# ShalomAZ Ministries

In Pursuit of Israel's Redemption

# Not Cleverly Invented: The Power and Promise of His Coming

Rabbi Cosmo Panzetta **Devotion and Discussin Questions** 

**Key Texts: 2 Peter 1:16-21;** *2 Peter 3:3-4; Mark 9:1-10; Ps. 2:6-7; Is. 42:1; Dan. 12:8-9* The older Peter writes like a man who knows his time is short. He isn't wasting words, isn't chasing side topics, and isn't trying to impress with eloquence. Instead, he goes straight to one truth the enemy was attacking in his day — and still attacks in ours: the certainty of Yeshua's return. False teachers were dismissing it as fantasy, calling it a cleverly invented story. But Peter pushes back hard. He says, "We did not follow cleverly concocted tales... but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty" (2 Peter 1:16 TLV).

Peter points to an event burned into his soul — the day he stood on a mountain and saw Yeshua transfigured in glory. He heard the voice of the Father. He saw a glimpse of the Kingdom to come. And Peter anchors this experience to the unshakable Word of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit. His message to us is clear: when the world mocks our hope, we stand on what is certain — the power and promise of His coming.

## 1. NOT A MYTH, BUT A MOUNTAIN

Peter knew the scoffers' accusations: "You apostles just made this up." He answers with a memory so vivid it still gives him courage: the Transfiguration. On that high mountain, Yeshua's appearance changed — His clothes blindingly radiant, His face shining with heavenly glory. Then came Moses and Elijah, representing the Law and the Prophets, talking with Him. And then the voice from the Majestic Glory thundered: "This is My Son, whom I love. With Him I am well pleased. Listen to Him!"

This wasn't secondhand. Peter didn't get it from a book, rumor, or old tradition. He stood there trembling with James/Jacob and John, watching the impossible unfold. It was a preview of Yeshua's coming glory, a foretaste of His return. Peter can face death without flinching because he knows what he saw and heard. For us, the lesson is this: our hope in His coming isn't built on wishful thinking. It's built on the testimony of those who stood in the presence of His glory — and whose lives proved they would rather die than deny the truth.

#### 2. MORE CERTAIN THAN SIGHT

And here's the critical point: Peter says **there's something** *more certain* **than even his eyewitness experience** — the Word of God (v. 19). Most of us assume that seeing is believing, but Peter says believing God's Word is even more solid than seeing. Why? Because memory can fade, but the written Word stands forever.

Peter urges us to cling to Scripture like "a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts" (v. 19). This world can feel like a deep cave, where shadows twist truth and fear whispers in the dark. The Word is our light — not an optional accessory, but our survival guide until Yeshua comes. That's why we must hold it close, read it faithfully, and test every "new" teaching against it. When

the lamp of the Word is burning bright in your life, no amount of darkness can extinguish your hope.

#### 3. CARRIED BY THE SPIRIT

Finally, Peter reminds us that prophecy doesn't come from human imagination or private interpretation. "Rather, people spoke from God as they were moved by the Ruach ha-Kodesh" (v. 21). The picture is of a sailboat carried by the wind — the prophets and apostles were the vessels, but the Holy Spirit was the One driving them forward.

This truth is critical in a world flooded with voices claiming fresh revelation. God's Word is not the product of human creativity. It is the Spirit-inspired revelation of the Creator Himself. And that's why it's trustworthy. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets lives in us, guiding us into truth, guarding our faith, and anchoring us in the unshakable promise: Yeshua is coming again. When the Spirit is your wind and the Word is your compass, you will not drift off course — no matter how fierce the storm.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Peter was facing death, but his confidence was unshakable. He had seen Yeshua's glory, heard the Father's voice, and trusted the Spirit-inspired Word. That's why he could urge believers to stand firm, even when the scoffers laughed and the wait felt long.

Maybe today your hope has been shaken. Maybe the darkness feels heavier than the light. Peter's message is for you: this hope is not cleverly invented. It's grounded in the eyewitness testimony of those who saw His glory and in the eternal Word of God. The Morning Star is coming. The dawn will break. The King will return. Will He find you ready? Today is the day to fix your eyes on His Word, open your heart to His Spirit, and place your trust fully in the power and promise of His coming.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- 1. Why is the Transfiguration such a powerful affirmation of Yeshua's return?
- 2. How does Peter's statement that Scripture is "more certain" than experience challenge your view of faith?
- 3. What does it mean to "pay attention to the lamp" in your daily life?
- 4. How can we guard ourselves from twisting Scripture to fit personal ideas?
- 5. What is one practical step you can take this week to keep your hope anchored in His Word?

#### **CLOSING PRAYER:**

Abba, we thank You for the power and promise of Yeshua's coming. Thank You for the testimony of Peter and the apostles, for the light of Your Word, and for the Holy Spirit who carries us in truth. Strengthen our hearts to hold fast when the world mocks our hope. Keep us from drifting and from chasing after cleverly invented ideas. Let the light of Your Word shine brightly in us until the day dawns and the Morning Star rises. We wait for You, Lord Yeshua, with hearts full of faith.

In Yeshua's Name we pray, amen.