For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. 12 It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, 13 while we wait for the blessed hope--the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ... Titus 2:11-13 (TNIV)

¹²"Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done. ¹³I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

Revelation 22:12-13 (NASB 95)



Jesus Is Coming...Maybe Tomorrow



Be Informed: Don't Be Deceived!

"See I have told you ahead of time." - Jesus (Matthew 24:25)



3As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. "Tell us," they said, "when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" 4Jesus answered: "Watch out that no one deceives you. 5For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Messiah,' and will deceive many.



⁶You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. 7 Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains. Matthew 24:3-14,22-25 (TNIV)



"Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. ¹⁰At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people.



¹²Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, 13 but whoever stands firm to the end will be saved. 4And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.



22"If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened. 23 At that time if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Messiah!' or, 'There he is!' do not believe it. 24For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. 25 See, I have told you ahead of time.



<u>Deceit Protection #1: Know What The Bible</u> <u>Teaches About His Return</u>

Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 (NIV)

<u>Deceit Protection #1: Know What The Bible</u> <u>Teaches About His Return</u>

According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 (NIV)

Deceit Protection #1: Know What The Bible Teaches About His Return

After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 (NIV)



<u>Deceit Protection #1: Know What The Bible</u> <u>Teaches About His Return</u>

Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed -- in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.

1 Corinthians 15:51-53 (TNIV)

<u>Deceit Protection #1: Know What The Bible</u> <u>Teaches About His Return</u>

We don't need to run to the returning Messiah, the Returning Messiah will run to us.



<u>Deceit Protection #2: Understand The Times</u> <u>Surrounding His Return</u>

You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, **but** see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Matthew 24:6 (TNIV)



Deceit Protection #3: Stay Red Hot Awaiting His Return

"Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold..."

Matthew 24:12 (TNIV)



"But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father."

Matthew 24:36 (TNIV)



As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away.

Matthew 24:37-41 (TNIV)



That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.

Matthew 24:37-41 (TNIV)



Be Ready: Stay Awake!

"Therefore keep watch..." — Jesus (Matthew 24:42)



Be Ready: Stay Awake!

"Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

Matthew 24:42-44 (TNIV)

Be Hope-Filled: Take Courage!

"Behold, I am coming soon!" - Jesus (Revelation 22:12)



Be Hope-Filled: Take Courage!

For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words. 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 (TNIV)