

EVANGELISTIC LECTURES

to the uttermost, all who come unto God by Him seeing He ever lives to make intercession for them. If you will do the coming, Jesus Christ will do the saving. I appeal to you to put your case in the hands of Jesus Christ while you have the opportunity.

A wealthy lady was notified one day that she must appear before the court within seven days, in regard to a certain case. Her husband said, "You better see Foster and get him to represent you." "Oh," she said, "I am having a party and a dance today. I have no time today to see Mr. Foster. I go and see him tomorrow." The next day she went to the office of this noted lawyer. After she had told him her story that she must appear before the court within seven days to answer to a certain charge, he said, "Lady, I cannot take your case!" She pleaded with him, "Please take my case. Name any fee you wish and I will give it to you." "Lady," he said, "If you offered me one million dollars, I couldn't take your case. If you had come yesterday I would have gladly taken your case. This morning just before you arrived I received word that I have been appointed judge of the court. I could have been your lawyer yesterday, now I must be your judge."

Jesus Christ wants to be your lawyer at the court of God. In 1 John 2:1 we read, "If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." Jesus Christ guarantees a verdict of acquittal for you before the Supreme Court of the universe. He will forgive every sin and cover it with His blessed righteousness. Some day soon He will cease to be the Advocate for sinners, and will come to judge the quick and the dead. O, I beg you not to put off the matter of placing your case in the hands of Jesus Christ. He is coming soon as judge. Take Him as your lawyer while you have the opportunity.

Don't you want Jesus Christ to forgive all your sins and make you ready to meet Him? God can do everything for the person who earnestly desires His help. I am sure everyone in this auditorium is ready to say by the up-lifted hand that you want God to help you, to trust in Jesus Christ for full salvation. How many want to be remembered in prayer that the Lord will help you to trust in Jesus Christ for full salvation. Will you lift a hand please? Yes, it seems that every hand is raised. (Praying.)

"Our dear heavenly Father we thank Thee for Thy great love in giving Jesus, Thy dear Son, to be our Saviour. We thank Thee for His infinite sacrifice upon the cross. O Lord we want to put our cases fully in the hands of Jesus. Lord, Thou hast seen all these uplifted hands, I pray that Thou wilt undertake for every soul in this audience. Bestow full salvation on each one and make him ready to meet Jesus Christ at His coming. We ask this in the precious name of Jesus and for His sake. Amen!"

6. Heaven Split Wide Open

Men have been watching and studying the heavens for centuries. Their nightly vigil has been rewarded, for they have seen some wonderful sights in the sky. I suppose we would all like to look through that new 200 inch telescope on Mt. Palomar in California and view the wonders of God's creation.

The day is coming however when men will see a dazzling sight in the sky, the like of which men never have seen. Heaven will be split wide open and they will see Jesus Christ, Son of man and Son of God, who trod this earth 1900 years ago, descend through the portals of the sky, surrounded by millions of countless angels. As King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Jesus Christ will appear in the midst of that final, world-ending battle of Armageddon, and the battle will stop immediately. You will find that in your Bible in Revelation 19:11-21. I hope you have your notebook to put down the valuable scripture references.

I read the 11th verse. "I saw heaven opened!" Yes, heaven will be opened. Heaven will be split wide open. "I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and He that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns; and He had a name written, that no man knew, but He Himself. And He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and His name is called The Word of God!"

You will notice he saw heaven opened, and through the opening in the sky Christ was riding forth as the mighty, all-conquering Lord. Some people will say, "O, I don't believe that will ever be. It is impossible that the heavens will open and that Jesus Christ will ride forth from the sky!" Listen, fifty years ago people said it was impossible for men to fly across the sky like the birds. Nobody talks that way now. Men are flying five times, yes, ten times faster and higher than any bird ever flew.

The wonders of science confirm the truths of the Bible. Things in the Bible that once seemed almost beyond the realm of reality are now seen to be easily possible. Radio helps us to believe in the reality of prayer. Radar and television help us to understand the all-seeing eye of God.

I read in the 14th verse, "The armies which were in heaven followed Him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean!" You will notice, "the armies in heaven," or the angels will come with the Lord Jesus when He rides forth from the sky. Jesus Himself said it would be just this way.

Put down Matthew 25:31: "The Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him!" We have a chart here on which the artist has endeavoured to give us some concept of this great day of days, when the Lord Jesus will appear surrounded by countless millions of bright shining angels.

(At this juncture a chart was lowered, depicting Jesus coming upon a cloud, surrounded by the angels.)

Notice verse 15: "Out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should smite," (notice that word and think of Daniel 2) "that with it He should smite the nations: and He should rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God!"

You will notice that Jesus will "smite the nations" just like that stone smote the man whose head was of gold, breast and arms of silver, thighs of brass, legs of iron, feet part of iron and part of clay. Jesus will appear in the **midst of the battle of Armageddon**. It is just as plain as can be. You can't help but see it. Take down the text, Revelation 19:19. After he describes how heaven will be opened and Christ will appear, he says: "I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him that sat on the horse, and against His army."

Mark this point. When the kings of the earth and their armies are gathered for the last battle, that great world-ending battle of Armageddon, Jesus appears from the open heaven and the battle stops instantly.

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I want you to notice with me how Jesus Christ will come down from the sky at His second advent and what He will do. I turn to Acts 1:9-11. I want you to notice that what the artist has placed upon this piece of canvas is exactly what we read in the Bible in Acts 1:9-11.

(At this juncture a chart showing the ascension of Jesus was lowered In the sight of the audience.)

Notice what the Scripture says, "When He had spoken these things, while they beheld, He was taken up; and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, "Ye men of Galilee, why stand you gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as you have seen Him go into heaven!"

Forty days after our Lord's resurrection He led His disciples out of the city, down across the brook Kidron, then up over the brow of the Mount of Olives. Many times they had walked by His side over the hills and valleys of old Judea. But this was to be the last time that He would ever walk visibly by their side. As He walked along He explained to them matters pertaining to the kingdom of God. When He reached a certain spot across the summit, in the vicinity of Bethany, He raised His hands in blessing. Then His feet began to leave the ground. He began to go up, and they watched Him as He went higher and higher and higher. Then He entered a cloud and disappeared from view. They watched the cloud as it appeared smaller, and smaller, and smaller, until it became a mere speck. Then it faded from their view. Still they stood there, looking up into heaven, hoping to get one more glimpse of the dear Lord whom they loved. Then they heard voices. Looking around, they saw two angels, who said to them: "Ye men of Galilee, why stand you gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as you have seen Him go into heaven."

Please notice that the angels told the disciples exactly how Jesus Christ will come from heaven at His second advent. I have this text printed in large letters on muslin, so you may see for yourself just what scripture says. (A large piece of muslin was lowered in the sight of the audience on which the last part of Acts 1:11 was printed in large letters, with the words,--"in like manner as you have seen Him go into heaven"-heavily underscored.)

Tonight I want you to help me preach. When I come to these words that are underlined, I would like everyone here, who can see the words, to read them aloud with me, in a good strong tone. The angels will tell us how Christ will come down from the sky at His second advent. They said, "This same Jesus which was taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as you have seen Him go into heaven." This is very clear. He is coming back, just like He went away. His return will correspond to His departure.

If you want to understand how Jesus Christ will come from heaven at His second advent, all you need to do is to notice how He was taken up to heaven at His ascension, because the angels declared, "This same Jesus shall so come in like manner." He is coming back, exactly as He went away.

Did He go up with a real body? Certainly, He did. His body was resurrected on the third day, and when Christ ascended, He went up with a tangible resurrected body of flesh and bones. When He returns He will descend from heaven with a real body. **The second coming of Jesus Christ is a literal, bodily coming; and not some figurative or spiritual coming.**

Did Christ go away visibly or did He go away invisibly? Well, the answer is, that while they were looking at Him, while they beheld, He was taken up. The angels said, "you have seen Him go." Just as they saw Him go up into the sky, the people of earth will see Him come down from the sky. He is coming in like manner. As His disciples saw Him go up, the people of earth will see Him come down.

The angels of God know more than the wisest man on the face of the earth. These angels said He is coming in "like manner as you have seen Him go." Christ went up to heaven literally, bodily, visibly and personally. So at His second advent, He will come down from heaven bodily, literally, visibly and personally.

Would you like to know the first thing the Lord Jesus will do when He appears in the sky? Here it is. Put down 1 Thessalonians 4:16. "The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout." Notice this. He will descend from heaven with a shout. This shout will be heard from one end of the earth to the other. Thirty years ago people said it was impossible for a person's voice to be heard from one end of earth to the other. Nobody doubts this today. The radio has revealed a law by which your voice, my voice, or any person's voice can be heard from one end of the earth to the other.

Do you know what effect this shout will have on the city of Des Moines? I will tell you what it will do. It will tear up every cemetery in Des Moines. Not only that, it will tear up every cemetery in the world. This is what we find in this 16th verse. "The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead In Christ shall rise first."

Graves will be torn wide open. Tombs will fall apart. And the millions of Christ's people, who have died, will rise with glorious, immortal bodies. We have a representation of this here on a chart.

(A chart was lowered at this juncture showing the graves being opened, and the angels gathering the saints from the earth, to meet the Lord in the air).

Think what a grand reunion the second coming of Jesus Christ will bring! It will be the home-coming of the ages. Death has severed the dearest ties this world knows. If I were to ask everyone here who has lost a loved one to raise his hand, I think that every hand would be raised. There is hardly a person but can think of some mound of earth somewhere that holds ,the form of one who was very near and dear to him.

When Jesus comes, the righteous meet their loved ones, never to part again. Friends will be reunited never to be separated. Yes,

"The golden morning is fast approaching Jesus soon will come

To take His faithful and happy children

To their promised home. The loved of earth who have long been parted Meet in that glad day

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The tears of those who are broken hearted shall be wiped away.”

There was a time when Jesus walked up to the tomb of a man who had been buried three days and said just three words, “Lazarus, come forth.” This man who had been dead three days walked out of that tomb. So when He comes the second time He will say, “Awake, awake you that sleep in the dust of the earth.” All over the world millions of grave- will be opened and the righteous dead will rise with immortal, glorious, incorruptible bodies.

Some of you are thinking of what will happen to the living people when the Lord descends from the sky? The Bible tells. Put down 1 Corinthians 15:51, 52, and Phil. 3:20, 21. Paul tells us that the true Christian people, who will be living on the earth when the Lord descends from the sky, will be changed in the twinkling of an eye from mortality to immortality and be caught up to meet the Lord to be with the Lord forever. They will go to heaven without tasting death just like Enoch and Elijah were taken to heaven without ever seeing death.

In Phil. 3:20, 21 Paul declares that the Christian people who are living on the earth at the time when the Lord comes will have their bodies made like His glorious body. O, friends, think of the unspeakable joy that will come to you, if you are found true to Jesus Christ when He comes. In a second of time this mortal body will be changed to an immortal, incorruptible body. Then you will have a body that will never have an ache or a pain; a body that will never get old; a body that will never die. You will never have any trouble of any kind. Perfect happiness without end.

Think of all the items that people long for or desire. Think of all the benefits with which man could be favoured. Can you think of anything better than to have your body changed in a moment of time, in the twinkling of an eye from mortality to immortality and never have any more pain; never get old and never die and be caught up to be with Jesus forever. This is absolutely the **best benefit, the greatest boon**, the grandest prize that can ever come to a human being. I bring you the good news tonight that this prize of prizes is yours in Christ Jesus. It is for you if you give your heart to Jesus Christ and be true to His word.

As for me there isn't anything in all this world that I desire as much as that immortal body. I'm determined by the grace of God to do what Jesus Christ asks me to do in order to secure it. I feel sure that you in your heart share that same great purpose.

How many of you with me desire to have this immortal body more than any thing else and are determined by the grace of God to do what Jesus wants you to do that you may have it, will you lift your hand? Thank you! It looks as though every person has put up his hand on this.

We need to desire this more than anything else. In Jeremiah 29:13 God says, 11Ye shall seek Me, and find Me when you shall search for Me with all your heart.” Don't forget that the lecture Thursday night is going to help you on this point. It will deal with God's great message which will help people get ready to meet Jesus.

When Jesus Christ descends from heaven the righteous dead will rise from the grave with immortal bodies. The righteous living will be changed in the twinkling of an eye from mortality to immortality. Then what? Where does Jesus take them? Read right on in 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17: “The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”

They will be caught up from the earth to meet Jesus in the air at His second coming. He will take them to those glorious mansions in heaven which He has prepared for His own. This is according to Christ's own promise in **John 14:1-3**. He says: “I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and **prepare a place** for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that **where I am**, there you may be also.”

O think what a happy day that will be. The second coming of Jesus Christ means that we will say good-bye forever to all our troubles, our sorrows, our diseases, our heartaches, our disappointments, and our trials. It means that we will go to those mansions that Jesus has prepared, where there will be no more sickness. No more trouble. No more trials. No more suffering. No more sorrow. No more pain. No more death. In view of all this, friends, how can we do otherwise than love His appearing as Paul says in 2 Timothy 4:6-8. I love that chorus:

“Some golden daybreak, Jesus will come, Some golden daybreak battles all won; We'll rise to glory, through heaven's blue, Jesus is coming for me, for you.”

I want you folks to learn this chorus. You will like it. You will be humming it the next day at your work. It will make you happy all the day long. It is really a beautiful little chorus and it is strictly Biblical.

Yes, when Jesus descends the righteous dead rise. The living are changed and all these righteous ones are caught up from the earth to meet Jesus and go to the heavenly mansions. Now the question comes: What will happen to the millions of disobedient people when Jesus descends from the sky? Put down Jeremiah 25:33: “The slain of the Lord shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth: they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried: they shall be dung upon the ground.”

Wherever the disobedient are, they will be struck dead by the presence of the Lord. Notice it says that, “the slain of the Lord will be from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth.” Men have tried to invent a death ray that would slay thousands in a second. Here is a death ray that will actually slay every person in the world that isn't ready to meet Jesus. “The slain of the Lord shall be from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth.” Here is a death ray that will slay millions in a moment. The divine glory of Christ, when He appears from heaven will strike every sinner dead just as if a bolt of lightning smote him, or as if a live wire fell on him. This is what will stop the battle of Armageddon instantly.

In Psalm 50:3-5 we learn that when the Lord appears from heaven a fire shall devour before Him. In Isaiah 66:15-17 we are told that the Lord will come with fire and the disobedient will be slain by this blast of fire. There will be a blast of atomic energy that will destroy millions in a second. The world witnessed a blast of this atomic power in the destruction of Sodom. In Genesis

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19:24 it says: "The Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven;" It is very significant that not a blade of grass nor a tree has ever grown in that vicinity since. Jesus cites this as an illustration of what will happen to the wicked people when He comes the second time.

Some of you may say, "Mr. Shuler, is the slaying of these disobedient people at the second coming of Jesus Christ the final end of these sinners?" No! All who have done evil must come forth in the resurrection of -damnation to receive their punishment. Revelation 20 shows that when they are resurrected the battle of Armageddon will actually be resumed again. This 20th chapter of Revelation is perhaps the greatest prophetic chapter in all the Bible. Some night soon I shall speak on this 20th chapter of Revelation and it will be one of the greatest outlines of future events you have ever listened to. Be sure and hear it.

The second coming of Jesus Christ will not only be the grandest reunion but it will be the saddest separation that has ever taken place. Ungodly husbands will have their godly wives separated from them for eternity. Ungodly children will have their godly **mothers and fathers separated from them forever.** Jesus Christ says, "**two shall be in the field; the one shall be taken and the other left.**" The Christian wife will be taken to meet Jesus and be with Him forever. The sinner husband will be left behind dead. O, how we need to be ready to meet Jesus when He comes.

A man lay on a hospital bed dying. People knew he could not last but a few days. His friend came and said, "Isn't there something I can do to help you?"

"No, there is nothing you can do."

"May I bring you some ice cream or fruit?"

"No."

"Well, tell me isn't there something I can do for you?"

"No, there is nothing."

"Could I read to you?"

"No, there is nothing you can do."

His friend came back the next day and said, "Isn't there some little thing I can do for you?"

"No." Then he said with great earnestness, "O, if there were only some one who could undo."

Thank God, there is some one who can undo the sin question. Jesus came into this world to save sinners. He says, "Come and let us reason together, said the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow." Jesus can undo the sin question. He can blot out sin so it will never be seen. He can make the profligate pure, the drunkard sober, the thief honest, and the infidel into a believer.

Every person in the world is lost without Jesus. This good Book says, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." All we like sheep have gone astray. We have turned every one aside to his own way but God's invitation is, "Look unto me," the Saviour on the cross with outstretched hands says, "Look unto Me and be you saved all you ends of the earth."

Jesus used the brazen serpent that Moses made to illustrate how people are saved. You will find that in John 3:14, 15, "As Moses lifted up the serpent so must the Son of man be lifted up: that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

How long did it take a bitten Israelite to be cured? One moment he was dying; the next minute by simply looking at the brazen serpent he was completely healed. So the very moment you give yourself to Jesus and take Him as the One who bled and suffered for you, you are pardoned and saved.

"There is life in a look at the Crucified One, There is life at this moment for thee, Then look, sinner, look unto Him and be saved Unto Him who was nailed to the tree."

I believe everyone in this auditorium wants to look at Jesus Christ tonight for full salvation. How many want to be remembered just now in prayer that the Lord may help you to receive Jesus Christ for full salvation? May we see your hands? (Hands were raised.)

(Prayer) O, blessed Jesus, precious Saviour, we do thank Thee for Thy sacrifice upon the cross and for the invitation! 'Look unto me and be you saved all you ends of the earth.' We thank thee, O Lord, that in a look there is life for us. In a look at Calvary. Tonight, O God, we've raised our hands to Thee, and we pray that Jesus will minister to us His own grace, His own saving power. He is able to save to the uttermost all who come to Him. Lord we do come to Thee knowing that Thou wilt save us. So we pray tonight to undertake for every man, woman, boy and girl here. Grant that we may so receive Jesus that we shall have full salvation because we ask it in His dear **name. Amen.**

7. The Way of Jesus Christ in 2005

If you were walking in the country and looked up into the sky and saw an angel flying over your head and heard him speaking certain words to you, wouldn't you be interested to know the meaning of what he said? Certainly. The Bible tells of a certain man who looked up into the sky and saw three angels flying along one behind the other. He heard them broadcasting a certain mysterious message to every nation, kindred, tongue, -and people. You will find this in your Bible in Revelation 14:6-14.

You will recall that on Tuesday night I asked you to read Revelation 14 between Tuesday night and this Thursday night. I wonder how many have done this. Will all of you who have read Revelation 14 in the last two or three days raise your hands please? (Many hands were raised.) Well, that is fine. I appreciate this, and you will get more from this sermon for having read that