

## The Epic Movie



My son, who is almost 4 years, had an unusual request. He wanted to see the future!

John was fascinated to watch a video of his mother during pregnancy and of himself as a newborn infant. At the end he asked, 'Mama see DVD John big!' He must have reasoned that since it is possible to see the past, why can't we see the future as well? That's interesting, but he can't see it just yet since we are still working on that movie.

Futuristic movies are interesting, but of course, they are mere fiction. However there is one that is true and factual. God, the author of history who knows the end from the beginning, gave us a photo album with scenes from the past and others that are yet to come.

In the Bible we have a beautiful picture of the visit of the eternal Son of God to our world when he was born of the blessed virgin. Other scenes depict his moral beauty, amazing love and divine power, especially in his acts of kindness and mighty miracles. There are also dreadful scenes depicting the hatred and rejection of Christ by his own people, and of him in agony and bleeding to death on the cross. However the last photo in this album is not the grave - for Christ was resurrected and returned to the Father.

These events have already occurred, but the Scriptures also foretell the future, revealing how Jesus is coming again, no longer in poverty, humility and obscurity, but in brilliant glory and the power of the King of kings and Lord of Lords. Then every eye shall see him, every knee shall bow before him, and every creature will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

When Christ returns, the dead will be raised, and he will judge the world, condemning the evil to hell, and rewarding those who love and trust in him. On that momentous day, Jesus will fulfill his wonderful promise to his people, 'I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also' (John 14:3).

What part shall we play in that movie? That video is being filmed right now. Our role in that epic story depends on our current response to the Son of God. To those who receive him in his first advent, who entrust themselves to his care and follow him, Jesus will also receive them at his second coming. But those who ignore him and who are ashamed of him today, he will also reject on that day.

The disciples of Christ have a great desire to watch the final and best episode of the drama of redemption. We want to see the DVD of the future, for we are 'waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ' (Titus 2:13).

My sincere prayers and wishes of joy and peace to all the readers of this letter.