The First Coming and The Second Coming of Jesus Christ

See the differences between the Savior’s birth and His Second Coming—and the similarities between people’s preparations for them.

### Eyes to See

“Before that sacred night in Bethlehem, the events of history and the words of the prophets of all dispensations prepared the way for the first coming of the Lord and His Atonement. . . . Do we have eyes to see that the events and prophecies of our time are preparing us for the Savior’s Second Coming?”


### When

**First Coming**: Over 2,000 years ago. The exact year and day are uncertain.

**Second Coming**: Nobody knows except the Father, not even the angels (see Matthew 24:36 and D&C 49:7).

### Where

**First Coming**: In a remote, humble stable in Bethlehem (see Luke 2:4).

**Second Coming**: “In the clouds of heaven with power and great glory” (Matthew 24:30; see also Acts 1:11).

### Who Witnesses It


**Second Coming**: All people everywhere at once (see Isaiah 40:5; Revelation 1:7).

### Major Signs

**First Coming**: A star in the heavens, a birth to a virgin, a prophesied lineage and birthplace for the Messiah (see Matthew 2:2; Isaiah 7:14; Micah 5:2).

**Second Coming**: Apostasy and Restoration, gospel preached throughout the earth, tumultuous times, signs in heaven and on earth (see 2 Thessalonians 2:2–3; Matthew 24:6–21, 29–31).

### How to Prepare

**First Coming**:
- Repent.
- “Hearken unto the words of the prophets [and] look forward unto Christ with steadfastness for the signs which are given” (2 Nephi 26:8).

**Second Coming**:
- Repent.
- “[Be baptized,] receive the gift of the Holy Ghost, and . . . be looking forth for the signs of [His] coming” (D&C 39:23; see also 45:39).
- “Stand ye in holy places, and be not moved” (D&C 87:8).
- “Hear the voice of the Lord [and] the voice of his servants [and] give heed to the words of the prophets” (D&C 1:14).