

## **Section Three: The Kingdom of God on Earth (Future)**

### **Category B: Second Coming – Kingdom Intelligence Report #1**

Topic: The Promise

It is one thing to make a promise; it is quite another to keep it. When the promise made isn't fulfilled in the expected time, doubt occurs as to its veracity. That doubt, in regard to the promise of the Second Coming of our Savior, began to manifest itself even in the years following His ascension into heaven. After all, it was the ascension itself where the final verbalizing of the promise was made, as recorded in Acts 1:9-11 –

**“And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. They also said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven.’”**

In light of the powerful reiteration of this promise, two things are difficult to comprehend. First, how is it that the Second Coming could be viewed as anything other than a literal event? In addition, why was it that the Apostle Peter, in his own lifetime, needed to address the doubt surrounding this promise? Perhaps the second question is easier to understand because of the way in which Peter qualifies his answer in 2 Peter 3:3-6 –

**“Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts, and saying, ‘Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation.’ For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago and the earth was formed out of water and by water, through which the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water.”**

The mocking doubt being expressed in regard to the promise of the Second Coming, according to Peter, would be a manifestation of last-days deception. He rebukes that doubt by reminding his contemporary readership and us of an apparently long-forgotten event: the Flood of Noah's day. It is strongly reminiscent of our Lord's Olivet Discourse warning in Matthew 24:37-38 –

**“For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of man be.”**

As Bible believing Christians in these last days, at the very end of the Church Age, there is no reason for us to doubt the soon return of our Savior. The very presence of the doubting Dominionists should serve as undeniable proof that the time of His Second Coming is near.