

The Return of Christ

Four things to know



Context of 2 Peter:

- ◆ A book of reminders (1.9–15)
 - ◆ Remember the Son - 1.16–18
 - ◆ Remember the Spirit's message - 1.19–21
 - ◆ Remember God's goodness and severity - 2.9
 - ◆ Remember the escape in Christ - 2.20
 - ◆ Remember the impact of this life - 2.21–22
 - ◆ Remember what I, and others, wrote earlier - 3.1–2

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2 Peter 3

- ◆ **People will question the reality of His return (3.3-4).**
 - ◆ **This is a short-sighted perspective – 3.5-6.**
 - ◆ **God acted previously and God will act in the future.**
 - ◆ **The “day of the Lord” (3.10) has always come:**
 - ◆ **It came on Babylon – Isaiah 13.6,9**
 - ◆ **It came on Egypt – Ezekiel 30.3-4,10**
 - ◆ **It came in Acts 2 – Joel 2.28-32; Acts 2.16**
 - ◆ **We can be assured it will come in the future.**

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- ◆ He will come at an unknown time (3.10).
 - ◆ Jesus makes this phrase clear for us – Luke 12.39
 - ◆ Paul adds this all occurs in an instant – 1 Corinthians 15.52
- ◆ It is a moment of universal dissolution (3.10).
 - ◆ Paul mentions a trumpet's sound; Peter mentions a roar.
 - ◆ The heavens, elements, earth, and works will be “burned up” and “destroyed” – 3.10–11

“Here it would properly denote the component parts of the material world; or those which enter into its composition, and of which it is made up.” (Albert Barnes, comments on 2 Peter 3.10)

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2 Peter 3

- ◆ This reality should impact us (3.11-15).
 - ◆ The unknown nature of Christ's return ought to impact how I live - 3.11
 - ◆ I should "await with desire" Christ's return (hasten - 3.12).
 - ◆ We should look for something better than this life - 3.13
 - ◆ Again, I must allow the reality of His return to impact me - 3.14
 - ◆ I ought to treat each day as an opportunity to draw closer to God and fix what is wrong in my life - 3.15
 - ◆ I should treat each day as God giving an opportunity for one more person to come to Him - 3.9