

creation.”

We are indeed in the last days. People mock and laugh at the notion that Jesus will return and the unrepentant will be judged. God’s amazing love in the face of mockers is seen in one of the key verses in this passage.

This key is found in verse 9, where God tells us why Jesus has not yet returned. **God desires that no one should perish!**

Jesus has not returned because God’s grace is still giving people the opportunity to call upon the Name of the Lord and be saved! Furthermore, God is merciful to the ungodly; thus, Jesus’ return is not yet.

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### Do Our Part To Hasten His Return

*“looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn!” (2 Peter 3:12)*

In the previous section, we stopped at 2 Peter 3:9; a few verses later, we see the above.

Peter seems to suggest that we can “hasten” the second coming. What does that mean?

The definition of the Greek word translated as **hasten** is:

Hastening - to “speed” (“study”), i.e. urge on (diligently or earnestly)...eagerly await

We are to “speed” up and eagerly anticipate the coming of Jesus. Since God does not want anyone to perish (sadly, many will), the one thing we can

do to hasten the day of the Lord is...**EVANGELISM!**

Preaching the Gospel unleashes the power of God unto salvation. The Gospel enables sinners to be saved.

That is what God desires!

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Seek His Return

*“Teaching us that, **denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; (13) Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;**” (Titus 2:12-13)*

Sound doctrine calls believers to **look FOR** Jesus coming again. It does not tell us to look **forward to**, but to look **for** Him.

Looking for Jesus goes hand-in-hand with godly living. Those who do not earnestly seek His return are likely living according to worldly lusts.

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### Conclusion - Come, Lord Jesus

*“He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.” (Revelation 22:20)*

Watching expectantly for Jesus’ second coming is the glorious hope of believers. **So watch, pray, shun deception, and be ready!**

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By: Robert Dallmann

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When Will Jesus Return?

When will Jesus come for the second time? This is a question that His followers have asked since His first coming.

The Bible says much about the Lord’s return, and we will examine some of these Scriptures in this article.

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### The Disciples Wanted To Know

*“And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him **privately**, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and **what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?** (4) And Jesus answered and said unto them, **Take heed that no man deceive you.**” (Matthew 24:3-4)*

The apostles specifically asked Jesus about the signs of His coming and the end of the world. They wanted to know!

Jesus’ answer to the question should be **very telling** to believers with ears to hear.

Jesus begins His answer **sternly warning** that His disciples must be **careful** to protect themselves from **deception**. *“Take heed that no man deceive you.”*

# WHEN WILL JESUS RETURN

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It would be logical for Jesus to tell them: *Take heed that no one deceives my sheep.* However, that is **not** what He said.

Jesus cautioned the men that He personally taught face-to-face for more than three years. He admonished the men that He was preparing to build His church.

If it was severe enough for Jesus to warn the apostles...we should heed His warning very earnestly!

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No One Knows

“But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. (37) But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. (38) For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, (39) And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.” (Matthew 24:36-39)

Later in Matthew 24, Jesus says no one knows when He will return. Nevertheless He continues to provide **clues** as to the signs of His coming.

His second coming will be like the days of Noah. Look at the descriptions of Noah’s time.

Eating, drinking, and marrying. The people were simply **living life**. Without food and water, we don’t continue to live. Without marriage, new life is not brought forth.

It is interesting to observe that the evil people in Noah’s time were more moral than many today. At least they were getting married. Unfortunately, in

our time, many people don’t get married, while others that should not be married are.

We are in the last days.

Another warning from the example of Noah is that the people were completely unaware of the **imminent danger**. Noah was a preacher of righteousness. He was building a massive ark.

The people had every opportunity to learn of the impending flood, yet they chose to be ignorant of the soon-coming peril.

Today is similar. Many warnings have been given to the world that Jesus is coming back. The earth’s population has no excuse for rejecting Jesus and the promise of His return.

People continue to live, while avoiding the truth of the **danger** coming upon everyone who has rejected Jesus.

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## Jesus Told Us When He Would Come Back

*“Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; (36) And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. (37) Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching... (38) And if he shall come in the second watch...(39) And this know, that if the goodman of the house...(40) Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.”* (Luke 12:35-40)

Jesus clearly says that He will return **when we think He will not**.

His commentary says that we must **be ready** for Him to return. Anything that we think prevents or delays Jesus from coming again places us in a dangerous place. If we believe He cannot come back now, we will likely be **unprepared for His coming**.

Believers should be dressed (have their loins girded) and ready with the light shining (preaching Jesus to the world.)

“Girded loins” is reminiscent of the Armor of God and the Belt of Truth. We must be ready, wearing and using God’s armor for His glory.

Jesus is the Light of the world, and we are called to shine the light of His glory throughout the world. We are called to go into all the world and preach the Gospel.

If we think that Jesus cannot return now, we are not living life dressed in the Armor of God and preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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Why Has Jesus Not Yet Returned - One Reason

*“That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour: (3) Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, (4) 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 the creation...(9) The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, **not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.**”* (2 Peter 3:2-4 & 9)

This is a powerful passage from God through Peter. Peter gives wholesale endorsement to the Old Testament Scriptures (words of the holy prophets) and the New Testament (commands from the apostles.) Peter calls us to remember the teachings of the Bible.

He tells us that **scoffers** will come in the last days, and they will **mock the Lord’s return**. They deride the thought of Jesus coming back and point out that nothing has changed since the “beginning of