

SOME DAY YOU WILL MEET JESUS CHRIST!

Some day you will meet Jesus Christ! That's right! Nothing is taught more clearly in the Bible than that you will meet the Creator of this Universe. Will you then think any differently of Jesus Christ? What will He think of you?

Hello I'm Larry Murdock. I preach for the Gandy church of Christ. Good morning and welcome to this program.

The old man Job was suffering greatly. Many calamities had come his way. His children were killed by a tornado. Thieves had stolen his cattle and killed his servants. His skin had broken out in boils all over his body. Finally, his wife had turned against him and said, "Why don't you curse God, and die." Job had four friends who heard about his calamities, and so they came to comfort Job. However, those friends proved to be little comfort to the hurting man!

You see, according to his friends theology and their opinions, Job had brought all of this evil upon himself. His sins had caught up with him. In the opinion of his friends, God was punishing Job because of Job's sins. So, the friends tried to get Job to confess and repent! But Job could not think of anything that he had done to bring God's wrath upon himself. And so, Job looked for a better day, a momentous day; a judgment day when all his suffering would be made clear. Somehow the Holy Spirit informed Job about that coming day. So Job believed that day would come and that he would be found innocent; exonerated; redeemed. Job cried out his faith in that future day, "I know that my redeemer lives! And in the end, he will stand here on earth and defend me. After I leave my body and my skin has been destroyed, I know I will still see God. I will see him with my own eyes. I myself, not someone else, will see God. And I cannot tell you how excited that makes me feel!" ([Job 19:25-27 ERV](#)) Job was looking forward to seeing Deity! However, in Job's day no one knew that that Deity would be Jesus Christ! Are you looking forward to seeing God? Will you be excited about seeing Jesus Christ? Will you be terrified?

Our response to seeing Jesus (whether excited or terrified) will be determined by our obedience to Jesus right now. Do you believe Jesus is God's Anointed Son; God's Christ? Or do you believe Jesus was merely a man? Or do you believe Jesus to be a hoax? Do you despise Jesus or do you worship Him? Jesus and even

angels spoke of the day in which all people would see Jesus. Those who had seen Him on the earth were told they would see Him again.

When gravity could no longer hold Jesus on the earth, He began to ascend. Forty days after Jesus' resurrection from the dead, His eleven apostles were present when Jesus began to ascend. As they watched, Jesus finally disappeared behind a cloud, but the men kept on gazing with uplifted faces toward the sky. Perhaps they were hoping to get one more glimpse of Jesus. Suddenly there were two men standing beside them in white garments; one of them spoke: "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." ([Acts 1:11 ESV](#)) I have often wondered why there were two men who appeared to the apostles on that day. Perhaps it was because of the principle of the need for two witnesses. Jesus had once said, "In the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established." (Matthew 18:16) You see, that prediction that Jesus is returning to the earth is an established, reliable testimony.

Jesus was talking about the end of time when He asked his hearers this question: "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works." ([Matthew 16:26-27 ESV](#)) Jesus said that he (personally) will reward "every person" according to that person's works! From another passage in the Bible we learn that Jesus will award two kinds of reward! One reward will be eternal life in the kingdom that God has prepared from the foundation of the world. The other reward will be eternal fire in the place prepared for the Devil and his angels. (Matthew 25:31-41) Neighbor, who do you serve? Jesus Christ or Satan! Jesus said that your works will determine your reward; Jesus will see you and issue your reward, whether good or bad. Jesus warns the world, "Don't lose your own soul"! Don't exchange your soul for anything in this world!

During his trial Jesus was standing before the highest court of the Jewish nation. The religious leader of the Jewish nation during the days Jesus was on earth was a man named Caiaphas. He was the High Priest. Caiaphas was the man who presided as the chief judge over Jesus' trial. Jesus' trial was illegal. The trial took place early in the morning far away from the multitudes that had listened to Jesus' teaching daily. Jesus' enemies had lined up several false witnesses to testify against Jesus. Jesus did not answer the charges. Finally Caiaphas stood up

and said to Jesus, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" But Jesus remained silent. But then the high priest said to him, "I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." Jesus said to him, **"You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven."** (Matthew 26:62-64) Friends, that is a startling statement. Jesus told this man Caiaphas that he, the high priest, would see Jesus at the right hand of power and coming on the clouds of heaven! The next day Caiaphas would see Jesus hanging on a cross, but there was coming a day when he would see Jesus at the right hand of power, and coming on the clouds of heaven! Friends, Caiaphas has been dead for 2000 years, but he will be present when Jesus comes again! You see, Caiaphas also will be raised from the dead. And so will you be raised from the dead when Jesus returns!

Now you may be like the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers of Athens Greece who when they heard of the resurrection of the dead scoffed at the preacher and said, "We will hear you at some other time about this!" They were finished listening! What do you think of the teaching of Christ about the resurrection and judgment Day? In the apostle Paul's discourse to those philosophers he said that God "has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this [God] has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead." (Acts 17:31 ESV) Jesus' empty tomb predicts your empty grave!

Think about what will happen the day your grave is emptied!

Jesus' inspired apostle Paul wrote that Jesus' coming would happen suddenly "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye..." (1 Corinthians 15:52) A trumpet will sound. It will be heard by the whole universe! We do not know what note the trumpet will play. It may only be a blast of sound, but it will awaken the whole earth! People who are alive will experience an immediate change. Something will happen to every human body! The flesh and blood body will be changed to an immortal body. The body that can die will be changed to a body that cannot die. Those people who are already dead and separated from their bodies will be reunited with a changed immortal body. Even a body that has completely gone back to dust or ashes or vaporized in the sea will be refashioned into an immortal form and reunited with its departed spirit. The apostle Paul told the Christians at Philippi that the Christian's "Citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a

Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, (and HOW can Jesus do this?) by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself." (Philippians 3:20-21) Jesus is the King of the world and the universe! Jesus is the Lord over His enemies, and the last enemy to be destroyed is Satan's tool death. (1 Corinthians 15:26) Yes friend, you will see Jesus! We both will see Him!

What do you think of Jesus Christ? Is Jesus just a person in history whom you will never see or know? Is He just someone who lived and died? Is Jesus a myth? Or, is Jesus the only person (so far) raised from the dead never to die again? To Jesus' apostles it was a matter of utmost importance for the whole world to know the news about Jesus Christ. Around the year 55 A.D. Jesus' apostle Paul wrote to the Christians at Corinth, Greece, and said, "I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me." (1 Corinthians 15:3-8 ESV)

Jesus knew that he would die by crucifixion, but he also knew that he would be raised from the dead on the third day after his burial. At a certain point in His ministry Jesus began to show this to his disciples: Matthew remembered when it was: "From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." But [Jesus] turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man." (Matthew 16:21-23 ESV) You see, God needed Jesus to die for the sins of the world. Because only by this means could God be justified in overlooking, yes, forgiving your sins and mine. Of course, any friend of Jesus would have objected to Jesus' crucifixion because, being human, we mind the things of man, not God! But then, how could God be just and still forgive people their sins? No, Jesus bore the penalty for the sins of the world, so that His heavenly Father could forgive people and raise them from the dead in order to live with Him forever.

You can receive God's forgiveness through your faith in Jesus Christ, your repentance from sin, your bold confession of faith, and your baptism into Christ. Paul said to the Galatian Christians, "You are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ." ([Galatians 3:26-27 KJV](#)) Have you put on Christ and been forgiven of your sins? Are you ready to meet Jesus?