

A Promise Kept

John 14:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Revelation 1:7; *The Desire of Ages*, p. 739; *The Great Controversy*, pp. 640-652; *Early Writings*, pp. 13-20

Have you ever thought about what it will be like when Jesus comes back to take us to heaven? Let's take a peek into the future. It's going to happen like this . . .

When Jesus comes back, He will ride on a cloud and everyone will see Him. Above the cloud will be the most brilliant, colorful rainbow anyone has ever seen. Below it the cloud blazes with fire. Jesus is surrounded by many more angels than we could count—maybe more than one million. Do you know how many one million

is? It's written like this: 1,000,000. That's a lot of zeroes, isn't it? There are more angels with Jesus than there are zeroes! Jesus is wearing bright, white robes with a sign that says "King of kings, and Lord of lords" (Revelation 19:16). When He died on the cross, Jesus was wearing a crown made of thorns. Now He is wearing a glittering crown of gold. But that crown isn't as bright as His face. His face is brighter than the sun in the middle of the day. You are so happy to see Him that your face lights up too.

Every ear hears Jesus.

When He shouts,
"I'm coming!"
it sounds
like the



The Message

Jesus loves us so much that He wants us to live with Him forever.

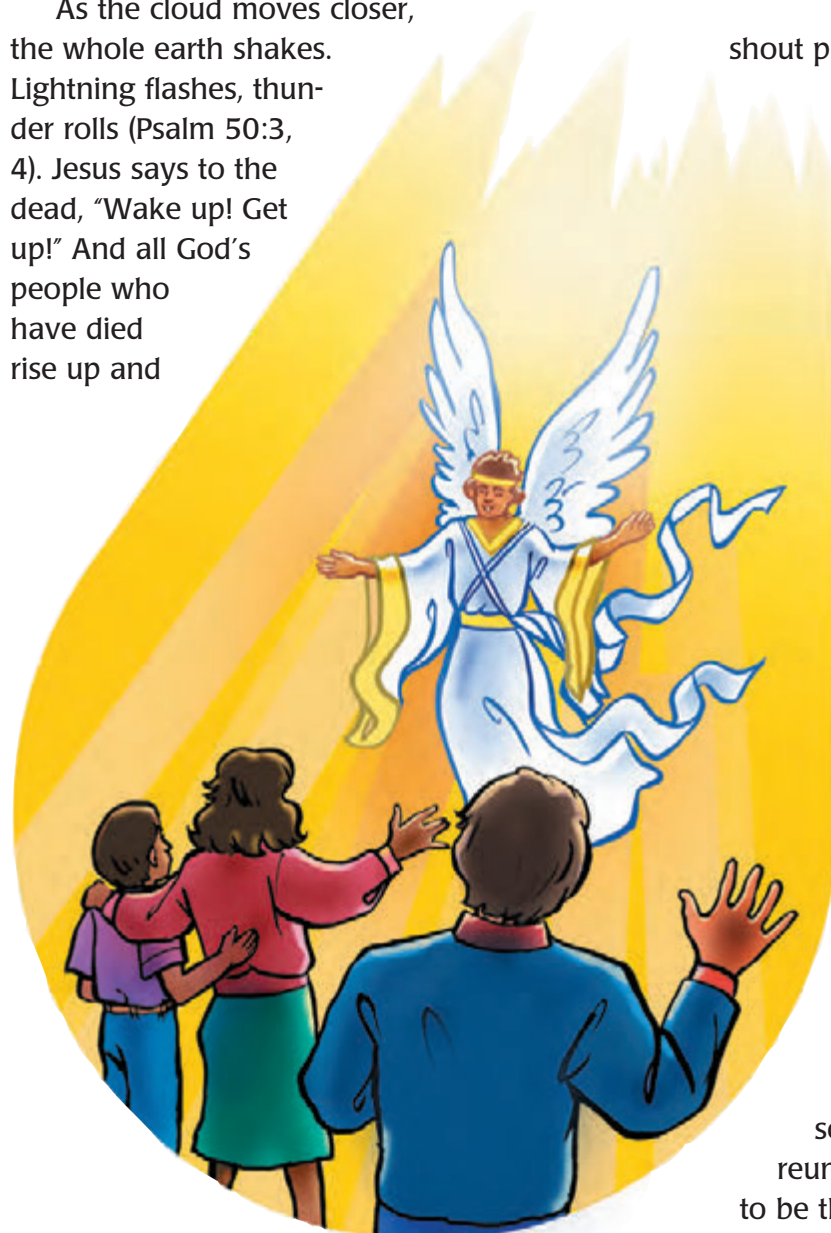
Memory Verse

“Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him”

(Revelation 1:7, NIV).

loudest peal of thunder you have ever heard—the kind that makes you jump! His voice reaches down to earth and wakes up the dead. A blast of the trumpet follows. Then you hear the sound of a million angels singing praise songs.

As the cloud moves closer, the whole earth shakes. Lightning flashes, thunder rolls (Psalm 50:3, 4). Jesus says to the dead, “Wake up! Get up!” And all God’s people who have died rise up and



shout praises to Jesus. Adam gets up. Rahab gets up. Daniel gets up. Peter gets up. Mary Magdalene gets up. Everyone has perfect bodies as they rise from the dead, because Jesus changes them in a flash. Angels come to meet them and those of us who are still alive too. The angels help us find our families. They bring children to their parents. They bring friends together. Then they take everyone up to the cloud.

On each side of the cloudy chariot are wings, and under it are wheels. (See *The Great Controversy*, page 645.) The wings and the wheels cry “Holy!” as they turn toward heaven. The angels sing “Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!” And all the people riding in the cloud shout “Alleluia!” And the cloud moves upward toward the New Jerusalem, the city of God.

Jesus’ coming will be a bright, shiny, noisy, happy event. It will be something like a parade, a big family reunion, and a holiday all in one. I want to be there. Don’t you?

S A B B A T H

DO This afternoon go outside with your family and look at the clouds. If you look for a while, the clouds will form different shapes. With your family talk about the clouds when Jesus comes.

THINK What other Bible stories about clouds can you think of?

READ Read your lesson together. Then sing "Jesus Is Coming Again." Thank Jesus that He has promised to return.

S U N D A Y

READ With your family read and discuss Matthew 24. List the things that Jesus said will happen before He returns. Thank Jesus for the signs.

DO Look in newspapers and magazines for pictures and headlines that tell about these signs. Paste the pictures onto a large sheet of paper to make a collage. Save this for Friday.

DRAW Draw a cloud and write your memory verse on it. Cover up one more word each time you read it.

M O N D A Y

DO Use this code to find out what we will do to be ready for Jesus to come. The code: ✂A ✂B *D ✓E ❖H ●I ⚙L ▼P ✕R ∞T ❁Y

and

▼ ✕ ✂ ❁ ✕ ✓ ✂ *

∞ ❖ ✓ ✂ ● ✂ ⚙ ✓

DO Use a book to find out more about clouds. Share your findings with your family at worship time.

SING Sing "Jesus Is Coming Again" (Sing for Joy, No. 92) together; then pray that you and your family will be ready to meet Jesus.

Jesus' second coming will end sin and death forever. It will begin eternity for the people who love Him.



W E D N E S D A Y

DO During family worship ask everyone to help write a letter to Jesus. Tell Him how much you want to be with Him when He comes.

READ Read together David's psalm of praise in Psalm 145:1-5, 21.

DO Write a family psalm of praise during worship. Include all the things you are thankful for.

T U E S D A Y

DO When Jesus returns, He will wear a crown. Make a crown and write on it "I belong to Jesus." Wear it during family worship.

READ Read and discuss Matthew 16:27 and Matthew 24:30, 31 for family worship. When Jesus comes, who will be with Him?

DO Teach your memory verse to your family.

PRAY Thank Jesus for the blessings of sight.

THURSDAY

READ With your family read and discuss 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17. Who will join Jesus in the clouds? What wakes up the dead? Can you make the noise of a trumpet? Try to find some trumpet music to listen to.

DRAW Draw a clock or make one out of a paper plate. Instead of numbers write **SECOND COMING**. Draw the hands of the clock pointing to midnight to show that Jesus is coming soon.

PRAY Pray that Jesus will come soon.

FRIDAY

DO During family worship show the collage you made earlier this week. Talk about the signs that tell you that Jesus is coming soon.

DO At the bottom of the collage write, "I want to be ready to meet Jesus." Ask each member of the family to sign the collage.

SING Sing songs about Jesus' coming. Pray that He will come soon, and that your family will be ready.

Second Coming

PUZZLE

Directions: Start at the highlighted letter. On the lines below, write the letters that follow in the alphabet, with the exception of "a." For example, the highlighted letter is "i" so the next letter is "j." The letter that follows "d" is "e," and "s" follows "r."



