

Behold, He Cometh (Communion: He Comes to Fill Us With His Love and Make Us Like himself.)

by Hans R. Waldvogel

The sermon emphasizes the importance of beholding the coming of Christ and experiencing His love and presence in our lives, and calls us to repentance and surrender to Him.

Scripture: Matthew 25:6, Romans 5:5, Romans 6:14, 1 Corinthians 15:52, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 3:20, Philippians 3:21, Hebrews 10:26, 1 Peter 2:9, Revelation 1:7

Topics: "The Return of Christ", "Transformation through Love"

Description

Hans R. Waldvogel emphasizes the imminent return of Christ, urging believers to prepare their hearts to receive His love and transformation. He reflects on the significance of being changed into the likeness of Christ at His coming, contrasting the joy of believers with the wailing of those who reject Him. Waldvogel encourages the congregation to open their hearts to the Holy Spirit, allowing God's love to fill them and empower them to live righteously. He stresses the importance of repentance and the call to live as a kingdom of priests, dedicated to serving God and spreading His love. Ultimately, he reminds the audience that Jesus desires not only to save but to make them partakers of His divine nature.

Transcript

Selected Verses:

Revelation 1:7. Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

Matthew 25:6. And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.

Opening:

"Behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced Him." I thought tonight, "Isn't it wonderful that you don't have to crucify the Son of God?" The Bible talks about those who crucify Him by "sinning willfully after they have received the gospel." And no man can come by the cross of Christ: either you accept the blessing of it and are crucified with Him, or you crucify Him again. Strange.

But here, he says, "He comes with clouds, and every eye shall see Him."

I love to think of that moment when "in a moment, and in the twinkling of an eye," He's going to do something for me, thank God! Oh, I want to be there; I want to be there. I heard a little girl the other day. She was sitting on a couch. Her legs were far too short to reach the floor, and she was singing and beating with her feet, "I want to be there when the moon is turned to blood; I want to be there when the moon is turned to blood." But I want to be there when "every eye shall see Him," and when "all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him."

You know, the other night, I went by a Pentecostal mission, and some bad boys were running by the mission and just--not cursing, but blaspheming, and yelling, "Hallelujah!" They're going to wail. They shall wail: "All the kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him," because "every eye shall see Him" when "He comes in the clouds of heaven."

But oh, our hope is different! When (...) He cometh, "we shall be changed, in one moment, in the twinkling of an eye," and "changed into the same likeness" of the Son of God. But beloved, if it happens "in a moment" it's because tonight something is happening to you; that's why--because tonight while the windows of heaven are open, your heart is open; because tonight, while Jesus Christ is almost visibly walking through these aisles, and we all feel the touch of his almighty hand--we can't escape it. You'd have to have a skin like an elephant (well, some of you do--worse than that) not to be conscious of that secret, powerful presence of the Son of God.

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Selected Quotes:

Tonight, Jesus Christ cares whether you love Him or not, and if you don't, He wants to pour His love into your heart. He wants to set your heart on fire with His love. And in order to do that--thank God!--He's not only given us the Bible, and the gospel, but He opened the windows of heaven, and tonight He's pouring out the power of the Holy Ghost. And if you open up just a little bit, it's bound to get inside of you.

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"God commands all men everywhere" to give up their rebellion against Him--their "enmity against God," to give up their sin. He "commands all men everywhere to repent." He says, "You have no more right to sin. You don't have to sin anymore. Sin shall not have dominion over you if you come to Jesus Christ and allow Him to enter into your heart and to be on the throne of your heart." And if you do, He will reign supreme, and He will "subdue all things unto Himself." What a salvation!

...

And here he says something else, "He has made us a kingdom of priests unto God and His Father." That's the church of Jesus Christ. And if you want to know what church to join, join a church where they "pray in the Holy Ghost." "A kingdom of priests"! They know that He died for them that they might "no longer live unto themselves but unto Him who died for them and rose again." And the Spirit of God will possess them--come upon them and make them pray like Elijah prayed until the fire falls, and souls are saved, and the sick are healed, and the kingdom of the devil is destroyed, and the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ comes with power. That's what Jesus wants: not only to save you from hell, but as we heard a while ago, to make you partaker of Himself, the great High Priest.

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Illustrations:

HRW's jewelry experience allows him to know a genuine diamond. "One day, when this woman was praying, I stooped over; I took off my glasses. I quickly was through: it was just pop-bottle glass, but it shone--like the religions of people shine today." (from 4:51)

Comments on young people and hypocrisy among adults. "The more fuss you make about the teenagers, the more you feed the cancer. Let them know that we expect them to be decent people and live honestly and not like a lot of 'missing links.'" (from 11:49)

The legend of the mother who had compassion on the son who murdered her. "I caused and occasioned the death of the Son of God. I did!" (from 14:30)

A beggar invited to live in a palace. "And he'll say, 'I don't like that strong preaching; you get out of here. I'll go to the next dung heap where they don't talk like that!'" (from 19:56)

German at 13:28:

Quotes from *Wer Jesus am Kreuze*, the German translation of *There Is Life for a Look*, a hymn by Amelia M. Hull, 1860:

Dein Weinen und deine Gebete sind's nicht

womit du mit Gott wirst versöhnt.

Dein Jesus der trat für dich in den Riss

Er ist's der mit Gnade dich krönt.

It is not your crying and not your prayers

through which you are reconciled with God.

Your Jesus stepped into the gap;

It is He who crowns you with grace.

German at 15:50:

Das Mutterherz, A song by Ludwig Halirsch (1802-1832):

Ein Mutterherz! Nur wer es kennt... -- A mother's heart! Only the one who knows it...

German at 16:38:

Ich bin's und meine Sünden. -- It is I and my sins.

References:

Time Magazine -- "I'm going to cancel my subscription because of the stuff that appears in it."

Jesus, I Come, a hymn by William T. Sleeper, ca. 1887.

Out of my bondage, sorrow, and night,

Jesus, I come, Jesus, I come;

Into Thy freedom, gladness, and light,

Jesus, I come to Thee;

Out of my sickness, into Thy health,

Out of my want and into Thy wealth,

Out of my sin and into Thyself,

Jesus, I come to Thee.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/hans-r-waldvogel/ behold-he-cometh-communion-he-comes-to-fill-us-with-his-love-and-make-us-like-hi/>

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