

## Where is the Promise of His Coming?

2 Peter 3.1-7

Peter wrote this letter so that Christians would *hold on to hope* – the hope of Christ’s second coming, and of His kingdom. But ‘hope killers’ are on the loose! They mockingly say, *Forget it, he isn’t coming back! Nothing has changed since the beginning of time!* But they willingly forget...

**What the scoffers say...and why (3-4)**

- Their desire: To sin with impunity (3)
- Their message: Jesus isn’t coming again (4)

**What the scoffers forget...because they want to (5-7)**

- Past: *By God’s word*, the world was created and destroyed (5-6)
- Future: *By God’s word*, the world will be destroyed by fire (7)

**What we should remember...and why (1-2)**

- The words of the prophets
- The commandment of our Lord and Savior  
*Matt. 24.42; 25.13; Mark 13.33, 35, 37; Luke 21.36*

**Digging Deeper**

1. Read 2 Peter 3.1-2. What one thing does Peter want his readers to do? Where else does Peter say the same thing? (See chapter one.) Why is it *so important* that we do this? What is the danger for those who forget? What exactly does Peter want us to remember?
2. In verse 2, Peter refers to *the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets*. Peter has alluded to these prophecies before (1.4, 19-21). First-century Christians to whom Peter wrote did not have the New Testament, so he is obviously referring to *Old Testament* prophecies of – what??? (See 1.11-19; 3.4.)
3. Now for some fun...sadly, many Christians would be hard-pressed to think of any Old Testament Scripture that prophesies the Second Coming of Christ and His Messianic Kingdom. It’s time to correct this problem. Read the following passages, and ‘soak in’ some of God’s *precious and magnificent promises* (cf. 2 Peter 1.4) about the Second Coming of Christ and His Messianic Kingdom on earth.

*2 Samuel 7.16**1 Kings 2.45**Psalms 22.27-28**Ezek. 37 (esp. v.24)**Isaiah 2.1-4; 9.6-7; 11.1-9; 35.4-10; 65.17-25**Jer. 3.15-18; 31.31-40**Hosea 2.18-23**Joel 2.1-2; 3.16-21**Amos 9.11-15**Zephaniah 3.16-20**Zechariah 2.5-13; 9.9-10; 14.1-9*

4. What New Testament passages can you think of that also prophesy the Second Coming of Christ, and His reign on earth?
5. What *really* motivates false teachers (*mockers*) to deny the Second Coming of Christ (v3)? What is their ‘argument’ (v4)? How does Peter rebut their argument (vv5-7)?