

Carol Sermon #20

Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending

Revelation 19

December 3, 2023

Sermon Sketch: Although we usually look at a Christmas Carol, we begin Advent this year with an actual Advent hymn. Pointing to the climax of our Advent season study we consider Christ's imminent return...

- 1) How have you been handling "change" this week as it has come your way? How is God growing your faith? (Core Value #7 Achieving God's Purposes Involves Taking Faith-Filled Risks. This Always Requires Change 11/16/23)
- 2) What is/are one or two of your favorite Christmas Carols?
- 3) Were you familiar with the Carol (Advent hymn) that Pastor shared this past Sunday? Was it meaningful for you on its first (or most recent) hearing?
- 4) When you think of the return of Christ are you excited or filled with a bit of trepidation?
- 5) Paul states in 1 Thessalonians 5:2, "For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night." It comes upon us unawares. And yet when it comes Revelation 1:7 says, "Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen." How do you choose to live in the tension of the "imminence" (could happen at

- anytime) of Jesus' return and the fact that we do not know the day or hour of His return (Matthew 24:36)?
- 6) How is the imminence of Jesus' return related to our motivation towards evangelism and missions (John 9:4)?
 - 7) How does the exceedingly large number of promises that the Lord made, and then kept give you confidence that the promise of His return will be fulfilled (John 14:3)?
 - 8) Revelation 22:20 reminds us that Jesus has testified that He is coming soon. How do you live in the tension of wanting the return of Jesus to be right now, but also desire more time to reach more people for His sake?
 - 9) Who will you be praying for this week, that you might have an opportunity to tell them about the soon return of Jesus?
 - 10) How might we, as a fellowship, do more to warn our village that Jesus is coming again?

*Surely I come quickly.
Amèn.
Even so,
come,
Lord Jesus.*

Google Images