

GRAMMAR

The future simple tense is used :

- about decisions taken at the time you are speaking-
e.g. I'll lend you my Bible, but be careful with it!
- For predicting the future [with the words believe / hope / think]

We use going to for plans which have been made in the past-
e.g. I'm going to ask her to marry me.

Going to is also used for predictions or prophecies about which we are certain-
e.g. Jesus is going to return to earth one day! There is a going to be a day of judgment for the cities that rejected the disciples (Mark 4:11).

This means that 'going to' is a verb form often used by Christians, because they are certain of the things which God has promised about the future. Christians believe, and they hope. So, the future simple tense is for them!

3 Look at these Bible verses, and make up sentences from them, using the future simple tense, or going to. Here is an example:

"This Jesus, who was taken from you into heaven, will come again, in the same way as you saw him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11- spoken by the Angel to the disciples, as they watched Jesus going up to Heaven at the end of his earthly life)

I believe that I will see Jesus one day.

I hope that Jesus will return soon.

I know that Jesus is going to return.

a) We are "waiting for his Son from heaven, who came back from the dead, even Jesus, our Saviour, who will save us from the wrath to come" (1 Thessalonians 1:10)

b) "The Lord himself will come down from heaven with a word of authority, with the voice of the chief angel, with the sound of a horn: and the dead in Christ will come to life ... then we who are still living will ... see the Lord ... and so will we be for ever with the Lord" (1 Thess. 4:16,17)

c) "Jesus, who will be the judge of the living and the dead, [at the time of] his return and [the establishment of] his kingdom" (2 Timothy 4:1)

