

Rely on Jesus' Return Message 5

> Perry Duggar May 29, 2022

Outl	ine

But the day of the Lord will come as unexpectedly as a thief. . . .

2 Peter 3:10 (NLT)

A. Introduction (2 Peter 3:1)

- B. Jesus' return is reliable because... (2 Peter 3:2-10)
- 1. God's Word is _____. (2 Peter 3:2-4. C/R: Isaiah 66:15-16; Daniel 7:13-14; Luke 21:26-31; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-8; Jude 14-15,17-18)

2.	God's work is
	(2 Peter 3:5-7. C/R: Numbers 23:19;
	Psalm 102:25-27; 135:6-7; Colossians 1:15-17)

3. God's will is _____.
(2 Peter 3:8-10. C/R: Joel 2:13-14; John 3:17; Romans 2:3-4; 1
Thessalonians 5:2)

Answers: 1. true 2. consistent 3. merciful

Resource Information: Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, a Division of Tyndale House Ministries, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved. C/R refers to a 'cross reference.' Today's outline and discussion guide are available through the Brookwood Church app.

Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus. To connect with others, visit <u>brookwoodchurch.org/adults</u>.

Conversation Starter

As a child or young adult, what did you patiently wait for that eventually happened in your life?

Begin your study with prayer

Pause for a few minutes to quiet your heart and mind. Then ask God for insight and direction as you study and reflect on this week's lesson.

Bible Study and Group Discussion

Read 2 Peter 3:1-10.

- 1. Throughout the ages, God has spoken to us through His written and spoken Word. How and when have the Scriptures been the voice of God to you?
- 2. Peter called false teachers *scoffers* because they mocked and made fun of people who believed Jesus was coming back. How are scoffers different than people who have sincere doubts and questions?
- 3. Since false teachers didn't believe in the coming of Christ, they had no incentive to live holy lives (they followed *their own desires*, vs. 3). Do you believe Jesus will return? What impact has this had on your daily life?
- 4. Have you ever been ridiculed, pushed aside or made fun of because of your faith? Describe what happened and how you responded. What impact did that interaction have on your relationship with them and with God?
- 5. Compare and contrast the use of fire and water in this passage. What's the significance of each?
- 6. Peter cites several examples that demonstrate God's consistency. What are they? What are ways God has shown consistency (faithfulness) in your life?

- 7. How does Peter describe the timing and nature of Jesus' return? What's your internal reaction as you reflect on these things?
- 8. Describe a time you experienced or witnessed God's patience or mercy. How did that change you?
- 9. What new perspective does this passage give you about God?
- 10. In what ways does this passage challenge your values?
- 11. How can relying on Jesus' return change how you live this week?

Spiritual Practice

A spiritual practice is training for the soul. By building these into your everyday life, you're sure to strengthen your relationship with God.

Read and reflect on the first two chapters of Genesis and the last two chapters of Revelation. Thank God for His promise to restore Eden and for showing patience and mercy to everyone. Pray for specific people you know who are far away from God. Ask Him to invade their hearts with grace and to deepen your own longing for Jesus' return.

Memory Verse

The Lord isn't really being slow about His promise, as some people think. No, He is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent.

2 Peter 3:9 (NLT)

Daily Reading

Day 1: Luke 21:26-33 Day 4: Joel 2:13-14 Day 2: Numbers 23:19 Day 5: Romans 2:3-4

Day 3: Colossians 1:15-17

Prepare for Next Sunday

Next Sunday, June 5, we'll conclude our series *Remember!* To prepare, read **2 Peter 3:11-18.**

