

## ~The 'soon'--'shortly' coming of Jesus~

The futurist often prides himself on taking things literally, and yet, when confronted with clear time texts, this literality is abandoned and the doctrine of "imminence" is fabricated out of whole cloth. These same people state that Jesus' Second Coming is "soon" and "near," and expect us to understand by those words what they normally mean. Yet, these same people when they encounter these same words in sacred Scripture do an about face. They say that God meant "it could be soon," or "it may be near." But God did not say that. He said, "at hand - soon - some standing here will not taste death - the generation will not pass away (in case we were really thick, which obviously we are) - near - shortly - quickly." ***God pretty much exhausted the Greek language for synonyms for saying that something was going to happen in the first century***, and yet most of the Church denies it and puts words in God's mouth. Strong words? Yes, but this cuts to the heart of the test of a true prophet. If a prophet gives express time limitations for the fulfillment of his prophecy, it is circumventing the Deuteronomy 18 test to ignore those limitations.

**QUESTION:** Is it really clear that the New Testament writers thought Jesus would return in their lifetime?

**ANSWER:** Yes. Rom. 13:12, "The night is **nearly** over; the day is **almost here**." Rom. 16:20, "The God of peace will **soon** crush Satan under your feet." I Cor. 7:29 and 31, "The time is **short**. This world in its present form is **passing** away." I Cor. 10:11, "These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the **fulfillment of the ages has come**." I Thess. 5:23, "May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." I Tim. 6:14, "Keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ." Hebrews 10:37, "In just a **very little while**, He who is coming will come and will **not delay**." James 5:7, "Be patient until the Lord's coming." James 5:8, "The Lord's coming is **near**." James 5:9, "The judge is standing **at the door**." I Peter 4:7, "The end of all things has drawn **near**." Jude 4,14,17-19, "Certain men whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. Enoch, the seventh from Adam prophesied about these men: 'See, the Lord is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones to judge everyone, and to convict all the ungodly of all the ungodly acts they have done in the ungodly way, and of all the harsh words ungodly sinners have spoken against him.' Remember the apostles foretold that in the last times there will be scoffers who will follow their own ungodly desires. These are the men who divide **you**, who follow mere natural instincts and do not have the Spirit."

### Soon/Shortly

If the Bible is telling us things that will happen **shortly** or **soon** why must some, in order to hold on to a futurist theory, deliberately deceive themselves into believing nonsense?

Look closely at the verses below and let me give you a prediction.

***\*I predict that, if you are a futurist, you will see that every verse, other than eschatological ones, will mean exactly what it says regarding the timelines. In other words, shortly will mean shortly and soon will mean soon in every case except those that deal with the 2nd coming?***

By the way, the words highlighted in every verse are translated from the Gk. word '**tachos**' which means

"Soon" or "Shortly" from #5034 tachos (takh'-os); a brief space (of time), quickly, + shortly, + speedily

**Thayer/Strong Dictionaries**

**Luke 18:8**

"I tell you that he will avenge them **speedily**. Nevertheless when the Son of man comes, shall he find faith on the earth?"

**Acts 12:7**

"And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up **quickly**. And his chains fell off from his hands."

**Acts 22:18**

"And saw him saying unto me, Make haste, and get thee **quickly** out of Jerusalem: for they will not receive thy testimony concerning me."

**Acts 25:4**

"But Festus answered, that Paul should be kept at Caesarea, and that he himself would depart **shortly** thither."

**Rom 16:20**

"And the God of peace shall bruise (crush) Satan under your feet **shortly**. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen."

**1 Tim 3:14**

"These things write I unto you, hoping to come unto you **shortly**:"

**Rev 1:1**

"The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to show unto his servants things which must **shortly** come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:"

**Rev 22:6**

"And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to show unto his servants the things which must **shortly** be done."

*\* Was I right in my prediction?*

**Revelation 1:1-2 PP13**

[Soon]: *this indicates that the events portrayed in the visions will take place within the lifetime of John, a relatively short period of time (see <Rev 2:16>; and verse <3:11>; also verse <22:6>).-- emphasis mine--*  
bob.

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**Parousia**

The end is not to be expected instantly. There are still signs to come to pass <2 Thes 2:3>, and in especial the determined number of martyrs must be filled up (<Rev 6:11>; compare 2 Esd 4:35,36). There is need

of patience (<James 5:7>, etc.; compare 2 Esd 4:34; Bar 83:4). But it is at hand (<1 Pet 4:7; Rev 1:3; 22:10>; compare 2 Esd 14:17). "**Yet a little while**" <Heb 10:37,25>, "The night is **far spent**" <Rom 13:12>, "The Lord is **at hand**" <Phil 4:5>. "*We that are alive*" expect to see it (<**1 Thes 4:15; 1 Cor 15:51**>; compare Bar 76:5); the time is shortened henceforth (<1 Cor 7:29>; compare Bar 20:1; 2 Esd 4:26, and the commentaries on 1 Cor). *Indeed, there is hardly time for repentance even* (<**Rev 22:11**>, ironical), certainly there is **no time left** for self-indulgence (1 Thes <5:3>; <1 Pet 4:2; 2 Pet 3:11; Rev 3:3>; compare Bar 83:5), and watchfulness is **urgently** demanded <1 Thes 5:6; Rev 3:3>.

### **International Standard Bible Encyclopedia**

**Notice the amount of imminent 'timeline' words that are used in the commentaries (and the Bible) to describe the second coming. WHY are we ignoring them?**