



JULY 11/12
THERE'S A
SECOND COMING
JASON STRAND

KEY SCRIPTURE

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18

First, all the Christians who have died will rise from their graves. Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air and remain with him forever. So comfort and encourage each other with these words.

2 Peter 3:3-4

I want to remind you that in the last days there will be scoffers who will laugh at the truth and do every evil thing they desire. This will be their argument: "Jesus promised to come back, did he? Then where is he? As far back as anyone can remember, everything has remained exactly the same since the world was first created."

2 Peter 3:8-10

But you must not forget, dear friends, that a day is like a thousand years to the Lord, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord isn't really being slow

about his promise to return, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to perish, so he is giving more time for everyone to repent. But the day of the Lord will come as unexpectedly as a thief. Then the heavens will pass away with a terrible noise, and everything in them will disappear in fire, and the earth and everything on it will be exposed to judgment.

2 Peter 3:12-14

You should look forward to that day and hurry it along—the day when God will set the heavens on fire and the elements will melt away in the flames. But we are looking forward to the new heavens and new earth he has promised, a world where everyone is right with God. While you are waiting for these things to happen, make every effort to live a pure and blameless life. And be at peace with God.

NOTES

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Many things in the Bible are difficult to believe. In this weekend's message, we learned what the Bible says about Jesus' return—that, as believers, there is nothing to fear because we will see Jesus face to face.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you ever think about the second coming of Christ? What emotion do you experience when you do? How can we be prepared for Christ's return? What specifically can you commit to doing differently that would give you peace of mind about it?
2. Pastor Jason Strand said the odds of having 48 Old Testament prophecies fulfilled regarding the first coming of Christ are one in one trillion to the 13th power! What does this accuracy mean to you? Knowing that there are five times more prophecies about Jesus' second coming, are you more confident believing Jesus will return again?
3. As a follower of Jesus, do you ever feel scoffed at? Have you ever had to defend your faith? Are there people in your life who don't seem to understand why you believe? Read **2 Peter 3**. What assurance and encouragement do you find in Peter's letter?
4. Read **2 Peter 3:9**. Consider that a loving and gracious God loves you so much that he's patiently waiting for his people to repent and come to him. Of all the man-made idols and gods that are worshipped today, is there any other who loves and cares for his people like this? Discuss this amazing love and grace.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Jesus kept every promise he ever made, including his promise to return again. What promises in your life has Jesus kept? Tweet about your gratitude for the blessings He has given you with **#HardToBelieve**.

COMMIT TO MEMORY

We are looking forward to the new heavens and new earth he has promised, a world where everyone is right with God. While you are waiting for these things to happen, make every effort to live a pure and blameless life. **2 Peter 3:13-14**