

## The Timing of God's Promise

2 Peter 2:18-3:9

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### I. Deceptions of false teachers. 2 Peter 2:18-22

These false teachers did not realize that they themselves were \_\_\_\_\_ to sin as they were seeking to live for the desires of the flesh and teaching others to live for the flesh as well. **Romans 6:6-7**

- Not only are there false prophets in the world, but there is also a false \_\_\_\_\_ of faith by some who claim to be Christians.

### II. People scoff at God's warnings. 2 Peter 3:1-4

Peter placed the New Testament on the \_\_\_\_\_ of authority as the Law and the Old Testament.

- Some of the Jewish people misunderstood the first time Messiah came as a suffering servant; so many of them began to disregard the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus coming again as conquering King.

If your lifestyle \_\_\_\_\_ the Word of God, you either have to admit your lifestyle is wrong or disregard the Word of God.

### III. God's Word is true. 2 Peter 3:5-7

Jesus showed Satan, every word that proceeds from the mouth of God should be more precious to us than \_\_\_\_\_ itself.

- Jesus could have fought Satan with His Glory, but instead He showed us an example of how we are to battle the enemy with the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_!

### IV. The promise is not slack. 2 Peter 3:8-9

If the rapture happened right now, there would be seven years of God's wrath poured out on a Christ rejecting world, and then there would be the \_\_\_\_\_ reign of Christ on the earth.

- The delay in Christ's return is God's plan to allow more people opportunity to place their trust in Christ in order to enter into eternal \_\_\_\_\_ with Him.

Nowhere in the Bible are we taught that people are predestined to hell, because this \_\_\_\_\_ refers only to God's people.

### V. Practical Application.

Loving the Lord first in our lives comes from a \_\_\_\_\_ heart response to how He loves us. **1 John 4:18-19**

- Because the Lord could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself; showing God's promises never change; and Abraham's belief in God was the \_\_\_\_\_ to the fulfillment of the promise. **Hebrews 6:13-15**

## Small Group Discussion

*Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?*

1. *Why are so many false teachers successful in attracting people with their versions of freedom?*
2. *How was the "religious experience" of the teachers Peter wrote about a false experience rather than true salvation? What are some signs that a person has had a "true spiritual experience" and has been born again?*
3. *Why is the true Christian not attracted by the freedom that false cults and religions promise?*
4. *What is a "scoffer" (3:3)? Have you ever talked to someone who scoffed at God's Word?*
5. *Why does the church need to be reminded that God's Word is true? Why are new Christians usually the false teacher's primary target?*
6. *How do we know that God will keep His promise about Christ's second coming? "One day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day" (v. 8). What does that mean?*
7. *Why has God delayed Jesus' second coming? Why do we need to be ready for Jesus' second coming?*
8. *What should we be doing while we wait for Jesus' second coming? If a non-Christian asked you why you believe the Bible, what would you say?*
9. *Why are so many things in our lives unimportant when we consider that Jesus may return at any time?*