

The Day of the Lord
2 Peter 3:1-10

When Christians live in anticipation of Christ's promised return, they demonstrate spiritual zeal and enthusiasm, recognizing that they will soon be giving an account to their master...As the apostle John wrote, it is a purifying hope...But when believers forget about the second coming and begin focusing instead on the things of this world, they become absorbed in the temporal and become apathetic and cold toward the eternal.

Satan knows that if he can get the church to discount the importance of Christ's return, or even completely deny its reality, he can remove a very significant source of Christian hope and motivation. To that end the devil continually places skeptics and false teachers in the church, men who reject, minimize, or alter Jesus' promise. (MacArthur)

- I. One of the tremendous benefits we have in knowing Christ is the supernatural insight we've been given through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. It's knowledge that must be stimulated through constant exposure to the Word. We are told that when we do that, we bring about wholesome, and sincere thinking. On the flipside, it is possible to muddle our thinking through self-talk, the world's point of view, and the opinion of others if we allow God's Word to become a secondary source of wisdom and insight into the matters we are dealing with. When we do that, we will most certainly think the world's way instead of Christ's way.

2 Peter 3:1-2

Rom. 12:2

Phil. 4:8

2 Cor. 10:4-5 *For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,*

- II. We have been given a living hope that the world neither understands nor cares about. It's a hope that we have fled from the ways of the world to take a hold of, and it's a hope that is an anchor for the soul, firm and secure (**Heb. 6:18-19**). We look upon the world, not arrogantly but with humility, realizing that the judgment of God upon the ungodly will condemn them to hell. Their wisdom is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil, it is ludicrous to think that we should let it influence our relationship with Christ in any way.

2 Peter 3:3-7
James 3:13-15
1 Thess. 4:16-18
Zech. 14:3-4
Matt. 24:36
2 Peter 3:10
Rev. 16:15
Matt. 24:42-44
Rev. 3:3
Rev. 20:7-10

- III. God is not bound by time, which means that he is not limited by the physical laws and dimensions that govern our world. He alone determines the course of mankind and he alone determines when his prophetic promises are fulfilled. Meanwhile, he is drawing many into his kingdom to spare them from his coming wrath against those who oppose him. What's important to understand is that now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation (**2 Cor. 6:2**).

2 Peter 3:8-10
Amos 5:18-20
Rom. 8:22
2 Peter 3:13
Rev. 21:1
Rev. 21:3-5

Ps. 18:30 *As for God, his way is perfect: The LORD's word is flawless; he shields all who take refuge in him.*

Psalm 90: 4 *A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night.*

Isaiah 55:8-9 *"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.*