

- d. Warns of a coming storm. The Second Advent is characterized by the storms of coming judgment.
 - (1) Annihilation of the invading armies.
 - (2) Judgment of Satan and the fallen angels.
 - (3) Judgment of the beast and false prophet.
 - (4) Baptism of fire removes all unbelievers from the earth.
 - (5) Administration of the fifth cycle of discipline to certain nations.
2. The Historical Analogy: Matthew 24:37–41.
 - a. It will be like the days of Noah. People were living under the wrong priorities. Marrying, eating, and drinking (normal pleasures in life) were more important than Bible doctrine.
 - b. “They did not know” a big judgment was on the horizon. And as in the time of Noah, so also in the Tribulation; people cannot tell what is about to happen because they have no Bible doctrine in their souls.
 - c. The believer is left and the unbeliever is taken in the baptism of fire. Just the opposite occurs at the Rapture. In Noah’s day unbelievers were removed by water. Now fire will be used.

E. The Second Advent and Armageddon.

1. Armageddon is a campaign in the last world war of history. Jesus Christ comes back to slaughter the anti-Semitic armies (see Exodus 14:14; Joshua 5:13–6:2; Isaiah 37:36; Ezekiel 38:16).
2. Our Lord’s own record is broken at the Second Advent, according to Isaiah 34:5–6, 63:1–6.
3. There are two sources of righteous violence: Jesus Christ and the laws of divine establishment: Ezekiel 39:11–12; Joel 2:20; Zechariah 12:2–3; Revelation 14:20, 19:15.

F. The Second Advent and Operation Footstool.

1. This is the final victory of Jesus Christ over Satan and the fallen angels. Psalm 110:1 is the prophesy of the climax to the First Advent, the strategic victory of Christ.
2. Hebrews 1:13, 10:13 teach that Christ receives His battlefield royalty and waits.
3. During the Church Age, the royal family represents Christ on Earth, not Israel. After the Rapture, the Age of Israel resumes.



4. During the Tribulation, the royal family is being prepared in heaven. The bride receives a body like Christ's, Philippians 3:21; 1 Thessalonians 5:23. Then the bride returns with Christ as a part of Operation Footstool, 1 Thessalonians 3:13; Revelation 19:6–8.
5. Then begins Operation Footstool. Satan is locked up for 1000 years, Revelation 20:1–3. There is the triumphal procession of Christ (Zechariah 13:2 cf., Colossians 2:15; 1 Corinthians 15:24–25).
6. Christ rules over Israel and the entire Earth, which changes the world's environment.

G. The Baptism of Fire and the Second Advent.

1. The Baptism of Fire is the means by which all the unbelievers are removed from the Earth and cast into fire. Only mature believers of the Church Age will rule with Christ in the Millennium, 2 Thessalonians 1:7–9.
2. Jesus Christ is first mentioned in the Baptism of Fire in Matthew 3:11–12 and Luke 3:16–17. Matthew 24:36–41 is an analogy to the Baptism of Fire.
3. The parables of the Baptism of Fire:
 - a. Wheat and the Tares, Matthew 13:47.
 - b. The ten virgins, Matthew 25:1–13.
4. The Jewish baptism of fire is found in Ezekiel 20:34–38. The Gentile baptism of fire is found in Matthew 25:31–46.
5. The Baptism of Fire is used to evangelize the Jews in the Church Age according to Matthew 12:27.
6. The Baptism of Fire vindicates the character of God, Revelation 19:11.

H. The Second Advent and the Millennium.

1. The Second Advent introduces the Millennium and the perfect environment on the Earth.
2. Satan and demons are removed according to Revelation 20:1–3.
Revelation 20:3 The angel then threw him [Satan] into the abyss and locked and sealed it so that he could not deceive the nations until the one thousand years were finished. (NET)
3. Israel is restored as a client nation to God, Isaiah 5:26–30 and Zechariah 2:28–29.



4. All the unconditional covenants to Israel are fulfilled (see: Daniel 9:24).
5. The nations of the world enjoy perfect environment, including:
 - a. Universal peace, Psalm 46:9; Isaiah 2:4; Hosea 2:18; Micah 4:3.
 - b. Universal prosperity, Psalm 72:7, 16.
 - c. Perfect world government under Jesus Christ and the royal family (Isaiah 11:1–2; Zechariah 14:9).
 - d. Perfect objectivity in the administration of justice (Isaiah 11:3–5; Psalm 72:12-14).
 - e. Nature changes radically. Creation shares the bondage of sin, Romans 8:19–22, and is released from this bondage. Isaiah 35 says that flowers abound. See also Isaiah 11:6–9 and Isaiah 65:25.
 - f. There is a population explosion, no death except for capital punishment.
 - g. The Gog revolution is started by Satan after his release from prison because there are unbelievers on the earth, Revelation 20:7–10.

I. The Reality of the Second Advent, 2 Peter 1:16–17.

2 Peter 1:16 For we have not followed cleverly concocted fables [myths] when we made known to you the power and return of our Lord Jesus Christ, no, we were eyewitnesses of His grandeur. (NET)

- a. The myth refers to a false doctrine regarding Zeus and Hermes visiting the land of Phrygia as weary travelers where two men were living. Phrygia was the alleged land of the origin of the Romans. The two men gave food and shelter to Zeus and Hermes, when no one else would. As a reward, Zeus (or Jupiter) changed their cottage into a marble temple and rewarded them with a happy life.

This was a demon doctrine and human viewpoint to explain away the literal future of the Second Advent. Reality is found in the canon of Scripture, not in cleverly invented myths.

- b. Peter does not use human imagination as source material for his teaching. Peter was one of the greatest intellects of the ancient world, yet he partially failed in the area of teaching the Second Advent, but here he corrects this.
- c. Bible doctrine represents the mentality of God; therefore, it is infinitely greater than any of our experiences.
- d. We can fail to correctly evaluate many of our experiences because the evaluation is not based upon metabolized doctrine in the soul.
- e. Everyone who thinks they have a special visitation from God the Holy Spirit and enters into speaking in tongues has failed to correctly evaluate their empirical experience. Their emotion is neither a norm for the spiritual life nor is it true doctrine.
- f. As a believer you cannot afford to go to your experience; you must follow the infallible Word of God.
- g. If you live by empiricism, you are not living the unique spiritual life of the Church Age, because you have by-passed Bible doctrine.
- h. When there is a conflict between your life-experience and what the Bible says, which do you follow? If you decide against doctrine, you are getting further and further away from blessings in time and eternity. Your blessings, which you do not receive in time or eternity, become a memorial to your rejection of Bible doctrine.
- i. If your experience denies doctrine, it is not a true Christian experience. When there is a conflict between how you feel and what the Bible says, the Bible is always right.
- j. Salvation is by faith alone in Christ alone and not based on how you feel.
- k. We have to learn to correctly evaluate experience on the basis of the infallible Word of God.
- l. If Bible doctrine is your criterion, then you will have correctly evaluated the subject.
- m. If there is a conflict between your experience and what the Bible says, the Bible is always correct.



- n. Spirituality, or the filling of the Holy Spirit, is not an emotional experience until the Millennium when Jesus Christ is on Earth. People often take millennial passages and distort them.

2 Peter 1:17 For He [**Peter**] received honor and glory from God the Father, when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory: “This is My dear Son, in whom I am delighted.” (NET)

- a. Empiricism is the theory that all knowledge is derived from experience and observation, but this is not true. It became a false system of doctrine.
 - (1) Empiricism is guided by experience. We are not guided by experience, but guided by what the Word of God teaches.
 - (2) Doctrine is the only thing that will bring the believer out of empiricism.
 - (3) David Hume was a philosopher who maintained that all of one’s knowledge of the world is a product of experience. He said that all thoughts are derived from past experience. John Locke said that no man’s knowledge could go beyond his experience. He maintained that prior to experience the human mind is like a blank piece of paper.
- b. This verse is Peter’s empirical knowledge of the Second Advent as it came from viewing the transfiguration of Jesus Christ. Our Lord was transformed to reveal how the humanity of Christ would appear to us at the Second Advent. Historically, Peter had empirical knowledge of the Second Advent. Prophetically, Peter had *epígnōsis* knowledge, or full knowledge, in understanding the entire situation.
- c. Peter, James, and John had the empirical experience of hearing the voice of God the Father, but the Second Advent was more real at the end of Peter’s life because of what the Word of God said, not because of what he heard with his own ears. Peter learned that what the Bible says is the only truth, and our experience is not the answer to the spiritual life. Peter’s experience is not the answer to the spiritual life. Peter learned that the only true reality is Bible doctrine.
- d. It was more important for Peter to hear the voice of the Lord Jesus Christ in the written Word than it was for Peter to hear the voice of God the Father empirically.

God the Father’s message to Peter was that it was about time that Peter became occupied with the Person of Jesus Christ.

- e. Science must agree with the Bible, not the Bible with science. While the Bible is not a textbook of science, whenever the Bible covers a scientific subject, the Bible is accurate and must supersede empirical knowledge.
- f. Feeling and emotion are not a criterion for the unique spiritual life of the Church Age. Neither empiricism nor emotion is as real as Bible doctrine circulating in your stream of consciousness.
- g. Ultimate reality is the infallible Word of God, not empirical or rational systems of knowledge, not feeling and emotion.
- h. The scientific method of perception is empiricism, observation, and experimentation. Therefore, science is a legitimate modus operandi in life, but there is one area where science is not the final answer—the spiritual realm.
- i. The final and ultimate reality is the true knowledge of doctrine found in Scripture.
- j. So-called “scientific laws” are really the observation and recognition of divine laws.
 - (1) Science did not originate these laws, nor can science enforce or perpetuate these laws.
 - (2) Science cannot guarantee that these “laws” will continue to function as previously observed.
 - (3) Scientific laws are based on statistical assumptions that the present universe operates according to a fixed norm and will continue to do so.
 - (4) The universe will not always exist as it does now, for it will be completely destroyed and recreated as the Eternal State. This is revealed by Peter as the “day of the Lord” in:

2 Peter 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief; when it comes, the heavens will disappear with a horrific noise, and the celestial bodies will melt away in a blaze, and the earth and every deed done on it will be laid bare.

v. 11 Since all these things are to melt away in this manner, what sort of people must we be, conducting our lives in holiness and godliness,



2 Peter 3:12 while waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God? Because of this day, the heavens will be burned up and dissolve, and the celestial bodies will melt away in a blaze!

v. 13 But, according to his promise, we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness truly resides. (NET)

(5) Known scientific ‘laws’ depend entirely upon the faithfulness and immutability of God.

Colossians 1:16 ... all things in heaven and on earth were created by him—all things, whether visible or invisible, whether thrones or dominions, whether principalities or powers—all things were created through him and for him.

v. 17 He Himself is before all things and all things are held together [intensive perfect active indicative of the verb, συνίστημι (*sunístēmi*): the continuance of a completed action] in Him. (NET)

See: Hebrews 1:3b, “He sustains all things by the power of His word.”

- (6) The laws of the universe and the function of the universe belong to God as a demonstration of divine integrity and faithfulness.
- (7) The function of these laws is the reason for the perpetuation of human history until its end, until the angelic conflict is completely resolved and the policy of God is completely vindicated at the end of human history.
- (8) The faithfulness of God to the believer extends beyond the scientific laws. The faithfulness of God in the function of the so-called “scientific laws” is related to the faithfulness of God in the revelation and preservation of the infallible Word of God. The present universe along with its ‘scientific laws’ will be destroyed by the sovereignty of God. The believer and Bible doctrine will survive to live forever in a new universe created by God.

Hebrews 12:26 Then His voice shook the earth, but now He has promised, “I will once more shake not only the earth but heaven too.”

v. 27 Now this phrase “once more” indicates the removal of what is shaken, that is, of created things, so that what is unshaken may remain.

Hebrews 12:28 So since we are receiving an unshakable kingdom, let us give thanks, and through this let us offer worship pleasing to God in devotion and awe.

v. 29 For our God is indeed a devouring fire. (NET)

This expression, “once more,” in verse 27 denotes the removing of those things which can be shaken, as of created things, so that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, “since we are receiving an unshakable kingdom,” let us show respect, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe; “for our God is indeed a devouring fire” (v. 29).

- (9) So-called scientific laws are simply the faithfulness of our Lord Jesus Christ in holding the universe together and at the same time holding back eternity, so that the human race will have the opportunity for evangelism and the glorification of our Lord.

Hebrews 1:10 You, Lord, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the works of Your hands.

v. 11 They will perish, but You remain. And they all will become old like a garment,

v. 12 and like a mantle you will roll them up; like a garment they will also be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will not come to an end.” (NASB)

- k. The most important thing in the world is the spiritual life. Until we understand that, we will never understand what true reality is really about. The believer learns to love God through Bible doctrine. He learns to respect God through divine discipline. Believers have no respect for God because they are depending on emotional experience.

There is no hope for us as individuals, or a group, unless we resume our respect for God. We show our respect for God by obedience to God.

- l. The believer learns to love God through Bible doctrine. He learns to respect God through divine discipline. Some believers have no respect for God because they are depending on emotional experiences. There is no hope for us as individuals or as a group unless we reorient our respect toward God. We demonstrate this respect by our obedience to God.