

(1) How often do you think about the Second Coming of Christ? Do you live each day in the hope that he will return today? If not, why not? What practical impact does the truth of the Second Coming exert on your heart, soul, mind, and your life in general? Be specific. How does our confident hope in Christ's return serve to "purify" us or make us more holy (see 1 John 3:1-3)?

(2) What do you think about the language John uses in vv. 12-14? Do you think this is physically literal, descriptive of the dissolution of the space-time universe, or is it prophetic symbolism? Read again Isaiah 13:9-10; 34:4-5; Ezek. 32:7-9, 15. How do these texts affect your understanding of Revelation 6?

(3) What impact does it have on you to read in 6:15-17 and 9:20-21 of the response of unbelievers to the revelation of God's wrath? How do you account for this?

(4) As you read Revelation 8:1-5, what does this tell us about the role of prayer in the accomplishment of God's purposes? Does this passage encourage you to pray more frequently and fervently?

(5) What is the "wrath" of God? Is it biblical? Why do some react so negatively to the idea that God is angry at sin? What would happen to Christianity if the wrath of God were denied?