



Pastor's PONDERINGS

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Today is Groundhog Day - the day when it's determined whether there's six more weeks of winter, or only four. Depending on whether or not Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow, of course. That is, if you put much stock in groundhogs. And why would we? I mean, everyone knows winter doesn't officially end until March 21, anyway. Which, here in Michigan, doesn't really mean a thing, since we often get snow clear up into April. All we know is that, sooner or later, winter will come to an end. It's hard to imagine, now, when we're chipping ice off our windshields and even the dog refuses to go outside, but fair weather will soon be here. Trees will begin to blossom, the grass will turn green, and flowers will begin popping up out of the earth that's currently frozen as hard as concrete.

It's hard to imagine. But what's even more difficult to imagine is that the time is coming when Jesus will return, as well. Indeed, His return is even more certain than the coming of spring. Yes, the world we're living in seems lost, without hope, frozen in the grips of sin. But its full redemption is growing nearer with each passing day. We know this. It keeps us going, even when everything else in life seems to be going wrong. And we have something more certain than a superstition about groundhogs that tells us so. We have the very Word of God. So, when life is tough, and this world seems a little more than you can stand, hang in there. Jesus is coming, just as He promised. And you don't need any mangy old groundhog to tell you so.

Have a blessed Groundhog's Day, anyway.

-Pastor Scott

