

# An Appointment You Won't Miss

(2 Peter 3:1-14)

- Introduction:
1. From what is written, it appears that some early Christians had the notion that the Lord would return soon.
    - a. (2 Thessalonians 2:2-3; 2 Timothy 2:17-18).
  2. But as the years passed, they, no doubt, had to have had some questions.
  3. To be sure, the skeptics increased in their doubts.
  4. There remains many people who are skeptical about this "*Second Coming*."
    - a. Some openly confess this skepticism.
    - b. Others, by their actions, doubt His return.
  5. In this chapter, Peter made arguments to defend the faith that Jesus will return again.

## I. Two Arguments Concerning The Time Of The Second Coming Of Jesus

- A. Argument Number One — *Since It Happened Once, Why Could It Not Happen Again?* (1 Peter 3:1-7).
  1. Peter reminds his readers that once before, men said things would continue uninterrupted.
  2. But the flood came as promised, and destroyed the unprepared skeptics (Genesis 6-7; Matthew 24:37-39).
- B. Argument Number Two — *The Time Elapsed Does Not Negate The Promise Of God.* (2 Peter 3:8-10).
  1. Peter declares that God does not operate in regard to time.
  2. Trying to confine God to a time schedule is like:
    - a. Weighing honesty.
    - b. Measuring love by miles.
  3. After a period of years, man begins to worry and doubt, but to God who is eternal, such a small time is as nothing.
  4. One reason for the elapsed time is the longsuffering of God.

## II. The Manner Of Jesus' Second Coming

- A. (2 Peter 3:10).
- B. When the Lord does come, He will come as a thief in the night - without warning, without announcement, suddenly and unexpected.
- C. (Matthew 24:36-44).

## III. How To Live In View Of His Coming

- A. (2 Peter 3:11-14).
- B. Only godliness and holiness will prepare us in the day of the Lord.
- C. A judgment of God is described in Revelation 6:12-17 & Amos 4:12.
- D. We must give diligence to make sure we are prepared every day since He's coming as a thief.
- E. No excuses will stand in the day of the Lord (Galatians 6:7).

- Conclusion:
1. If I was unprepared for the Lord's return, I think I would tremble as Felix did (Acts 24:25).
  2. If you have trusted in Jesus, then rejoice in your salvation and anticipate His return with boldness.