

LESSON 4
SURPRISE!
2 PETER 3:1–18



1 What are some things you commonly do to prepare for dinner guests?

2 Why are these preparations important to you?



Read 2 Peter 3:1–18 and the following notes:

☐ 3:3, 4 ☐ 3:8, 9 ☐ 3:10, 11 ☐ 3:13 ☐ 3:14 ☐ 3:18

3 Why do many people doubt that Christ will return (3:3–7)?

4 Why does it seem as if Christ is delaying his return (3:8, 9)?

5 In what ways are people ill prepared for Christ's return (3:11–18)?

Jesus predicted that he would return, and the apostles repeated Jesus' promise. Yet when years passed and Christ still hadn't come back, "scoffers" began to taunt the Christians. As time went on, these scoffers only continued their attacks of skepticism, forgetting that God does not see time the way we do. To God, the so-called delay in Christ's return is no delay at all. If he seems to wait, it is only because he is anxious for more people to come to Christ. But be assured, his return is as sure as the rising and setting of the sun. Don't let Christ catch you sleeping. Live in expectation of his return.



6 What benefit is there in being aware that Christ could return at any moment?

7 What is involved in getting ready for Christ's return?

8 If Christ were to return today, what areas of your life would be in order?



What areas of your life would be out of order?

9 How can you remind yourself that Christ could return at any time?

10 What would you do differently if you knew the Lord was coming back . . .
this weekend? _____

this year? _____

within this decade? _____

before you die? _____

11 What steps can you take in the next few days to be ready for Christ's return?



A What will happen to the heavens and the earth (3:10, 11)? What will happen to the things you own? How can this truth affect the way you use your possessions?

B What did Peter say was hard to understand about Paul's writings (3:15, 16)? What do you find hard to understand in the Bible? What can you do to have a better understanding of the Bible?

C What will happen after Christ returns (3:10)? Who needs to know this? What could you do to tell them?

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