

Home Group Helps

2 Peter 1:16-21 (ESV)

Christ's Reliable Return

I. Christ's Reliable Return (v.16a) – For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ,

II. The Witness of the Apostles (v.16b-18) – But we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain.

III. The Witness of the Prophets (v.19-21) – And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

1. Launching Question(s):

📖 Every single New Testament epistle mentions the second coming of Christ in some way. Why do you think this topic was so important to early Christians? 📖 Disagreements with the return of Jesus are common. What are some critiques of Christ's second advent which you have heard before?

2. Observation Question(s):

📖 Read the first 15 verses of this chapter. Then read the first 13 verses of 2 Peter chapter 3. What comes directly before this passage? How are this passage and chapter 3 similar?

3. Interpretation Question(s):

📖 Peter could very well have simply written, “Don't listen to what people say, Jesus is actually coming back” and then moved on to chapter 2.
📖 Why did Peter instead provide his readers with the information in verses 16-21? 📖 Why was the transfiguration story so formative to Peter?
📖 Peter seems to place a large emphasis on Old Testament prophecy. How do you think believers should treat the OT prophets?

4. Reflection Question(s):

📖 How often does the imminent return of Christ cross your mind?
📖 Ultimately, the Holy Spirit is the source of all Scripture. Knowing this, what comforts and blessings does the written Word of the Lord provide the Church?

5. Application Question(s):

📖 How might you “pay attention” to the confirmed word more this week, both in your actions and in your heart?
📖 What should a group of Christians who are waiting and longing for the return of Jesus look like? Read 2 Peter 3:14-18.