

Something to Look Forward To

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I. Introduction.

A. For most believers the Second Coming of Christ is not central to Christian doctrine nor does it impact their everyday lives.

B. The Second Coming of Christ answers the problem of pain and suffering.

C. Text: II Peter 3.

II. We do not think about the Second Coming because so much time has gone by and because it seems irrelevant.

III. We need to cling to the promise of Christ's return because Creation shows that God always does what He promises to do.

IV. What will accompany Jesus' return.

A. The destruction of the earth—God must recreate it.

1. There could be no love and worship without freedom. In this, Adam and Eve chose disobedience, which resulted in sin, sorrow and death.

2. God chose to rescue His prize possessions.

3. One will quit blaming God when the Second Coming becomes central.

4. We spend a lot of time trying to carve out a little piece of heaven in the world to little avail.

5. When we see something we do not like we should say, "Come quickly Jesus," but many Christians do not want Him to come back because it would be an interruption.

B. The end of sin, sorrow and death.

1. People will spend less time preparing for this life and more time preparing others to live for the next.

2. The solution for sin, sorrow and death should impact all of our plans.

3. Jesus has not come back yet because when He returns He will do so in judgment. There will no longer be an opportunity to choose Christ.

4. Every soul is worth the price of all the suffering that humanity has to pay, so God waits.

V. The Second Coming should be the context for every life decision.

Application questions:

1. What are some things that demonstrate that the church does not view the Second Coming centrally?

2. Why is the Second Coming so important?

3. How will your life look different with a greater focus on the Second Coming? Explain.
