

KING JESUS COMES AGAIN!

Scripture:

John 14:2, Acts 1:11, Rev. 1:7, 22:12,
II Thess. 2, II Peter 3:3-4

Materials Needed:

Picture of Ascension
Wordstrips: "I am coming soon" "Pretend
Jesus" "Judgment on enemies" "Reward"

Memory Verse:

Revelation 22:12 "Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my reward with me, to repay to each one for what he has done." Revelation 22:12

Objectives: As a result of this lesson, I want my students

To Know—Jesus' not only promised that He would come back to reign as King on earth, but when people were mocking the promise of His coming, He showed John the events surrounding the man of lawlessness (antichrist) and His sudden return to both judge and reward all people.

To Realize—Jesus' return is CERTAIN and one must beware of the man of lawlessness who will deceive many and have great power because Jesus will judge him and his followers, but reward those who hold true to His Name.

To Respond by—being ready for Jesus' return and not being fooled by the man of lawlessness.

Setting up the Story:

Sing the song: GOSPEL. Then sing I Believe the Bible. After the last verse, ask, "Why do we sing that Jesus is coming in the clouds?" (Have student share that the angels said He would return the same way He went into heaven. Show picture of the Ascension and write on the left hand side of the board: I will come again!

We are going to finish the WHOLE BIBLE today!! Open your Bibles to the last book. Revelation 1:7. (Read it together.) Jesus is coming on the clouds in the book of Revelation! That's what the last book of the Bible is about: Jesus coming again!

Scripture

Telling the story:

- I. Jesus Promised He would return
 - A. Just before going to the cross: "I will come again and receive you to Myself." John 14:2
 - B. The angels told the disciples He would return: "This same Jesus will come again in the same way..." Acts 1:11
 - C. The disciples were witnesses

As you tell the story:

Remind students that Jesus had promised He would come again and the angels said it, too.

The disciples were witnesses, and many believed in Jesus—and 10 years passed, and He hadn't come back. Twenty years passed.

1. They told people about Jesus and were put to death by those who hated Jesus.
 2. The news about Jesus continued to spread.
- D. People were mocking the promise of Jesus' coming. (II Pet. 3:3)
- II. Jesus Shows John the Events around His Return!
- A. He is a prisoner on the island of Patmos
 - B. Rev. 22:12 "I am coming soon!"
-
- C. The Pretend Jesus will come first.
 1. He does not obey God's commands.
 2. He is very popular: demands worship!
 3. "Everybody" wants to follow: signs and wonders

About fifty years had passed and all except for one of Jesus' disciples had been killed. The one living was the Apostle John. He was imprisoned on an island and Jesus showed him what was going to happen when He came back again!

Read Revelation 22:12

"I am coming soon..."

Explain the concept that "soon" is related to the manner of His coming—it will be as quick as lightning when He comes, so there will be no time to prepare then—everyone must prepare ahead of time!

Example: mom leaves and says "clean up your room before I get home." If you play around and wait until you hear her car in the driveway, it's too late: she took awhile to come back, but when she got back, it was "soon"—it was QUICK!

THIS STILL HAS NOT HAPPENED! So the return of Jesus is still ahead of us. Write on board: "Don't know the day or the hour He will come back." ...but it is **ALREADY** on God's calendar! **GOD KNOWS** exactly which day Jesus will come.

Even though we don't know the exact day Jesus will come, there is someone who comes **JUST BEFORE** Jesus' return—he is a human, and he is a **PRETEND JESUS**.

(Note: the term "Anti-Christ" is accurate, but I used words that conveyed his deceptive nature rather than give him a title.) He will be **VERY CONVINCING!** But we can know that He is **NOT** the real Jesus, because this man breaks God's laws and is boastful.

- III. Jesus Will Come Quickly
 - A. Destroy/Judge the man of lawlessness

Who knows what a DECOY is? (explain that the purpose of a fish decoy is to lure the fish and catch them!) Who is giving this man his power? (Underneath the wordstrip write "Satan" on the board. Why is Satan using this Fake Jesus? To get as many people as possible to follow Him and NOT follow Jesus! It is his last chance, just before Jesus comes back.

The only ones not following this fake Jesus are the true followers of Jesus who are still waiting for Him to return. The fake Jesus will put the followers of Jesus in jail or even kill them. But then... Jesus COMES! And He destroys and Judges the Pretend Jesus and all of his followers. Read Revelation 22:12 again: "My reward is with me." Jesus has a reward for those who have kept trust in Him!

Concluding the Story:

Why do you think Jesus told us about the Pretend Jesus coming just before He comes back? (Students will realize it is so that we will not be fooled.) Everyone will have to choose one side or the other. You won't be able to say, "I don't want to follow the Pretend Jesus and I don't want to follow the real Jesus either." Everyone will choose a side. Jesus doesn't want us to be tricked and taken in by the Fake Jesus. He wants us to be following and obeying Him when He returns. Let's pray.