

THE SECOND EPISTLE OF PETER
THE COMBAT FAITH SERIES

TO THE CHURCH OF THE DIASPORA OR DISPERSION THROUGHOUT
THE FIRST CENTURY ROMAN WORLD

2-PETER CHAPTER 3:1-9

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX-1016

Sunday, August 23, 2020

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“Any Day Now – Part 3”

The Priority and Ministry of The Word of God to All Those Engaged in an Active and Militant Faith

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Last Days, End Times, Second Coming of Christ, The Church at The Finish-line

2 Peter 3:1-9

Beloved, I now write to you this second **epistle** (in both of which I **stir up** your **pure minds by way of reminder**), **2** that you may be **mindful** of the words which were spoken before **by the holy prophets**, and of the **commandment of us**, the **apostles** of the Lord and Savior, **3 knowing** this **first**: that **scoffers** will come in **the last days**, **walking** according to their own lusts, **4** and **saying**, **“Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation.”** **5** For this they **willfully forget**: that **by the word of God** the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, **6** by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. **7** But the heavens and the earth which are now **preserved** by the same word, are **reserved** for **fire** until the day of **judgment** and **perdition** of **ungodly** men. **:8** But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord **one day** is as a **thousand years**, and a **thousand years** as **one day**. **9** The Lord is not **slack** concerning His promise, as some **count slackness**, but is **longsuffering** toward us, not willing that **any** should perish but that **all** should **come to repentance**.

**Curiosity about the Future is Built into Us as a humans.
The Desire for you and I to know What’s Next is Powerful.**

Matthew 24:1-2

Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. **2** And Jesus said to them, “Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down.”

At Times Like These - I believe that it is completely normal for us Christians to be sensing & discerning that some great movement (event) could be next.

John 16:33

“These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

Forward by Way of Recap

1 Peter 3:3-6

3 knowing this **first**: that **scoffers** will come in **the last days**, walking according to their own lusts, **4** and **saying**, (**#1**) ***“Where is the promise of His coming? (#2) For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation.”*** **5** For this they **willfully forget**: that **by the word of God** the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, **6** by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water.

About the times of the End, a body of men will be raised up who will turn their attention to the prophecies, and insist upon their literal interpretation, in the midst of much clamor and opposition.”

- Sir Isaac Newton, 1642-1747.

Any Day Now

1.) It's a good day to know for sure	vs. 1-2
1a.) That you are in the family of God	vs. 1a
1b.) That you have the mind of God	vs. 1b-2a
1c.) That you know the witness of God	vs. 2b
2.) It's a good day to know you're ready	vs. 3-6
2a.) Being ready is being vigilant	vs. 3-4a
2b.) Being ready is being knowledgeable	vs. 4b
2c.) Being ready is being wise	vs. 5-6

Any Day Now

3.) It's a good day to know the end is nearing

vs. 7-9

7 But the heavens and the earth which are now **preserved** by the same word, are **reserved** for **fire** until the day of **judgment** and **perdition** of **ungodly** men. :8 But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord **one day** is as a **thousand years**, and a **thousand years** as **one day**. 9 The Lord is not **slack** concerning His promise, as some **count slackness**, but is **longsuffering** toward us, not willing that **any** should perish but that **all** should **come to repentance**.

Today Is a good day to know the end is nearing.

3a.) Because separation will happen

vs. 7

7 But the heavens and the earth which are now **preserved** by the same word, are **reserved** for **fire** until the day of **judgment** and **perdition** of **ungodly** men.

How does knowing about “the end of anything” effect you?
The end of class, the end of the school year, the end of the book.

You will begin to conduct yourself differently as the time nears.

Preserved grk: thesaurizo – kept for a purpose, awaiting the moment

Reserved grk: tereo – to watch over, to guard, to hold with intent

Fire grk: pur – the burning. As fire is used to destroy, purify, cleanse, melt, purge of impurities

“**until** the day of **judgment** and **perdition** of **ungodly** men.”

If I were an “Airline Pilot”

And I were to inform you that we are about to begin our descent into Charles DeGaulle International airport Paris, that announcement would be repeated in at least two additional languages – French and German – you’d get ready

If I were an “Engineer on a Train”

And I were to inform you *that our next stop will be Santa Barbara, California* and you have a ticket stamped “Santa Barbara” you would begin to gather your things in preparation of arrival.

And if I were your Pastor
And I were to say to you *“make sure you know who the real Jesus Christ is.
Make sure you put on your spiritual armor every day and don’t get caught
with your bible down”*

The GETTING Ready Part - is Almost Over

Hebrews 10:24-25

And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, **25** not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

The Separation is Spiritual

Matthew 10:32-34

“Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. **33** But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven. **:34** “Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. **35** For I have come to “set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law’; **36** and “a man’s enemies will be those of his own household.’ **37** He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.

One Final Note before we leave here

“But the heavens and the earth which are now.”

This: “Are now **preserved** by the same word.”
The Word that created all things is keeping all things together.

And this: “By that same Word the heavens and the earth are **reserved**.”
The Word that created all things – Is the same word that will destroy all things.

Are Reserved for Fire

7 But the heavens and the earth which are now **preserved** by the same word, are **reserved for fire** until the day of **judgment** and **perdition** of **ungodly** men.
This is impressive science that Peter is giving us.

“a more accurate rendering in the original language
implies that this physical universe is actually made up of “fire” and that it is under control or being managed – but will someday be released or

let go, to become undone – to let fly apart.”
(Kenneth Wuest)

It's The “Letter Go” of the Atomic World

<https://wi-images.condecn.net/image/aLljOeenO6b/crop/1620/f/nuclear-test.jpg>

Albert Einstein's Warning to Roosevelt about Germany's Soon Attack on New York = The Manhattan Project

As he witnessed the first detonation of a nuclear weapon on July 16, 1945,
Robert Oppenheimer's now famous quote has become a haunting echo.
Oppenheimer softly said; 'Now I am become Death, the destroyer of worlds'.

Colossians 1:16-17

For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth,
visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers.
All things were created through Him and for Him. 17 And He is before all
things, and in Him all things consist.

are reserved for fire

Sir Edward Teller, Robert Oppenheimer:

*The atomic elements of this world are held bound by (a) power.
The “once believed theory” that it may be possible to cause what holds
the atoms together – to be released. Causing an atom to deconstruct. One
atom deconstructing another atom would result in an atomic chain
reaction creating an unknown consequence.*

Isaiah 66:15-16

For behold, the LORD will come with fire And with His chariots, like a whirlwind,
To render His anger with fury, And His rebuke with flames of fire. 16 For by fire
and by His sword The LORD will judge all flesh;

Psalms 50:3

Our God shall come, and shall not keep silent; A fire shall devour before Him,
And it shall be very tempestuous all around Him.

Joel 2:30-31

“And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: Blood and fire and
pillars of smoke. 31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into
blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD.

Any Day Now

Today Is a good day to know the end is nearing.

3b.) Because time will be running out

vs. 8-9a

:8 But, beloved, **do not forget this one thing**, that with the Lord **one day** is as a **thousand years**, and a **thousand years** as **one day**

Notice the contrast.

They willingly forget to think / We are to actively remember

Isaiah 55:8-9

“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” says the LORD. **9** “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.”

Job 21:14-15

Yet they say to God, “Depart from us, For we do not desire the knowledge of Your ways. **15** Who is the Almighty, that we should serve Him? And what profit do we have if we pray to Him?”

Verse 9a

9a The Lord is not **slack** concerning His promise,
as some **count slackness**,

Any Day Now

Today Is a good day to know the end is nearing.

3c.) Because truth will set you free

vs. 9b

9b but is **longsuffering** toward us, not willing that **any** should perish
but that **all** should **come to repentance**.

Longsuffering **grk:** makrothumeo; *to persevere, to be patient, to stand waiting (not to wait in absence – but to wait being present)*

This is “how” God waits – He’s longsuffering!

The greatest example of longsuffering is this -
that God is still extending His Gospel message out to the world.

Matthew 24:14

And this This Gospel of the kingdom (not a latter-day gospel) will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

Verse 9b

that **all** should **come to repentance**.

This is a beautiful challenge to many people here because they see a problem. The Scripture says here that God himself is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

Many will say - Regarding Salvation:

“Does anyone have a choice in the matter or are we all predestined, pre-programmed – appointed for hell or heaven?”

Well, what does repentance mean?

How does repentance work?

Have I as an Individual “repented” of my sins?

This “Longsuffering” means that He has been waiting for you. He will not always wait for you – He will soon give up on you, but only after you have rejected Him for the last time.

Proverbs 29:1 AMF

He who is often rebuked and hardens his heart will suddenly be destroyed and that - without remedy.

How would knowing the nearness of Jesus’ return effect you?

Would it effect you in the things you say and do?

Would it effect you in the things you watch or read?

Would it effect you in the time and attention you spend?

George Whitefield;

“Father Abraham, have you any **Catholics** here in Heaven? – **No!**

“Father Abraham, have you any **Methodist** here in Heaven? – **No!**

“Father Abraham, have you any **Quakers** here in Heaven? – **No!**

“Father Abraham, have you any **Baptist** here in Heaven? – **No!**

“Father Abraham, have you any **Lutherans** here in Heaven? – **No!**

“Father Abraham, what-a-bout do-gooders or moralists or religionists or spiritists, are there any of them in Heaven? – **No, No, No, No!**

**Only Those Who Are Christian, Those Who Have Followed
The Lamb and Know His Voice.**

End of Study

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