

# What a Difference!

*“Look, he is coming with the clouds,  
” and “every eye will see him, even those who pierced him”;  
and all peoples on earth “will mourn because of him.”*

*So shall it be! Amen.*

*Revelation 1:7 (NIV)*

*and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son.  
She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger,  
because there was no guest room available for them.*

*Luke 2:7 (NIV)*

**T**he first coming of Jesus that we so happily celebrate at this season of the year is incredibly different from what it will be like when He comes the second time.

When our Lord came the first time it was a very private advent and rare are the historical references to our Lord by secular historians. Only the four Gospels give detail concerning Him.

When our Lord comes the second time “every eye shall see Him”. Only a few thousand people came near Jesus at His first coming. All humanity from every generation shall be assembled before Him when He returns.

His first coming was to act as the “Lamb of God to take away the sin of the

world”. When He comes again He will be the Judge of sin and of all who have chosen to remain in their sins.

When our Lord first appeared, only an angel made the announcement to some lowly shepherds. When He returns, all the host of heavenly angels shall sing and shout and trumpets will be blown to make the announcement.

When our Lord came, creation continued to labour under the curse of Genesis 3. When He returns, creation shall be redeemed, the curse lifted, and all that was lost in the first Adam shall be reinstated (Romans 5).

Were it not for this amazing transformation at the second coming, Christians

would be of all people the most miserable. Our great longing and desire is to be rid of this sinful nature and have the complete freedom of God’s children as described in Romans 8:18-23.

Pray for patience as you suffer in this life Christian. You know that all the pain, suffering, and sorrow will soon be removed when Jesus returns. Celebrate the truth that Jesus came the first time and fulfilled all the promises of that advent. Because He was faithful to those promises, we may trust Him for all the promises surrounding His second Advent. The One Who has called us is trustworthy and shall do it (1 Thessalonians 5:24).