

Isaiah 59: 15b-21
When Christ Returns

Word of the Day: Return/ Returns

1. Return for Lack of Justice

Psalm 33:13-15, Genesis 6:5

- This is written as an emotional response from God which shows how much He deeply cares about the wrongs that are happening in the world.
- God is patient and wants all men to come to know Him through Jesus Christ but there will come a day when God says enough. (2 Peter 3:9)

2. Return because of Lack of Intervention

1 Timothy 2:1-6

- Moses (Exodus 32:30) Aaron (Numbers 16:48) Phinehas (Numbers 25:11) are all known for standing between the people that have sinned and God as they intervened on their behalf.
- Who are you intervening for? What people are you standing in the gap between them and God?
- We are to intercede for Rulers (1 Timothy 2:2) Israel (Psalm 122:6) the unsaved (Luke 23:34; Acts 7:60), new converts (2 Thessalonians 1:11); all saints (Ephesians 6:19; 1 Thessalonians 5:25) and our enemies (Matthew 5:44)
- "His own arm worked Salvation" Christianity is about what God did for us that we could not do for ourselves.

3. Return to bring Justice

Revelation 19:11, Ephesians 6:10-18, Revelation 22:12, 2 Thessalonians 1:5-12

- God was clothed in clothes that were made for war. It was a symbol of how He would return the second time as a King and not as a servant.
- Vengeance and Zeal show how God is going to deal with His enemies.
- 59:18 He will repay according to their deeds
- Repay means to make whole again for that which was lost.
- Recompense or reward is payment for work carried out.

4. His Return should motivate us

- Fear means reverential awe but here it also means terror.
- Whether the river means God's wrath or God stopping evil it will happen quickly and without warning.
- The wind of the Lord can be interpreted the spirit of the Lord and Paul quotes this passage in Romans 11:26 and uses it to talk about the spread of the gospel to the world.

5. Returns as a Redeemer

1 Corinthians 6:19-20, Luke 13:5, Matthew 7

- Redeemer is one who bought back something that was lost.
- Those who turn from rebellion (Repent) are the ones who are redeemed
- Repentance involves a change of view regarding your sin, change of feeling, and a change of the will.
- We have many people who honor God with their lips, but their hearts are far from Him. (Matthew 15:7-9)

6. Christ Return is Guaranteed

Ephesians 1:13-14, Galatians 5:22-23

Closing

- Christ is going to return one day and the main question is if you are ready.
- We should be motivated by that and not grow weary in doing good as we intervene for people, even people who are committing evil.
- The return of Christ is something that should be on our minds at all times as we live out our days knowing that one day He is coming to make things right and pay back or reward depending on if you belong to Him.

Devotions

1. What does verse 16 say we should do for people?
2. How often do you pray for people to come to the saving knowledge of Christ?
3. In what ways is Isaiah 59:17 and Ephesians 6: 10-18 similar?
4. What do those similarities tell us about the work of Christ and the work we should be involved in?
5. What does verse 18 say He will do when He returns?
6. What does it mean to fear the Lord?
7. Who does Jesus come for to save according to verse 20?
8. Why is having a covenant with God through Christ a good thing for us to have?
9. Why do we tend to focus on the things of this world instead of Christ return?
10. How does knowing Christ can return at any moment encourage you?

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John 15:5

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