in addition to the Gentile spear. his own earthly people, the Jews are specified! Sad it is to say, His own nation loudly demanded His death. Their children inherited their guilt (Matt. 27:25), also refusing His shed blood as God's remedy for their sins. Read Zechariah 12:10 to 13:1, when at this same time, His earthly people shall "look upon Him Whom they have pierced". The prophet reveals God's grace in restoring to repentance a remnant of Israel.
- 5 - THE WORLD'S UNIVERSAL MOURNING - "and ALL kindreds (tribes) of the earth shall wail because of Him". It will be of eternal disaster for the Gentile nations of this world! A time of retribution for mankind that has been making themselves happy without God! Their earthly pleasures of sin, lawlessness and their fancied security from divine judgment, will give place to dread, horror and fear as man's boasted civilization crashes into ten thousand pieces! See Dan. 2:34 and 46. They will mourn! The Saviour foretold it - Matt. 24:30, and in fear men may well pray to the rocks and mountains, saying - "hide us from the face of Him that sitteth upon the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb" etc. - Rev. 6:16,17. The Lord declared the final retribution in Matt. 13:49,50, for "there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth" in eternal hell! Read Psalm 9:17.

"And oh! What a weeping and wailing
As the lost were told of their fate!
They cried for the rocks and the mountains -
They prayed, BUT THEIR PRAYER WAS TOO LATE!"

Jesus in Spirit
Jack Bramhall