



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Mark Sermon Series

Supports Session 10: Returning

Sermon Title: "The Day of the Lord" (2 Peter 3:3-18)

Connection to Session 10

The return or second coming of Jesus will be orchestrated by God. Jesus taught about His return in the Gospels. We also learn about Christ's return from the epistles of Paul and Peter.

Introduction/Opening

As they wait for the return of Jesus, believers will have to persevere through menacing opposition to the plans and promises of God. Believers must be prepared for Jesus to return at any moment. God's people will receive the prophesied heaven promised by Jesus.

Outline

1. Scoffers in the Last Days

- a. Peter warned his readers about the last days, or the period of time between Christ's incarnation and His return.
- b. Scoffers will be present, who are literally "mocking mockers" following their distorted, selfish desires.
- c. Christians need to resist the compelling, arrogant words of these mockers who seek to pull them away from the truth of the gospel.

2. False Teaching of the Last Days

- a. The scoffers "deliberately overlook" (v. 5) the sovereign power of God. They fail to recognize God as Creator and overlook the judgment wrought by the flood (v. 6).
- b. Instead of accepting God as creator and judge, scoffers claim everything continues as it always has. People live their lives and then they die.

3. God's Word Teaches about the Last Days

- a. However, the Word of God reveals the following:
 - i. Jesus will return to earth in triumphant glory to gather His believing church.
 - ii. The existing earth will be destroyed.
 - iii. God will judge every person.
 - iv. God will create “new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness dwells” (v. 13).
 - v. God will judge and confine to an eternal hell those who have rebelled against Him.

4. How Believers Should Live in the Last Days

- a. We can trust the Lord. God has not revealed the time of His return, so we are to be prepared for His coming which could be at any moment.
- b. We are to wait patiently for His return, abiding in His commands.
- c. Instead of being led astray, we are to seek to grow in grace and knowledge of the Lord. We are to grow by knowing His word and experiencing His life within us.

Conclusion

An unbelieving world denies the coming day of Jesus's return. Many fail to recognize God as our sovereign Creator and Jesus as His Son. The return of Jesus will occur when God determines that the time is right. As Christians, we're to stand alert, abiding in Him each day. Are you ready?

Ken and Welda Cox live in New Boston, Texas. In 2012 Ken retired from First Baptist Church after 20 years of service. Ken has been active in prison ministry since 1995 and presently serves as interim pastor of Mount Moriah Baptist Church, Omaha, Texas. Ken and Welda have six children and nine grandchildren.

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