



LifeSpot ... The return

Needed

In many ways, our world is better now than 50 years ago. We're living longer, earning more. We have more options, better medicine, super technology, lots of ideas. But have you noticed the heart of humanity remains rotten? Modern slavery, terrorism, hunger, violence, abuse, addiction, corruption, greed, arrogance, immorality—to the extent we rise in knowledge, we also sink in sin. We need more than improvement. We need transformation. Here's good news from God's throne—"I am making everything new." Revelation 21:5 (NIRV). This is not Earth upgrade. It's Earth restart. Christ returning to make his home with us—the change we need. In this moment, will you renew your choice to be part of it?

Committed

Elephant Island. A desolate place off the coast of Antarctica—no safe anchorage, no shelter. Sir Ernest Shackleton's expedition was stranded there in 1916. Shackleton took five of his men in an open lifeboat on a journey of nearly 1,300 kilometres to get help—with a promise to return. Three times he tried to get back, each time prevented by ice. On the fourth try, he made it. He was surprised to find the men packed and ready. Through four-and-a-half months, the leader said "Get your things ready, boys. The boss may come today." Planet Earth is like Elephant Island—no safe anchorage, no sufficient shelter. But a rescuer has committed "I will return." John 14:2–3. Are you packed and ready?

Soon

"Look! I am coming soon!" Revelation 22:7 (NIRV). It means what it says—Jesus is coming quickly, shortly, before long. This was written about 2,000 years ago. It's important to let God explain what his promise doesn't mean, and what it does mean. It doesn't mean that God binds himself to human viewpoints and impatience. It doesn't mean you and I can guess or engineer a deadline. It does mean that God is passionate about bringing sin and suffering to a rapid end. And it does mean it's foolish for us to live as if Jesus' return were to take place anything later than *now*. Life is fragile. We must keep our lives as an old Swiss gardener kept his absent employer's garden—"as if he were coming today!"

Experienced

"Are you looking forward to eternal life?" A good question. Here's an answer: "I'm not just looking forward to it—I'm living it now." This is crucial. The return of Jesus is an ultimate solution, but it won't help me unless Jesus is my solution today. "I came so they can have life ... in the fullest possible way." "Anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me ... has crossed over from death to life." John 10:10; 5:24 (NIRV). Jesus will return in your future—but has he arrived in your present? Francis of Assisi, hoeing his garden, was asked what he would do if he were to learn he would die at sunset. His reply—"I would finish hoeing my garden." Will you experience the returning Lord right here, right now?