

As prophetic events unfolded, people around the world began to investigate and preach about the imminent Second Coming of Jesus.

Among them were Johann Albrecht Bengel (1687-1752), in Germany; Manuel Lacunza (1731-1801), in Chile; William Miller (1782-1861), in North America; Joseph Wolf (1821-1845), who carried the message to Africa, Egypt, Abyssinia, Asia, Palestine, Syria, Persia, Uzbekistan and India.

They, and others who had written previously, came to the same conclusion: Jesus would return in the mid-19th century!



- **├** The blessed hope.
- How will Jesus come?

William Miller:

- How to interpret the Bible.
- The prophetic time.
- The prophecy of the 2,300 days.



THE BLESSED HOPE

"Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ" (Titus 2:13)

Since Jesus promised to return (Jn. 14:1-3), this has been the hope of all believers to this day (Titus 2:13).

This hope is reflected in both the creed of the Roman Catholic Church and same as the Orthodox Church; It is also taught by the Anglican Church; and so taught Luther, Calvin, and the other reformers.

Signals the end

of illness,

suffering and

death



What makes the Second Coming of Jesus such an eagerly awaited event?



It means the end of poverty, injustice and oppression



End fights, conflicts and wars



Open the doors to a world of peace, happiness and eternal communion with God



HOW WILL JESUS COME?

"For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be" (Matthew 24:27)

During the 19th century, Protestants distorted the doctrine of the 2nd Coming by teaching that Jesus would establish an earthly kingdom of a thousand years of peace (premillennialism), or that there would be a period of a thousand years of peace before the 2nd Coming (postmillennialism).

However, the reformers taught that the millennium would be preceded by the 2nd Coming, and that this would be:



Literally . "I am coming quickly" (Rev. 22:20)



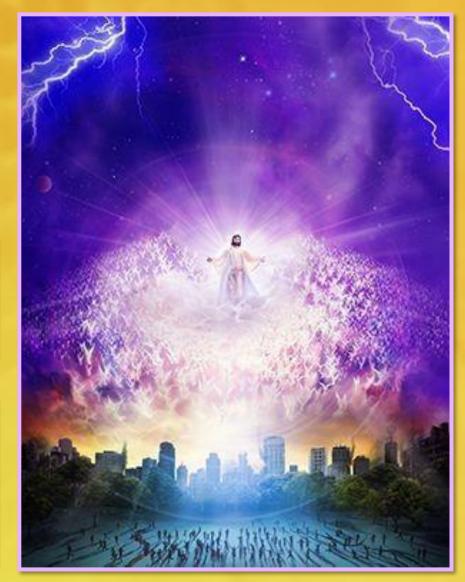
Visible . "Every eye will see him" (Rev. 1:7; Mt. 24:27)

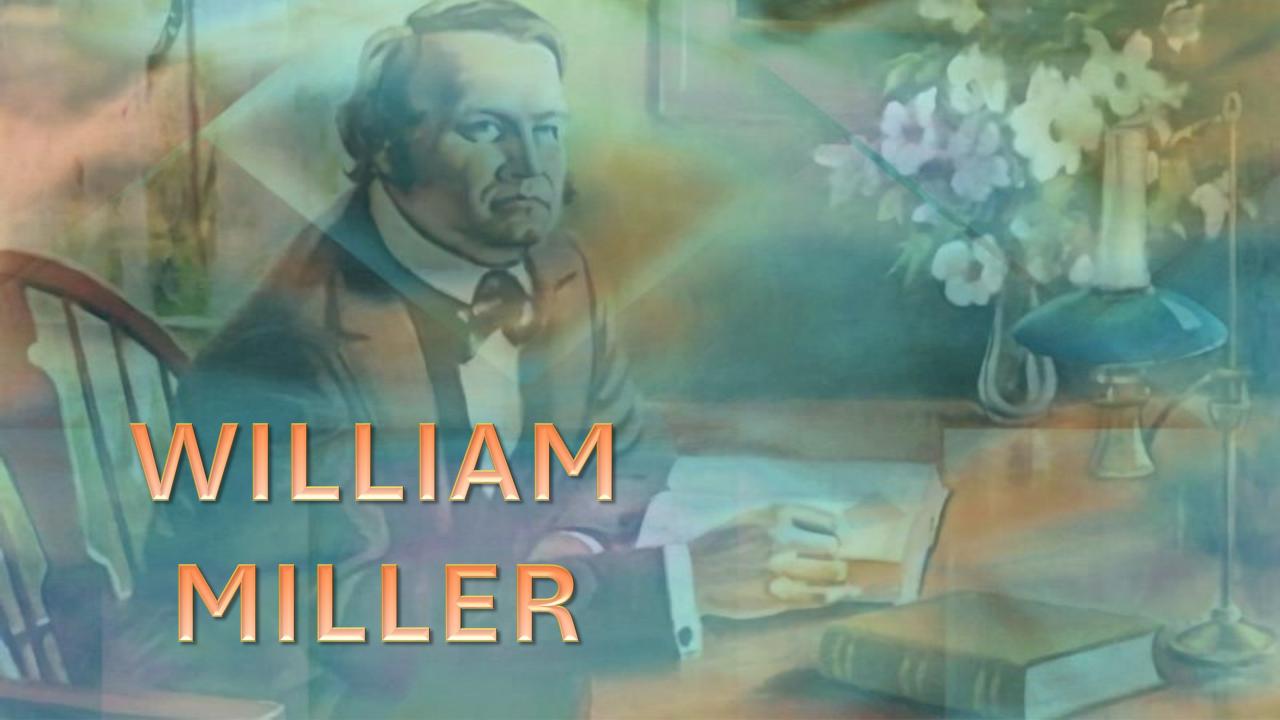


Audible . "With a command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God" (1Thes. 4:16; 1Co. 15:52)



Glorious. The dead will rise, the living will be transformed, and we will ascend with the Lord (1Thes. 4:13-18; 1Co. 15:51-55)





HOW TO INTERPRET THE BIBLE

"For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little" (Isaiah 28:10)

Based on the words of Isaiah (Is . 28:9-10), William Miller decided to make the Bible his own interpreter.

Starting from Genesis, he studied every biblical passage. If its meaning was not clear, he looked for the solution in some other biblical passage. In this way, the Holy Spirit illuminated him until the Bible was clearly opened before him. When he came to the prophetic passages, he discovered that the same principle could be applied there as well:



Applying these principles, Miller was surprised by his discoveries.



THE PROPHETIC TIME

"He said to me, "It will take 2,300 evenings and mornings; then the sanctuary will be reconsecrated"" (Daniel 8:14 NIV)

Considering that, in Miller's time, the Earth was thought to be the sanctuary, he deduced that the prophecy about its purification (Dan . 8:14) indicated the time of the Second Coming of Jesus.



He noted that Gabriel had explained to Daniel all the details of the vision:





The ram = Media and Persia (Dan. 8:20)



The goat = Greece (Dan. 8:21a)



The broken horn = Alexander and his successors (Dan. 8:21b-22)



The little horn = Rome, in its political and religious phases (Dan. 8:23-25)



However, the 2,300 days were left unexplained (Dan. 8:26-27).

Years later Gabriel was sent again to explain that point to Daniel (Dan. 9:21-23). He explained that there was a certain or "cut off" period, and that it would begin with "the going forth of the order to restore and build Jerusalem" (Dan. 9:24-25). If Miller found this order, he would find the beginning of the 2,300 days/years.

THE PROPHECY OF THE 2,300 DAYS

"And you, Ezra, in accordance with the wisdom of your God, which you possess, appoint magistrates and judges to administer justice to all the people of Trans-Euphrates—all who know the laws of your God. And you are to teach any who do not know them" (Ezra 7:25)





In the seventh year of Artaxerxes, king of Persia, an order was issued for Ezra to go to Jerusalem and have sufficient political autonomy to complete the restoration of the city (Ezra 7:7, 11-14, 20-21, 24-25). It was the year 457 BC

As the 70-week prophecy indicates, it took Jerusalem 49 years to be completely rebuilt, and 434 more years passed until the arrival of the Messiah (Dan. 9:25). This calculation places the baptism of Jesus in the year 27 AD, and the end of the 70 weeks in the year 34 AD.

Putting the pieces of the prophetic calendar together, Miller concluded that the Second Coming of Jesus would occur sometime in the year 1843.

After discovering that it had not been taken into account that, in history, there is no year "zero", it was determined that Jesus would come in 1844.



THE PROPHECY OF THE 2,300 DAYS

"Seventy weeks are cut off for your people and your holy city" (Daniel 9:24 RV2000)



"One of the most solemn and yet most glorious truths revealed in the Bible is that of Christ's second coming, to complete the great work of redemption. To God's pilgrim people, so long left to sojourn in the "region and shadow of death," a precious, joy-inspiring hope is given in the promise of His appearing, who is "the resurrection and the life," to "bring home again his banished." The doctrine of the second advent is the very key-note of the sacred Scriptures."

EGW (The Great Controversy, pg. 299)



"All we have to do with is this one day. Today we must be faithful to our trust. Today we must love God with all the heart and our neighbor as ourselves. Today we must resist the temptations of the enemy, and through the grace of Christ gain the victory. Thus we shall watch and wait for Christ's coming. Each day we should live as if we knew that this would be our last day on this earth. If we knew that Christ would come tomorrow, would we not crowd into today all the kind words, all the unselfish deeds, that we could?"