

Will Christ Reign On Earth?

The Lord Jesus Christ promised that He will return one day. He told the apostles, *“If I go and prepare place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself”* (John 14:3). Immediately after Christ’s ascension, two angels declared, *“This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.”* (Acts 1:11). John the apostle wrote, *“Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him”* (Revelation 1:7). Jesus is coming back!

The question needing answered is, Will Christ reign on earth when He does? Many professed believers in Jesus Christ hold to the doctrine that Jesus is coming back to reign and rule as King on the Earth. Most agree that Jesus is coming back, but a point of division is whether or not that reign is going to be on earth.

The reign of Jesus Christ as King of kings has already begun. Peter explained that Christ was raised up to sit on the prophetic throne of David and exalted to God’s right hand (Acts 2:30-33). The apostle Paul described Jesus as *“the King eternal”* (1 Timothy 1:17) and *“the King of kings and Lord of lords”* (6:15). The One, who has been made Lord and Christ, is King, too. He was born to be King, King of truth and of a kingdom not of this world (John 18:36-37). Faithful brethren in Christ have been delivered *“from the power of darkness and conveyed into the kingdom of the Son of His love”* (Colossians 1:13). *“Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.”* (Hebrews 12:28).

When Christ the King comes again will He reign on earth? What does the inspired New Testament reveal about what will transpire when He comes? He is coming *“to be glorified in His saints”* (2 Thessalonians 1:10). He will take *“vengeance on those who do know not obey God and on those who do not obey the gospel”* (1:8). The dead and alive in Christ will *“meet the Lord in the air”* to be with Him always (1 Thessalonians 4:17). He will deliver *“the kingdom to God the Father when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power”* (1 Corinthians 15:24). Even the text that describes a one-thousand-years reign of saints with Christ does not teach that that reign is with Christ on earth (Revelation 20:4-6). The word of the Lord does reveal that Jesus will come again but not to reign on earth. The Lord Jesus is the reigning King in heaven, and Christians walk by faith, desiring the heavenly city prepared for them.