

# ***Christ Will Return Unexpectedly; Do You Believe in Jesus Today?***

**2 Peter 3:3–10**<sup>1</sup>

## **WHAT IS TRUE AND WHAT TO DO:**

Peter has said he wants to stir believers to action by reminding them of the truth (v.1). Having turned his attention to false teachers in Chapter 2, Peter now deals with one of the false teachings circulating: Jesus Christ will not return (v. 3–4). Peter refutes this false claim and encourages believers to pay attention to God's sovereignty and true prophecy (*the Word of God*), not scoffers (v. 5–7). God is timeless, patient, and merciful. He is patient with and loves lost sinners. Make no mistake about the truth: Jesus will certainly return, and His prophetic Word will bring judgment. *So, ask Jesus to be your Lord and Savior today!*

### **1.) False Teaching about Christ's Coming (v. 3–4)**

- a. Their **agenda** is driven by selfish, evil desires (v. 3)
- b. Their **argument** is false; they forget nature's laws are God's (v. 4)

### **2.) How God's actions Reveal His nature; The Reasons for the Delay of Christ's Return (v. 5–10)**

- a. God is **sovereign** (v. 5–7)
  - He already **intervened** in history: at **creation** and in the **flood**; He can be expected to intervene again when Christ returns; His track record is that He can (and will) do it again
  - When the Day of the Lord comes, it will be **too late**
  - Instead of water, the coming judgment will be by **fire**
  - His action(s) on that day come about by the power of **His Word**
- b. God is **timeless** and eternal (v. 8)
  - Counting time is irrelevant; all time is **near** for God (Ps. 90:4)
- c. God is patiently **merciful**; His delay is not a betrayal; He waits for a time for those who have yet to believe so they do not perish! (v. 9)
- d. God is **just**; As righteous judge, He will bring about what is fair (v. 10); the Day of the Lord will culminate in God's final judgment and destruction of the wicked on the earth (v.10, Matt. 24:35,42–44; Lk. 21:25; 1 Thess 5:2–3; Isa. 34:4, 13:10-13; 24:19; 64:1–4; Rev. 3:3, 16:15); Water literally destroyed in the past, so shall fire in the future

**CONCLUSION AND APPLICATION:** Jesus will certainly return, and His prophetic Word will bring judgment. *So, ask Jesus to be your Lord and Savior today!*

<sup>1</sup> Shaddix, James, and Daniel L. Akin. Exalting Jesus in 2 Peter, Jude. Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 2018.