

The Return of Christ – Part 1

2Peter 3:1-10

I. Introduction – Recap of Sonoma County Pastors Prayer Summit

1This is now the second letter that I am writing to you, beloved. In both of them I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, 2that you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles, 3knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. 4They will say, “Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation.” 5For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, 6and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished. 7But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

8But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you,^a not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. 10But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies^b will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.^c

11Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, 12waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! 13But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

II. Review of 2Peter -

a. Outline and Purpose – 2Peter 3:1

b. The hope of the Christian – When Christ returns God will _____ His people, _____ His enemies and _____ His earthly kingdom. (v. 13)

III. How to keep your hope and focus on the return of Christ:

a. Know the two ways the critics will try to get you to doubt your faith:

i. _____ - vv. 3, 5

ii. Teach and promote a _____ universe – v. 4
(Uniformitarianism)

b. Know God’s answers to the critics:

i. God’s Word teaches an _____ universe – v. 5-7

1. Seen in Creation – v. 5; Genesis 1:1-10

2. Seen in the Flood – v. 6; Genesis 7:11

ii. God created _____ and exists outside of _____ - v. 8
“Beyond Personality” by C. S. Lewis

iii. God is _____ towards _____. V. 9; Exodus 34:6; Ezekiel 18:32; 1 Timothy 2:4; Genesis 8:20-22