

WEEK 46:

JESUS IS COMIN' BACK

PRIMARY SCRIPTURE:

Luke 17:20-37

RELATED SCRIPTURES:

Genesis 6-8, Genesis 19:1-29, Daniel 7:13-14,
Matthew 24-25, Mark 13, Luke 21,
Acts 1:6-7, 1 Corinthians 7:29-31, Revelation 21:1-8

“The second coming of Jesus Christ is good news for people whose lives are filled with bad news... The person who wants justice and redemption wants the kingdom of God and the coming of the Kingdom depends on the coming of the King, the one who will return with power and with great glory.”

- Neil Plantinga, Engaging God's World

LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION:

How often do you think about Jesus' second coming? Does it seem far away, theoretical and somewhat irrelevant? If so, why?

Read Luke 17:20-21. What does Jesus mean when He tells the Pharisees that the kingdom of God is in their midst? Why does it matter that Jesus' first coming was “invisible” and not obvious? Where have you experienced God's kingdom (even if it was different than you thought it would be)?

Read Luke 17:22 and Revelation 21:1-5. What brokenness makes you the most desperate to see Jesus' kingdom come in its fullness? How does loving and longing for the renewal of all things impact our lives here and now?

Read Luke 17:25 and 31-33. Jesus says “Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will keep it.” What prevents you from believing and living in light of this?

How does the second coming free us up to live differently in light of that?

Prayer:

“And now to Him who purchased the church with his own blood... do I now desire to devote my strength, my life, my all; to be employed how, and as long, as his unerring wisdom shall direct and appoint. And the Lord grant that I may obtain mercy to be found faithful... And grant, that after the exercise of much fervent, mutual love, and the enjoyment of many spiritual comforts, in these thy lower courts; we may finally arrive at those blissful regions, where love is perfect, and joy perpetual; where hymns of holy wonder, and songs of devoutest praise, shall be our uninterrupted and everlasting employ! Amen and Amen.”

Abraham Booth, The Confession of Faith