

## Handout Part VI: The Second Coming and the Resurrection of the Dead

*And then the sign of the Son of man will appear in heaven; then, too, all the peoples of the earth will beat their breasts; and they will see the Son of man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet to gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.*

Matthew 24:30-31

### **The Coming of Christ in the Synoptic Gospels**

- Matthew 16:27
- Matthew 24:29-31
- Matthew 25:31
- Matthew 26:64
- Mark 8:38
- Mark 13:24-26
- Mark 14:62
- Mark 24:29
- Luke 9:25-27
- Luke 17:24
- Luke 21:27
- Luke 22:69

### Second Coming in Parables:

- The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins: Matthew 25:1-13
- The Parable of the Talents: Matthew 25:14-20
- The Parable of the Ten Gold Coins in Luke 19:11-27

What will be the signs associated with His coming according to 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10; 2 Peter 3:10?

1. There will be the blast of the shofar [trumpet]
2. There will be a shout from the Archangel
3. Immediately the dead will rise and then the living
4. His angels will gather all the resurrected
5. He will come in purifying fire as judge and the earth will be burned up

The Old Covenant Church believed in the Resurrection of the dead: 2 Maccabees 7:9-29; Daniel 12:1-12. Jesus' teaching concerning the Resurrection: Mark 12:24-27; John 11:25; Matthew 22:23-33.

What does the Catechism teach concerning the resurrection of the dead? See CCC# 988-1003. What does St. Paul teach concerning the truth of the resurrection in 1 Corinthians 15:12-14?

- It is the culmination of the saving action of Jesus Christ.
- For the believer the resurrection is the beginning of our fully incorporated life with Christ, body and soul living immortally in the life of the Trinity.
- Christ's resurrection prefigured our resurrection
- Our baptismal resurrection to new life in Christ is completed in our bodily resurrection at the End of the Age of Man.

- We are destined to live eternally in body and spirit in the heavenly Jerusalem.

The same concept of the Second Advent of Christ coming in judgment in the Final Days of man is also found in the Catholic letters of the New Testament:

- James 5:7-9
- 1 Peter 1:7, 13
- 1 Peter 4:7, 13
- 2 Peter 3:10-12

The word “antichrist,” *antichristos*, is only used four times in Scripture and only by St. John. This word is not found in the Book of Revelation:

1. 1 John 2:18
2. 1 John 2:22
3. 1 John 4:3
4. 2 John 7

This Greek word means “the adversary of Christ”. There is also a reference to this adversary of goodness and salvation in 2 Thessalonians 2:3-12

Warning in 2 Peter 3:3-6: *It is the same Word which is reserving the present heavens and earth for fire, keeping them till the Day of Judgment and of the destruction of sinners. But there is one thing, my dear friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, a day is like a thousand years and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow in carrying out his promises as some people think he is; rather is he being patient with you, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to repentance. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and melt away, the earth and all that it contains will be burned up [2 Peter 3:7-10].*

This great time of testing will be the Church’s last Passover: *The Church will enter the glory of the kingdom only through this final Passover, when she will follow her Lord in his death and Resurrection. The kingdom will be fulfilled, then, not by a historic triumph of the Church through a progressive ascendancy, but only by God’s victory over the final unleashing of evil, which will cause his Bride to come down from heaven. God’s triumph over the revolt of evil will take the form of the Last Judgment after the final cosmic upheaval of this passing world. CCC# 677 [also see Revelation 19:1-9; 13:8; 20:7-12; 21:2-4; 2 Peter 3:12-13.*

**Catechism References:**

The Second Coming and the Resurrection of the Dead	522-24: Preparation of Christ’s coming
	542: All men called to follow Christ’s resurrection
	556: Christ’s coming in glory in the Transfiguration prefigures His Second Coming
	673-74: Uncertainty of time of Christ’s coming
	769: Coming of Christ and the perfection of the Church
	992-1004: Resurrection of man
	1040: Coming of Christ and Last Judgment
2772: Unknown hour or day of Christ’s coming	