

2 Peter 3:11-18 “Living In The Expectation Of His Return”

6-23-21

I. Review

1. Where There Are True Prophets, There Are False Ones - 2 Pet 2:1-3; Jude 4
2. In The Last Days, Mockers Will Come – 2 Pet 3:3; Jude 16,18
 - Not Just With Words, But With Their Lives - 2 Tim 3:1-9; Jude 18; 1 Tm 4:1-3
 - Mocking Both An Indicator And An Instigator Of Judgement - 2 Chron 36:16
 - They Set Forth Their Doubts Through Reason And Experience
 - But The True Source Is Their Own Base Character
3. Where Is The Promise Of His Coming? - 2 Pet 3:4
 - There Have Been No Changes And No Divine Intervention In The Past,
 - So There Is No Reason To Expect They Will Come In The Future
4. But This They Willingly Forget... - 2 Pet 3:5-6
 - God Has Already Intervened And Brought Judgement Previously
 - Through Water Created The World - Gen 1:6-10
 - Through Water He Judged The World – Gen 6:3-7
 - While Men Were Being Given The Chance To Repent:
 - The Judgement Was Being Held Back By God
 - The World Was Being Sustained By God
 - But The Fact Of Impending Judgement Was Certain
 - Men So Want To Believe The Lie, They Are Blinded To Any Other Answer
 - All Things Continue As They Have Been
 - Not Because God Isn't There, But Because He Sustains Them – Col 1:17
5. As Then, So It Is Now: Not Slack, But Longsuffering - 2 Pet 3:7-9; Ps 90:4
 - The World Is Being Kept For Judgement
 - Men Are Given A Chance To Repent, But The Chance Will Be Ignored
 - Men Will Live In Unsuspecting Mockery Until The Judgement Comes
 - Reserved For Fire: The Judgement Is Predetermined And Certain
 - Sodom And Gomorrah A Type Of The Final Judgement – Gen 17-19
6. The Day Of The Lord Will Come - 2 Peter 3:10
 - As A Thief - Matt 24:43-44; Luke 12:39-40; 1 Thess 5:2; Rev 3:3; 16:15
 - The Elements – Is 34:4; Gen 1:6-8, 14-19; Is 51:6
 - Heavenly Bodies – Matt 24:29-30; Joel 2:31; 3:15; Acts 2:19-20; Rev 20:11
 - The Confirmation Bias Of Unbelief - 2 Cor 4:4; Matt 23:39; 13:14-17
 - Your Witness And Their Unbelief - Matt 10:14-15; Luke 10:10-12

II. If This Is The Case, How Then Should We Live? - 2 Pet 3:11-12

1. The Earth Will Be Exposed, Then It Will Be Judged
 - Why Invest In A Failing Scheme?
 - Should We Not Invest Ourselves In What Will Endure?
2. In Holiness And Godliness
 - The Kingdom Principals Are Completely Dysfunctional In This World System
 - But They Are The Way Of The Future – John 16:33; Matt 6:20
 - Called To Holiness - 1 Pet 1:15; 2 Cor 7:1; Heb 12:14

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III. Looking For And Hastening The Day Of God

1. How Can We Hasten The Day Of God? – Is 60:22; Matt 24:14; Acts 3:19-20
2. If God Delays Because He Is Not Willing That Any Should Perish, Then
 - He Is Either Waiting A Specific Interval Of Time, Or
 - He Is Waiting For A Specific Measure Of Men
 - He Waited For A Specific Measure In The Days Of Noah
 - He Waited For A Specific Measure In The Days Of Lot
 - He Waited For A Specific Measure In The Days Of Canaan
3. The Harvest Is Ripe, But The Labourers Are Few – Matt 9:38; Luke 10:2
4. Could It Be That Part Of The Reason For The Delay Of Our Lord's Return Is Us?

IV. A New Creation - 2 Pet 3:13; Rom 8:21; Is 65:17; 66:22; Rev 21:1

1. Living Our Lives In Expectation – Rev 22:20

V. Knowing What Lies Ahead, Be Diligent To Be Pure – 2 Pet 3:14

1. In Peace, Without Spot, And Blameless

VI. Be Conscious That His Delay Is For Salvation's Sake - 2 Pet 3:15

1. For The Sake Of Those Who Don't Believe
2. For Our Sake

VII. "Just As Paul Has Already Told You" - 2 Pet 3:15-16

1. A Treasure Trove Of Information In One Statement
 - As In All His Letters
 - Peter Knew Of The Existence And Content Of Several Of Paul's Letters
 - As They Do The Other Scriptures
 - The Disciples Were Aware That They Were Writing Scripture
 - The Church Was Aware That They Were Receiving Scripture
 - The First Instance Of One New Testament Author Citing Another
 - A Clue About The Nature Of The False Teachers Peter Addresses
 - Paul's Writings Possibly Sparked The Controversy Peter Now Addresses
2. How Could Paul Be Misunderstood?
 - The Importance Of Understanding The Context
 - The Depth Of Scripture And The Need For Teachers – Eph 4:11-15
 - The Problems Of Life Are In Fact Profound And Complex
 - They Demand A Profound And Comprehensive Response
 - God Has Met Those Profound And Complex Issues Fully In His Word
 - The Bible Is Not A Simple Book And We Should Not Approach It As One
 - Scripture Demands Our Attention, Our Investment, Our Engagement
 - Only As We Approach It With This Respect Will It Speak To Us
3. Untaught And Unstable – Acts 20:29-31; 1 Tim 1:3-7; 2 Tim 2:2; 4:3-5; Tit 1:5-13
 - It Is Not Acceptable For Just Anybody To Stand Up And Teach
 - The Church's Need For Discernment

VIII. Since You Know These Things - 2 Peter 3:17-18

1. Take Heed To Yourselves That You Don't Fall For Them, And
2. Grow In The Grace And Knowledge Of Jesus

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