

15—The Second Coming

“What We Believe”

Pastor Mike Cooke

“We believe that the second coming of Christ is personal and imminent; that He will descend from Heaven in the clouds of glory with the voice of the archangel and with the trump of God;¹ and that at this hour, which no man knoweth beforehand, the dead in Christ shall rise, then the redeemed that are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air, and that so shall they ever be with the Lord;² that also seeing that a thousand years is as a day with the Lord,³ and that no man knoweth the hour of His appearance, which we believe to be near at hand,⁴ each day should be lived as though He were expected to appear at even,⁵ yet that in obedience to His explicit command, “Occupy till I come,” the work of spreading the gospel,⁶ the sending forth of missionaries, and the general duties for the upbuilding of the church⁷ should be carried on as diligently, and thoroughly, as though neither ours nor the next generation should live in the flesh to see the glorious day.”⁸—*Compiled by A. S. McPherson*

1. Revelation 22:12

“Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done.”

2. 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18

For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

3. 2 Peter 3:8

But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.

4. Mark 13:32-33
"But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come."
5. Mark 13:35
"Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back—whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn."
6. 2 Timothy 4:1-2
And in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the word.
7. Hebrews 10:25
Not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.
8. 2 Thessalonians 2:1-2
Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers and sisters, not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by the teaching allegedly from us—whether by a prophecy or by word of mouth or by letter.