2 PETER/JUDE

Growing In Truth. Guarding The Faith. Living Ready.

When People Stop Believing Jesus Is Coming

BIG IDEA: What we believe about Christ's return will shape how we live right now.

1. We Need To Keep Remembering What God Has Already Said

2 Peter 3:1
Dear friends, this is now my second letter to you. I have written both of them as **reminders** to stimulate you to wholesome thinking.

2 Peter 3:2
I want you to recall the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets and the command given by our Lord and Savior through your apostles.

- Faith is tested not only by believing God can act, but by trusting Him when He doesn't act as expected.

2. Scoffing At God Often Starts With Resisting Him

2 Peter 3:3
Above all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires.

- Sometimes the problem isn't that truth is difficult to understand; it's that truth interferes with how we want to live.

3. Mockers assume that if nothing seems to change, nothing ever will

2 Peter 3:4
They say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation."

- Just because something hasn't happened yet doesn't mean it never will.

4. History Proves That God Can Interrupt What Seems Normal

2 Peter 3:5–6
But they deliberately forget…

2 Peter 3:5–6
But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens came into being and the earth was formed out of water and by water. By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed.

- God works within history, and God will bring history to its appointed end.
    - History is His-Story!
- We must resist selective forgetting.

5. God's Patience Today Shouldn't Be Mistaken for God's Inactivity Tomorrow

2 Peter 3:7
By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

- History isn't aimless; it's moving toward Jesus.

6. What We Believe About Tomorrow Changes How We Live Today

2 Peter 3:11
What kind of people ought you to be?

- Biblical prophecy is meant to produce holy living, not endless speculation.
- True expectation produces thorough preparation.

7. Christ's Return Gives Hope When Evil Seems to Win

- Jesus' return means evil doesn't get the final word; Jesus does!