
Spirit's Day Studies

The Writings of Jane Lead

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*Shake, shake your earthly dust away
Now it's the Spirit's Day,
that will admit of no delay.*

The Eight Worlds

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Abbreviations used in this study
[JaneLead.org/SDS Abbreviations.pdf](http://JaneLead.org/SDS%20Abbreviations.pdf)

The Threefold Return of Christ

**There is a Threefold Coming of Christ besides
His First Coming in the flesh. (3F 3:15a)**

(From Q&A October 2025)

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- 127) **Threefold Return of Christ:** Jane Lead writes of three and also four comings of the Lord. So is it three or four? We know that the Second Coming will happen at the end of the Church Age and at the beginning of the Millennium. But where in the Bible does it say that we are to expect three or even four comings?

Christendom holds varying views on the events leading up to the personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ in what is traditionally called the “Second Coming.” But as the diligent Bible student is fully aware, that term does not appear in the Holy Scriptures. This misnomer has led to great misunderstandings as to prophetic end-time events. For while the Church teaches that the Second Coming is the Lord’s physical *return* to this Earth, they often overlook His *other* comings—which may also be called “returns.” For as to eschatological events, Jesus has four *comings*, or three *returns*.

The passage you refer to is in [Fountain of Gardens Vol. 3](#), *The Threefold Coming of Christ*, where Jane succinctly lays out these returns.¹ Here is the full passage which I will also break down:

Now it was given me to understand that there is a Threefold Coming of Christ, besides His First Coming in the flesh. After which, before He left the world, He engaged, that He would come again in Spirit to His own that were in it. This has been accomplished, and this was His *Second Coming*. Upon which we have lived, and spent upon this Stock of Life, ever since His departure: I mean such who for this Worthy Gift have with great seeking obtained it. The Apostles had this more richly and abundantly, as to the manifold working by powers and gifts, than any since. But yet they were still looking out for His next coming in Spirit. For by His Spirit He was to make meet and ready; that the Inward Spirit, with his mind, will and senses should be all internally transformed (as the New Testament runs much upon it): to be found sinless, spotless, and blameless against the coming of the Lord. And what is to be done now at this His *Second*, or it may be called His *Third Coming*, but to change our vile bodies, and to fashion them like unto His own glorious body, by that Power which shall open the Element, which the Celestial Body shall evermore consist of. Christ's *Third Coming* will be to this purpose: to redeem bodies out from all those evil events that sin brought in, that so every spirit may come to have its own native body, and that the spirit may no longer draw one way, and the flesh another. (3F 3:15, January 18, 1678)

Jane Lead clarifies that the Threefold Coming is *in addition to* His First Coming as a man. So we have four different “comings” but three different “returns.” Therefore the Threefold Coming of the Lord may also be called His Threefold *Return*, which is what I will use here to avoid confusion.

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First Coming

Now it was given me to understand that there is a Threefold Coming of Christ besides His First Coming in the flesh. After which, before He left the world, He engaged, that He would come again in Spirit to His own that were in it. (3F 3:15a)

His First Coming was when the Word was made flesh and came to dwell among us.² But at the end of His earthly ministry, and before departing to Heaven, He promised to return *as the Promise of the Father and the Son*,³ and *commanded* His Apostles to *wait* in Jerusalem for His return *as Spirit*.⁴ And the Apostles, in loving obedience, assembled together 120 faithful followers to wait for the Lord's Promised Spirit-return.⁵

First Return: Pentecost Phase 1

This has been accomplished, and this was His *Second Coming*. Upon which we have lived, and spent upon this Stock of Life, ever since His departure: I mean such who for this Worthy Gift have with great seeking obtained it. (3F 3:15b)

Jesus fulfilled His Promise on the Day of Pentecost when He *returned* as the *Spirit of Christ*. This was His *true* Second Coming. But as Jane points out, though many holy souls have obtained this blessing, the measure of the Spirit that was offered in the beginning is near used up—which, along with unfaithfulness and disobedience, is why the Holy Spirit is largely absent in the Church today.⁶

First Return: Pentecost Phase 2

The Apostles had this [Gift of the Spirit] more richly and abundantly, as to the manifold working by powers and gifts, than any since. But yet they were still looking out for His next coming in Spirit. For by His Spirit He was to make meet and ready; that the Inward Spirit, with his mind, will and senses should be all internally transformed (as the New Testament runs much upon it): to be found sinless, spotless, and blameless against the coming of the Lord. (3F 3:15c)

At His *first return* on the Day of Pentecost (as the Promise of the Father), the early believers, especially the Apostles, received the Spirit in great measure, so as to perform miracles, healings, and raise the dead. Yet the Apostles understood that this was only an *initial* outpouring, and that another and greater measure *was yet to come*. This “Second Pentecost” would enable them to overcome sin, the flesh, and the Devil—which the First Pentecost did not do. The Second would restore certain long-absent Gifts of the Spirit—which must return prior to the Millennium.⁷ Therefore the Apostle Paul urged his audience to *press into* this Promise! And to be filled with the Spirit so that they may not only enter the race, but complete it to the end. Which race? Which end? Paul tells us:

I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. (Php. 3:14)

But I keep under my body, and bring *it* into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway. (1Co 9:27)

This “prize” and “high calling” is something we must *strive* to enter into and *accomplish*. And yet Paul himself said that he feared that he might become a castaway. But Paul was already converted (justified); He already received the Holy Spirit; He also received a *personal* revelation of the Lord Himself. So why, how, and from what could he possibly become a castaway?

I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, THAT I MAY WIN CHRIST, (Php. 3:8-9)

That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death; if by any means I MIGHT ATTAIN UNTO THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD. (Php. 3:10-11)

Paul was aiming for the Resurrection of the Dead! But as an Old Testament scholar, and a recipient and revealer of the Divine Mysteries delivered unto him personally by the Lord Himself—didn't Paul already know that he would take part in the resurrection? Yes of course. Paul meant something other than the General Resurrection that comes at the end of the Millennium.⁸ He was speaking of the *First Resurrection*—which has two distinct stages:

- ♦ Jesus: The Firstfruits of the First Resurrection. (1Cor. 15:20)
- ♦ The Bride: Included in the Firstfruits of the First Resurrection. (1Thes. 4:13-18)

Mystical Death

To be “dead in Christ” is more than mortal or physical death.⁹ It is also a death to the inward Body of Sin—which can indeed be accomplished even while in a mortal body. This is why a *Second Pentecost* is offered to God's people. The First Pentecost begins the process; the Second completes the process. And the sum of all Jane's writings is to inform faithful and holy seekers how to obtain these blessings for themselves; and then how to walk in that Spirit, and be filled with that Spirit—until they reach total and complete death to the Sin-Principle within.¹⁰ *This is the death mystic!* And those who have died this death—through which alone the inward resurrection is made possible—these Spotless Ones are *to become* the Bride of Christ, and will partake in the First Resurrection. Jesus the Bridegroom will return and meet His Bride in the air (Spirit), and change their bodies from mortal to immortal. Thus they shall ever be with the Lord as bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh.¹¹ This is the Prize that the Apostle was running his race to obtain!

Rapture or First Resurrection?

What is the First Resurrection? It is what Christians commonly refer to as the Rapture of the Church. They have correctly gathered certain Scriptures that speak of a translation or change that will happen to before the Lord's physical return to Earth in His glorified humanity. But in Jane's theology, and according to the revelations she received from the God-Head, Jesus does not carry His Bride away to Heaven. Neither is the whole body of believers considered the Bride of Christ. The Bridal-Church are those that have finished their race—through which they become qualified to be resurrected or translated into new bodies. This is the First Resurrection!

The primary design of all Paul's Epistles is to encourage Christians to *press into this Resurrection*, and to show how it can be accomplished *in them*. Passover cannot achieve it; neither can the First Pentecost. Only a *Second* visit of the Holy Spirit, with increased Pentecostal power, can possibly destroy the sinful nature within. The first believers (and many Christians since) received the *Firstfruits* of the Holy Spirit. But there is a Firstfruits of the Resurrection that is near; and a Second Pentecost is offered to accomplish what the First Pentecost could not do.

Shower vs Birth

At His first *return* on the Day of Pentecost, the Spirit of Christ was received by His faithful ones as a “shower.”¹² But that measure is near passed away. Now a second measure is expected, that will *enter into holy souls* as a “birth.”¹³ This “New Birth” is the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, as incarnated *within*, in order to destroy sin *in our flesh!* This is what it truly means to know Jesus after the flesh no more, and to know Him after (as) Spirit: tangible, moving and breathing, as a Life inside of life.

Christians say they are new creatures in Christ Jesus. While to some degree this may be true, yet they are only new creatures *in promise*. For as long as they remain in the old sinful body of flesh, the Old Man still has dominion.¹⁴ But once the Spirit of Christ enters a holy soul as a birth within, and once that birth (Christ) takes upon Himself their Body of Sin, puts it to death, then raises the holy soul from that death—that soul can truly say that he *is* a new creature in Christ Jesus!

4 Spirit's Day Studies – The Threefold Return of Christ

This inward *birth of Christ* in the soul is the Second Pentecost that Jane mentions.¹⁵ Thus the Lord's *first return as Spirit* was in order to prepare for His *second return as Spirit*. It is only through this Second and greater Pentecost that the perfect work can be done within, and produce a Christian that is ready prepared to meet the Bridegroom in His *Second Return* in the *Translation*, when He will change their mortal bodies into immortal.

Second Return: The First Resurrection (Translation)

And what is to be done now at this His *Second*, or it may be called His *Third Coming*, but to change our vile bodies, and to fashion them like unto His own glorious body, by that Power which shall open the Element, which the Celestial Body shall evermore consist of. (3F 3:15d)

Christ's *Third Coming* [or second return] will be to this purpose: to redeem bodies out from all those evil events that sin brought in, that so every spirit may come to have its own native body, and that the spirit may no longer draw one way, and the flesh another. (3F 3:15e)

The *Second Return* (or *Third Coming* of our Lord) is when He appears to His Elected Ones *in secret*, and changes His now spotless Bride from mortal to immortal. He meets them “in the air,” or secretly and in the Spirit; for the Bride has been made ready through the previous Gifts and processes of the Spirit.¹⁶ Thus she is all comely and beautiful,¹⁷ and ready for the Lord to transmute her into the likeness of His Jasper-Stone, to be forever united with her Head Prince.¹⁸ Jane confirms that this Translation will occur *before* the Lord returns personally in the Last Judgment; and that these Resurrected-Ones will minister to the world until His physical return:

Know it therefore for a certainty, that the Lord will have a Pure and Spotless Church upon the Earth, that before the General Day of Judgment, shall have the Keys of the Power, yea of the transmuting power too, as all *ethereal*, to ascend and descend. (3F 3:20-21)

Again, much of Christendom understands this event as the Rapture of the Church. But as explained in [#127](#) and elsewhere, Jane's teaching is similar in some ways, yet significantly different in others. In Jane's theology, the Bride (144,000 Melchizedek Priests) does not ascend to Heaven to remain there for 7 years. They instead remain here on Earth to prepare the world to receive the Coming King. They receive specific assignments for administering the Millennium until the Lord returns in glory at the conclusion of the Wars of David and the Peaceable Reign of Solomon. (See chart below)

Third Return: The “Second Coming.”

The Lord's visible and personal return in His glorified humanity comes after His 1,000-year Reign *with* and *through* His Saints on Earth—which Christians call the Second Coming. The common view of the Lord's return is *pre-millennial*: that the Lord Jesus Christ returns prior to the Millennium and administers the 1,000-year reign in His glorified person. But as noted in [Q&A Jul. 2026 #202](#), Jane Lead, as well as other Biblical scholars throughout the history of the Church, viewed the Lord's return as a multi-stage event.

The “Second” Coming of Christ ¹⁹		
Stage 1: 3rd Coming ²⁰ Sealing of the 144,000 Pre-Millennial	Stage 2 1,000-Year Reign	Stage 3: 4th Coming Return of the Glorified Lord Post-Millennial
Wars of David		Peace of Solomon
Christ returns <u>secretly to His Saints</u> ; changes them from mortal to immortal. ²¹	Christ reigns WITH and THROUGH the 144,000 Firstborn Firstfruits of the First Resurrection. ²²	Return of the Glorified Lord <u>Jesus</u> WITH His Saints at the end of the Millennium. ²³

Thus we understand that Jesus returns several times: He comes twice *as a man* and twice *as Spirit*:

- ♦ The Incarnation was His First Coming as a man.
The end of the Millennium will be His Second Coming as a man.
- ♦ Pentecost (Phase 1 &2) was His First Coming as Spirit.
The Translation, Revealing, or First Resurrection will be His Second Coming as Spirit.

Conclusion

This present world is a testing ground; and Christians are vying for a position in the Kingdom of Christ that will soon break out upon the whole world. Therefore a correct understanding of these events is more urgent now than it was 100 years ago.²⁴ What we believe today will impact how we live today. And how we live will determine our lot and inheritance in tomorrow's Kingdom. The Scriptures are clear: Kingdom rewards and responsibilities are merit-based.²⁵ Christians *will not* receive equal rewards and responsibilities. All will be decided at the Bema Seat,²⁶ where our years of faithfulness, holiness, obedience, and ardent devotion will be our witness.

We are nearer than farther to the Lord's return in His glorified humanity. Some insist that Jesus will set up the Kingdom only *after* He arrives *in person*—and not before. They see no need for great preparation beforehand. Yet nothing in Scripture supports that notion. Jesus will *again* send His messengers *before* His face. No Scripture forbids Him.

- ♦ He led the Magi through a great distance to arrive in Bethlehem in time for His birth.
- ♦ He summoned the local shepherds to gather at the very place where He was born.
- ♦ He chose Zacharias and Elizabeth to bear His forerunner John the Baptist.
- ♦ He singled out the Virgin Mary to give Him birth and life in the flesh.
- ♦ He called on Simeon and Anna to raise the Jewish expectation of their Messiah.
- ♦ He sent John the Baptist to preach that the Kingdom was at hand.
- ♦ He selected 12 men and taught them Kingdom principles.
- ♦ He sent out the 70 to spread His message throughout Israel.
- ♦ He chose the 120, then 3,000, and 5,000 and many more to *spread* the Gospel to the entire world.
- ♦ He will yet choose 144,000 Melchizedek Priests to prepare the world for His personal return in glory.

Clearly great preparation is to be expected before the arrival of the Kingdom—just as the Lord prepares a soul with an inward work of grace long *before* conversion—sometimes over many years. And the Lord is pleased to involve His faithful ones in *proclaiming, setting up, and administering* His glorious Kingdom-plan. †††

NOTES & SCRIPTURES

Scriptures are from the KJV. Unless otherwise noted all references to JL's writings are [Spirit's Day Abbreviations](#).

1 *Fountain of Gardens 3* (3F 3:15-21, January 18, 1676).

2 John 1:14.

3 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high. (Luk 24:49)

And, being assembled together with *them*, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, *saith he*, ye have heard of me. (Act 1:4)

Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear. (Act 2:33)

4 John Chapter 14-16.

5 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, *saith he*, ye have heard of me. (Act 1:4)

6 *Third Message* (3M P:5).

7 *Alarm to the Lamb's Holy Warriors* (AL 27a).

8 Rev. 20:4.

9 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: (1Th 4:16)

10 See [Notes on the Body of Sin](#).

11 And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. (Gen 2:23)

12 Acts Chapter 2.

Revelation of Revelations (RR 1:2).

13 A deeper search the Holy One makes in them, who in this last age are waiting to be endowed with the full acting Body of the Deity, which will be manifested in a different manner than in the days of the Apostles, that being by way of gift, coming down as a shower. But now those who shall be endowed with this signal blessing must have it by way of a birth in them. (RR 1:2)

14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. (Rom 6:14)

15 See [Notes on Second Pentecost](#). Also [Q&A Mar. 2026 #171](#); [Q&A Aug. 2026 #203](#).

16 Be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. (Rev 19:7)

17 O my dove, *that art* in the clefts of the rock, in the secret *places* of the stairs, let me see thy countenance, let me hear thy voice; for sweet is thy voice, and thy countenance is comely. (Song 2:14)

Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless. (2Pe 3:14)

And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. (Rev 21:2)

Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, *is* mount Zion, *on* the sides of the north, the city of the great King. (Psa. 48:2)

18 *Fountain of Gardens 3* (3F 1:13, Jan. 4, 1678)

19 This Chart will be developed more fully in a future update to Q&A Oct. 2025: Jane Lead's Eschatology.

20 Jane explains the four comings of the Lord in *Fountain of Gardens 3* (3F 3:15-21, January 18, 1678):

1. First Coming: As God manifested in flesh.
2. Second Coming: As the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost.
3. Third Coming: As a Thief in the Night for His Bridal Church.
4. Fourth Coming: Personally in His glorified humanity, to turn the world into a Paradise.

21 *Sixty Propositions* (60P:36).

Joh. 14:1-3; 1Cor. 15:1-53; 1Thes. 4:13-18; Rom. 8:19; 1Cor. 1:7-8, 16:22; Phil. 3:20-21; Col. 3:4; 1Thes. 1:10, 2:19, 5:9, 23; 2Thes. 2:1, 3; 1Tim. 6:14 2Tim. 4:1; Tit. 2:13; Heb. 9:28; Jas. 5:7-9; 1Pet. 1:7, 13; 1Joh. 2:28-3:2; Jud. 21; Rev. 2:25, 3:10.

22 *Revelation of Revelations*, Chapter 10.

23 *Enochian Walks with God* (EN 6:2).

Dan. 2:44-45, 7:9-14; 12:1-3; Zec. 14:1-15; Mat. 13:41, 24:15-31, 26:64; Mar. 13:14-27, 14:62; Luk. 21:25-28; Acts 1:9-11, 3:19-21; 1Thes. 3:13; 2Thes. 1:6-10, 2:8; 2Pet. 3:1-14; Jud. 14-15; Rev. 1:7, 19:11-20:6, 22:7, 12, 20.

24 Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began. (Act 3:21)

25 To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God. (Rev 2:7)

He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death. (Rev 2:11)

To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it. (Rev 2:17)

He that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: (Rev 2:26)

He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess

his name before my Father, and before his angels. (Rev 3:5)

Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name. (Rev 3:12)

To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. (Rev 3:21)

He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. (Rev 21:7)

26 But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. (Rom 14:10)

Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad. (2Co 5:9-10)