Anchor of Hope

oon appeared the great white cloud, upon which sat the Son of man... As it drew nearer the earth, we could behold the excellent glory and majesty of Jesus as He rode forth to conquer. A retinue of holy angels, with bright, glittering crowns upon their heads, escorted Him on His way. No language can describe the glory of the scene. The living cloud of majesty and unsurpassed glory came still nearer, and we could clearly behold the lovely person of Jesus.

He did not wear a crown of thorns, but a crown of glory rested upon His holy brow. Upon His vesture and thigh was a name written, King of kings, and Lord of lords. His countenance was as bright as the noonday sun, His eyes were as a flame of fire, and His feet had the appearance of fine brass. His voice sounded like many musical instruments. The earth trembled before Him, the heavens departed as a scroll when it is rolled together, and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

The kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every freeman, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; and said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: for the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" ... And amid all their terror they heard the voices of the saints in joyful strains, saying, "Lo, this is our God, we have waited for Him, and He will save us." ...

The living saints are changed ... in the twinkling of an eye, and are caught up with the risen ones, and together they meet their Lord in the air. Oh, what a glorious meeting! Friends whom death had separated were united, never more to part. (Excerps from the book Early Writings, pg. 286-287)



Jesus' Promise

1. What hopeful promise did Jesus make? John 14:1-3

How He Will Come

- 2. In what manner will Jesus return? Matthew 24:30
- 3. How many will see His glorious return? Revelation 1:7
- What are the things that we will see, hear and feel at Jesus' return?
 Peter 3:10: Revelation 16:18

Why He Is Returning

- 5. What is the object of His return? John 17:24-26
- What wonderful thing will happen to the righteous dead and the righteous living? 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17

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- 7. How will those who have rejected Christ react? Revelation 6:15-17
- In contrast, how happy will the people be who are ready and waiting for their Lord? Titus 2:13; 2 Timothy 4:8
- What does the grace of God teach us to do to be ready to meet Him?
 Titus 2:12 (NIV)

MY HEART'S RESPONSE

I choose to "look," and make Christ's love for me the emphasis and focus in my life. Hebrews 12:1-3; John 17:3

My Decision

Seeing how much God loves me, I want to allow Him to work in me, to prepare me for when He returns. How is this possible? Matthew 19:26; Philippians 2:13

Note: Don't we hear statements such as: "I can't wait to get out of here," or "Things are getting so bad here, He's got to come soon," referring to our sufferings? Why not pray that Jesus will come soon to end His suffering and the Father's suffering, since all our sins crucify him afresh. (Hebrews 6:6)