

The Revelation

(9) After the Church Age

Thoughts on the 2nd coming of Christ...

Does OT prophecy describe the 1st coming of Christ? Is.7:14; Is.53; Dan.9:25-26

Yes, in many places. The coming Suffering Servant is there.

Does OT prophecy describe "another" coming of Christ? Is.9:6-7; Dan.7:13-14; Zech.14

Yes, in many places. The coming King of Kings, ruling from the throne of David, is clear.

How did the OT Jew resolve the apparent conflicts in these two pictures?

By basically ignoring the first and assigning it to some other. Focus is on the King...

When Jesus came the first time, what was the continual question? Acts 1:6

When are you going to set up the Kingdom? Restore Israel? Throne of David? etc.

Why was it so impossible to see "two comings" in the OT? Eph.3:9

Because God specifically hid it! It WAS (not anymore) a mystery. There, but hidden.

And why did God hide it? ICor.2:7-8

To hide it from Satan. Had he understood the first coming... no crucifixion.

In summary, in the OT how did the first and second coming appear?

They appeared to be one, yet in conflict. Blended together in Scripture.

Thoughts on the Rapture of the Church...

Does NT prophecy describe the rapture of the Church? Jn.14:2-3; IThess.4:13-18; IThess.5:1-11

Absolutely. It's described in terms that are conflicting with the 2nd coming of Christ.

How did the early church deal with these conflicts? IThess.4:13, etc

They were confused. Tried to make them coincident. More questions... and confusion.

Who introduced the teaching of a separate event, for believers? Jn.14:1-3

Jesus. He would come to get them, to be with Him in Heaven, not on earth. Two events.

What happened to the church at Thessalonica after Paul left? IIThess.2:1

False teachers: We're in the tribulation now! It greatly disturbed them. Paul: Not true!

Is the time of the 2nd coming known? Dan.9:24-27

Yes. It is 7 years after the signing of the treaty between the Antichrist and Israel.

Is the time of the rapture known? Mk.13:33-37

No. It is imminent, can happen at any time. As 2nd coming gets closer, so does the rapture.

Why might the Lord be keeping the time of the rapture hidden?

Perhaps because He doesn't want Satan to know? It's in the counsel of the Father.