

Will the Lord Come in Five Years?

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Matthew 24:32.

B. We cannot know whether Christ will return in five years or not. (Matthew 24:36)

II. The disciples wanted to know what the signs of the end would be. (Revelation 4-19)

III. Every generation was given the hope of Jesus' return--the time was left indefinite so that every generation would be ready. (Luke 21:34, I John 3:3)

IV. Not even Jesus knows the time of His return. (Romans 8:28-30, Mark 13:32)

A. Jesus was likely suggesting that He was in submission to the will of God regarding the execution of the final plan.

B. The time is purposely left indefinite.

V. The generation that saw the signs would see them all fulfilled in seven years. (Matthew 24:22-34)

VI. The trend of events suggests that the time is near.

A. The development of the world religious system. (Revelation 17)

B. The development of a one world economic system. (Revelation 13)

C. The rise of the king of the north. (Ezekiel 38)

D. The federation of Russia with the Arab states. (Ezekiel 38, Daniel 11)

E. The return of Israel to the land. (Zechariah 14)

F. The apostasy of the church. (I-II Timothy, Titus)

Application questions:

1. Why did Jesus not know the time of His return if He was God? Explain.

2. Why is it a bad idea to set the time of Jesus' return?

3. Which indication of the end time strikes you the most? What stands out to you?
