

A Call To Repentance IV

By Greg Rangel

2 Peter 3:9 says, “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.”

As previously mentioned, it has been almost 2000 years since Christ came to earth to die for our sins. Ever since then, believers in Christ have longed for the day when Jesus will return to earth to fulfill everything that is written. When that takes place it will be a glorious time for all believers alike because we will be with the Lord for the rest of eternity.

Prior to the coming of Christ the Bible says that there will be people scoffing at the belief of Christ’s return. Peter also wrote in 2 Peter 3:3-4, “Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, 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.”

Scoffers are those people that openly mock Christianity, the Bible, and the doctrines of the Bible. And one of the doctrines that people do mock (unfortunately for them), is the return of His coming. They mock at this because they do not have this hope themselves. And so they will mock what they don’t believe.

Jesus did teach in various ways that He would return. Jesus said in Matthew 24:27-31, “For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For wheresoever the carcase is, there will the eagles be gathered together. Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribe of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory” (see Matt. 24:32-42).

The Coming of Jesus Christ is a reference to when Jesus will return at the end of the tribulation to judge the world. Ever since the beginning the Lord has warned man through the prophets that He will one day come and judge the earth because of its wickedness. Jude wrote in verse 14-15, “And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, to execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him” (Isaiah 13:6-16). Jeremiah 30:7 “Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob’s trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.”

These things have not taken place because God wants man to repent. You may laugh at this, and mock it, and choose to not believe it. But because you choose to do so does not mean that it will not occur. God will still do His will as it is written in the Word.

God is calling you the reader to repent from your sins. You need Jesus Christ to be your Lord and Savior. Jesus is the only one that can forgive you and give you eternal life. The evening prior to dying on the cross, Jesus in prayer to His Father said, "...O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt" (Matt. 26:39). The cup was not able to pass from Jesus because there was no other way that man could be saved. Jesus needed to go to the cross to die for the sins of humanity. Peter wrote in 1Peter 1:18-19 "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:"

God wants man to repent. He does not want religion or tradition. He wants a faithful and obedient heart to His will and to His Word.

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