

# Where is the Promise of His Coming?

People have been asking for centuries whether Jesus will return to the earth. Not only this, but when will it happen? More than two thousand years have passed since it was first promised and here we are – in the 21<sup>st</sup> century – and the world is in a worse mess than ever!

In Peter's second letter he prophesied that many 'in the last days' would actually use these words to ridicule the idea of the second coming:

*Scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, "Where is the promise of his coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation" (2 Peter 3:3-4).*

## No Doubt

We do not know if he could have foreseen that his words would still prove true two thousand years later. There was no doubt in Peter's mind that he would see the Lord Jesus on earth again because he had been witness to his ascension and had heard the announcement of the angels:

*And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw him go into heaven" (Acts 1:10-11).*

Peter compared the second coming of the Lord and the judgement of God on the world to the flood in the time of Noah. That catastrophic event actually happened. It isn't just a children's story about animals going into a wooden ark. It is a record of the fact that God will not allow man to go his own way for ever.

*For this they wilfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water (2 Peter 3:5-6).*

## A Promise Coming True

It may seem improbable to many that these promises will ever come true after all this time, but Peter realised this when he wrote:

*But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance (v8-9).*

In view of the certainty of God's promise, are we preparing now for the second coming of the Lord Jesus?

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