

## Perhaps This Year!

Scripture: Acts 1:9–11

Introduction: As January draws to a close, it's good to remind ourselves again that this may be the year Christ returns. At the Ascension, two angels told the disciples that He would return "in like manner" as He departed. That implies:

1. His Return Will Be Physical. "This same Jesus . . . will so come in like manner." It will be a bodily return, as literal, physical, and bodily as His Ascension.
2. His Return Will Be Visible. He was taken up before their very eyes, as they watched intently. (See Zech. 12:10; Rev. 1:7; Mark 14:62; Matt. 24:30.)
3. His Return Will Be in the Clouds. Many scholars believe the clouds receiving Him were the Shekinah clouds of God's glory. He will come again in like manner. (See Dan. 7:13; Matt. 24:30; 26:64; 1 Thess. 4:17; Rev. 1:7.)
4. His Return Will Be to the Mount of Olives. The place whence He left. (See Zech. 14:2–9.)

Conclusion: Are you ready for that day? He will come physically, visibly, in clouds of glory, to the Mount of Olives. And we shall behold Him, face to face, in all of His glory. Think of *that* the next time you see a cloud in the eastern sky.