



## MARANATHA

### *What does that mean?*

“What's this word, *Maranatha*,” you may be asking. “Is this a new word? Is it the brand of some new product? What language is it?”

No, it is not the name, of a product. And no, it's not a new word. It's been around for more than 2,000 years. It's actually an Aramaic word - a Middle Eastern language used way back in Persian, Greek and Roman times. The word has been used in many languages, in fact, you could call it an international word. It is pronounced -

mar - an - **arth** - a

with the accent on **arth**. It rhymes with Martha.

But what does the word mean? It means, “**The Master is coming!**” The word is used once only in the Bible - in 1 Corinthians 16:22, where it refers to the return of the **Heavenly Master**, Y'shua the Messiah (Jesus Christ), at the end of this age.

You may question, “Is Jesus Christ coming back again?”

Yes, most definitely! This is what the Bible has clearly prophesied, and this is what the followers of the Master are keenly waiting for.

Many, in fact, are expecting the Master's return in the very near future - within our lifetime. It could occur any day now, for dozens of signs given in Scripture are pointing to our present times, and they emphasize that we are indeed living in the last days of this age.

Most followers of Y'shua (that's the original Hebrew Name of Jesus) are keenly waiting and longing for the return of the Messiah.

(Messiah means, “The Anointed One” - the One who was sent to earth to be the Saviour of the world). The promise of Y'shua to His people, is soon to be fulfilled:

“In My Father's House are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you, for I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and receive you to Myself, so that you also, may be where I am.” (John 14:2-3)

Yes, Jesus Christ is coming back again; first, to receive His people - to catch them up to meet Him in the clouds, as the apostle Paul has clearly written ...

“For the Master Himself will descend from heaven with **a shout**, with the voice of the archangel, and with **the trumpet call of God**. Then the dead in Christ -

*those who died in union with the Messiah* - shall rise first. Then we, the living *believers* who remain, will be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Master in the air. And so we will be with the Master for ever.”

(1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)

Secondly, He, the Heavenly Master, the Creator of our whole universe, will return to establish the glorious Kingdom of God on earth. He will not allow this present age to go on in its suffering, rebellion, and mad rush towards self-destruction. He will bring an end to all injustice, corruption, famines and wars. Y'shua, the Anointed One, will purge the world of evil, and bring restoration, peace and righteousness to the nations. He is “the Hope of all nations,” and “the Hope of all Ages.”

“Look! He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him ... they will see the Son of Man (the Messiah) coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory.”

Then He will be given “authority, glory and a kingdom, that all the peoples, nations, and men of every language should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and His kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.”

(Revelation 1:7. Matthew 24:30. Daniel 7:14)

Friend, are you ready for the coming of the Master? If you are not ready to meet Him, call on Him today!

“For this reason you also be ready; for, the Son of Man (*Y'shua*), *is* coming at an hour when you do not think *He will.*” (Matthew 24:44)