

presented it and said, The only way we can understand these OT^o predictions is to say there are two comings of Christ! He is to come and suffer and He is to come and to reign and there will be a long period between the two. People would probably have said, How foolish. To say there will be two comings of Christ. It's absurd of course. When Messiah comes that's taht. There won't be two comings. We cannot ==God did not give us the Scripture in order to satisfy our curiosity about the future. God gave us the Scripture so show us how we should live and what we should do and we find certain great emphases in the Bible that affect our lives and our testimony. On these He wants us to stand and act upon them.

Jesus said not one word of what He taught is going to prove false. He did not merely teach once, but as we have seen repeatedly, that He will come back at a time when we would not naturally expect Him to come. We cannot tell when He is coming, but He wants us always to live as if He was going right then. He has given this as a special incentive. Paul said he would receive a crown of glory that ~~would not~~ as will all those who love the appearing of Christ, all those who give this its proper place in their lives.

This does not mean trying to g figure out details of it. It means taking the attitude He wants us to take of recognizing this spur for our activity, this joyful hope. When will He come? Will it be soon? Will it be today? How wonderful that we will be united with the One who gave His life on the cross for us.

Now this book has those arguments. What do we believe in? A pretribulation rapture, a mid tribulation rapture, or a post tribulation rapture? You can figure out details and try but I'm not at all sure that the result of all your comparing is actuallygoing to prove anything. The question is, How does God want us to live and what place doesHe want the rapture to have in our lives?

Let's look briefly at these terms. Post-tribulation rapture. What does that mean? It means == Does it mean Christ will notcome back until there has been a tribulation.? Remember what happened in the days of Nero when he fastened Christians to trees in his gardens, put pitch on them, and set fire to them. Remember the terrible