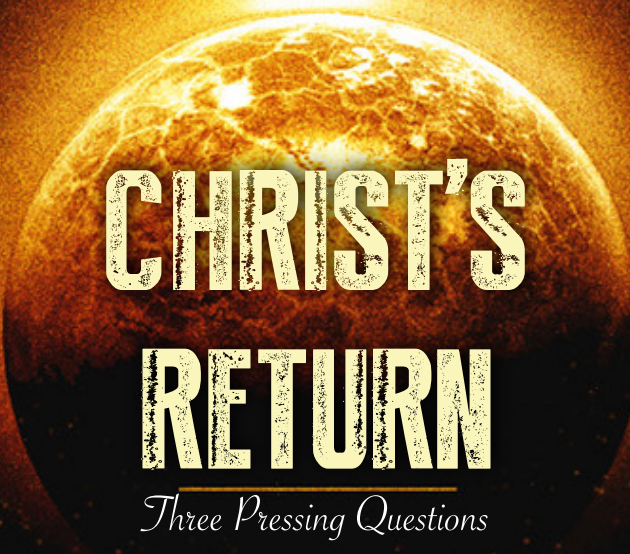




CHRIST'S

RETURN

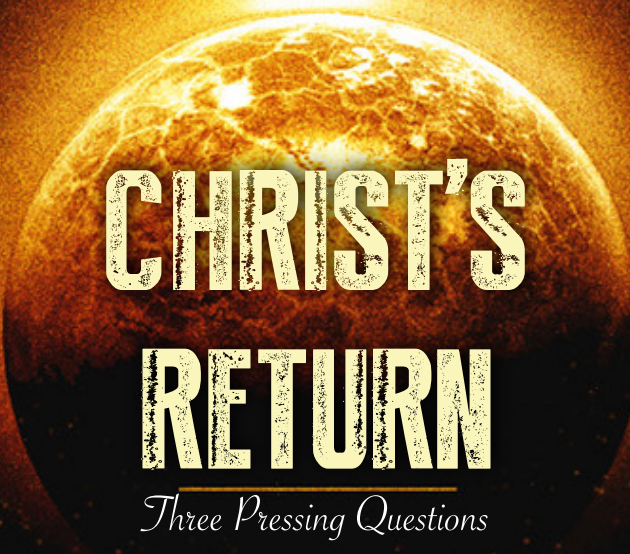
Three Pressing Questions



**CHRIST'S
RETURN**
Three Pressing Questions

“What about the Antichrist?”

- Only two books of the Bible mention “antichrist”
 - ◆ Not Ezekiel, Daniel, the Gospel accounts, or Revelation
 - ◆ 1 John 2.18,22; 4.3; 2 John 7
 - ▶ “Antichrist” is never presented as a singular, powerful individual.
 - ▶ “Antichrist” was present in John’s day.
 - ▶ There were many “antichrists”.



**CHRIST'S
RETURN**
Three Pressing Questions

“What about the Rapture?”

- The word “rapture” is *never* used in the Bible.
- The doctrine springs from an isolated reading of 1 Thessalonians 4.
 - ◆ “Caught up together with them” – 1 Thessalonians 4.17
 - ▶ It is presented as a secretive event – millions of people suddenly gone.
 - ▶ It is presented as a frightening event – empty cars and jets crashing.
 - ▶ It is presented as a second chance – the “unraptured” have another opportunity.



PEACEFUL
CR...

Damien, there's something *really* important you should know!



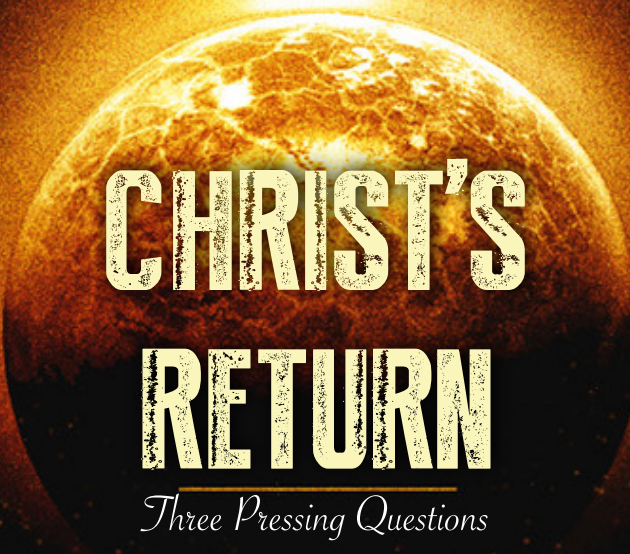
OK, Helen... what is... *whoa! (gasp!)*



What happened?* *Yaaah!*
She's gone! And where's Bob?

*See Bible tract #24 "Who's Missing?"





**CHRIST'S
RETURN**
Three Pressing Questions

“What about the Rapture?”

- The word “rapture” is *never* used in the Bible.
- The doctrine springs from an isolated reading of 1 Thessalonians 4.
 - ◆ We can’t build a doctrine based off of isolating a text of Scripture!
 - ▶ Does 1 Thessalonians 4.16 describe something silent or secretive?
 - ▶ Will there be one resurrection of the dead or two? John 5.28
 - ▶ Is the resurrection the end or not? 1 Corinthians 15.22-24



CHRIST'S RETURN

Three Pressing Questions

“What about the Kingdom?”

- We are told that Jesus will set up a kingdom and reign in Jerusalem for 1,000 years when He returns – this supposedly follows the rapture.
- The doctrine is taken from Revelation 20.4 (but ignores Revelation 1.1).
 - ▶ Revelation 20 makes no mention of Jesus setting a foot on the earth.
 - ▶ Revelation 20 makes no mention of Jerusalem in Israel or David's throne.
- ▶ Jesus established His kingdom in the 1st century (Colossians 1.13-14).
 - ▶ He reigns today on David's throne (Acts 2.30-33).

It removes Jesus from His throne.

It makes the church a temporary fix.

It pictures Jesus failing in His first coming.

It argues for multiple resurrections.

It makes the Holy Spirit confused about the “end” (John 6.38).

It creates a geopolitical “Antichrist” of different flavors.

It does a disservice to the universal nature of Christ’s return.

It misunderstands the nature of Christ’s kingdom (John 18.26).

It gives the false hope of a second chance (Hebrews 9.28).

The Danger of Rapture Theology

