

How to Defend Christ's Second Coming (2 Peter 1:16–19)
GCC, Morning Worship, 5/31/20

Introduction--Peter has a surprising apologetic for his belief in the second coming of Christ

- I. Two reasons why Peter felt compelled to give a defense of the second coming of Jesus Christ (1:16)
 - A. Scoffers, mockers, naysayers, and false teachers were denying Christ's second coming (see 3:3–7)
 - B. The denial of a second coming and judgment makes living a godly life optional
 1. God's electing activity before the foundation of the world is intricately connected to his exonerating and glorifying activity on the day of judgment
- II. Why is it important for us to see *how* Peter defends the Second coming?
 - A. Because we should never let those who suppress the truth in unrighteousness (Rom 1:18; cf. Prov 26:4; Ps 14:1) set the terms of the debate.
 1. Whoever sets the terms of the debate, wins the argument!
 - B. Everyone exercises faith in things that cannot be empirically demonstrated. The question is: whose faith commitment is the right one? (Jn 7:16–17)
- III. What are the two criteria upon which Peter bases his belief in the second coming? (1:16–19)
 - A. Eyewitness Testimony (vv. 16c–18)
 - B. The Reliable Word of God (v. 19)
 1. Consider God's track record in history when you consider your future