

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 3:10-13

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“THE END” – 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**.

2 Peter 3:10-13

But **the day of the Lord** will come **as a thief in the night**, in which the **heavens** will pass away with a great noise, and the **elements** will melt with **fervent** heat; both the **earth** and the **works** that are in it will be **burned up**. **11 Therefore**, since all these things will be **dissolved**, what **manner of persons** ought you to be in **holy conduct** and **godliness**, **12 looking for** and **hastening the coming of the day of God**, because of which the heavens will be **dissolved**, being **on fire**, and the **elements** will melt with **fervent heat**? **13 Nevertheless** we, according to **His promise**, **look for new heavens** and a **new earth** in which **righteousness dwells**.

The Doctrines, The Teachings of the Holy Spirit are always before us.

John 16:12-14

“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. 14 He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.

Thus we Have The Words of the Apostle Peter
As he was moved,

2 Peter 1:20-21

knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, 21 for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

And From Paul We Hear...

2 Timothy 3:16

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

1.) You know The End is coming vs. 10

2.) You know The Hope we have vs. 11

2a.) His Hope will not fail us vs. 11a

2b.) His Hope will not leave us vs. 11b

2c.) His Hope will not disappoint us vs. 11c

And so we all have come to the urgency of *this hour*.

From God's view – from His place, He looks down to see our world.

Matthew 24:10,12

And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. ¹²And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

Our Theology **Applied** Right Here is Verse 11

11 Therefore, since all these things will be **dissolved**, what **manner of persons** ought you to be in **holy conduct** and **godliness**,

THE END

3.) You know The Purpose of the mission vs. 12

2 Peter 3:12

looking for and **hastening the coming of the day of God**, because of which the heavens will be **dissolved**, being **on fire**, and the **elements** will melt with **fervent heat**?

WE KNOW THE PURPOSE OF OUR MISSION

The End

3a.) Our Purpose is to invite them vs. 12a

Verse 12a

THE **looking for** and THE **hastening** OF
the **coming of the day of God**

I love this “Looking For” because it assumes that we are
“underway like a ship at sea”

To be “Looking For” is to be searching for the next
“Way-Point” along the Journey.

In Fact, This can only Apply to a Christian,
Because it is the Christian who is a Pilgrim.

1 Peter 1:1

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To the pilgrims of the Dispersion
(*who at the moment are passing through*)
in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,

You cannot be a Pilgrim unless you’ve left some place
To go to some other place. to be a Pilgrim is to be looking for home.

A Pilgrim is not a Nomad.

A nomad is an aimless wanderer, a vagabond – The pilgrim scans the horizon looking for the home he has never been to physically.

Hebrews 11:8-10

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. 9 By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; 10 for he waited (in the land of promise – Abraham was still a pilgrim) for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

“Every true Christian looks for the coming of the Lord and that “expectation” drives them daily to live for Christ. This “expectancy” is not inactive but rather – active. It is the active-ness of the new heart and new life that is in Christ.”

the coming of the day of God

this we know for sure - that we are not talking about the Rapture or even the Second Coming. We are talking about the time that will follow the of this earth at it's end

looking grk: prosdokao; from 4314 and dokeu/w (to watch); to await, expect: —expect(2), expecting(2), look for(4), looking for(2), state of expectation(1), waited(1), waiting for(2), watching(1).

Hastening grk: pseudo; a prim. word; *to hasten, urge on*: —hastening(1), hurried(1), hurry(1), hurrying(1), in haste(1), make haste(1).

the coming of the day of God

No one knows exactly how this is going to be fulfilled, but we know that it will be fulfilled. And here's what it is that in some way shape or form - God has allowed us the opportunity to hasten the coming of the Day of God.

But How is this exhortation to be received? **(1)** by how we wait.
(2) by how we live. **(3)** By whom we proclaim,

So my lifestyle in concert with your lifestyle - - being lived for the glory of Jesus can hurry things up – Peter seems to be saying that the more obedient we are the quicker this thing can be over.

(I DO NOT UNDERSTAND HOW THIS WORKS – I JUST KNOW THAT IT DOES)

A prophecy given by Jesus Christ himself

Matthew 24:14

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

WE KNOW THE PURPOSE OF OUR MISSION

The End

3b.) Our Purpose is to warn them vs. 12b-13

because of which
the **heavens** will be **dissolved**, being **on fire**, and the **elements**
will melt with **fervent heat**?

Peter's Urgency to Repeat – It's Ending!

This is the ending of all things as we know it in this physical world.

We Are - To **Be** Ready?

It is to have a course and a purpose and direction and a meaning
that drives your life and your living.

We Are - To **Get** Ready?

It is to see that your life is scattered and a bit aimless. It is to recognize that you really don't
have much of a reason to live. And you want to change that.

We Are - To **Stay** Ready?

This is to cultivate, maintain, conduct yourself from the place of "readiness" it is to keep
yourself "sharp" or alert while you are "at the wheel".

Personal Struggles = Life Savers

I am personally convinced that this is why some of us are almost always
in a situation that "keeps us coming back to God"

For some it is **relational hardships** // For some it is **physical challenges**.
For some it is **financial stress** // For others (like me) we need a **battle**
to stay dependent upon God.

What can we expect if we are “ready” for what God wants next?

Expect **Vision** / Expect **Courage**.

Expect **Resilience** / Expect **Opposition**.

Expect **Fruit** / Expect **Ministry**.

Ministry to be Rewarded with More Ministry,
which in return is rewarded with more Ministry.

The End

4.) You know The Joy that awaits vs. 13

Expect **Joy**

2 Peter 3:13

:13 Nevertheless we, according to **His promise**,
look for a **new heavens** and a **new earth** in which **righteousness dwells**.

Here's the Linkage

:11 Therefore, since all these things will be **dissolved**, what **manner of persons** ought you to be in **holy conduct** and **godliness**,

WE KNOW THE JOY THAT AWAITS US

The End

4a.) The Joy of having His confidence vs. 13a

2 Peter 3:13

Nevertheless we, according to **His promise**, **LOOK...**

a healthy “craving, longing, lust” for what is good

James 1:26-27

If you claim to be religious but don't control your tongue, you are fooling yourself, and your religion is worthless. **27** Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you.

Jeremiah 33:16

In those days Judah will be saved, And Jerusalem will dwell safely. And this is the name by which she will be called: **THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.**'

Psalm 9:8

He shall judge the world in righteousness, And He shall administer judgment for the nations in uprightness.

Isaiah 11:4-5

But with righteousness **He shall** judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; **He shall** strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips **He shall** slay the wicked. 5 **Righteousness shall** be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist.

Isaiah 45:8

“Rain down, you heavens, from above, And **let the skies** pour down righteousness; **Let the earth** open, **let them** bring forth salvation, **And let** righteousness spring up together. I, the LORD, have created it.

WE KNOW THE JOY THAT AWAITS US

The End

4b.) The Joy of knowing His desire

vs. 13b

2 Peter 3:13

look for new heavens and a **new earth**

just think of it.

What are the joys and the pleasures in this present world that point to us about what the new world coming will be like?

What about our **eyesight**? // What about how we **physically feel**?

What about the **taste of food** or the **sound of music**?

What about **conversations** and **relationships**?

Isaiah 65:17

“For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind.

We're moving. We decided to Relocate – to a better life.

We are to be living in the light of our new home.

Heaven is where Jesus is and He is going to make all things new, and you're going to be with Him, with us – forever!

1 Corinthians 2:9-10

But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, neither has it entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.

10 But God has revealed them to us...

Our sanctified imagination / moments revelations.

Revelation 21:1-4

Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. **2** Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. **3** And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. **4** And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

We are to be living now in the light of our new life.

Jesus said that the Kingdom of God is not only a Reality – It is an Experience. It is for real and we will someday be going there – for now we have adopted the culture of Heaven and we've learned its language – we can't wait to get there!

God's Desire for His Creation

Romans 8:19-23 NLT

For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are. **20** Against its will, all creation was subjected to God's curse. But with eager hope, **21** the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay. **22** For we know that all creation has been groaning (**tiffy**) as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. **23** And we believers also groan, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, for we long for our bodies to be released from sin and suffering. We, **too (groaning like tiffy)**, wait with eager hope for the day when God will give us our full rights as his adopted children, a including the new bodies he has promised us.

WE KNOW THE JOY THAT AWAITS US

The End

4c.) The Joy of possessing His righteousness vs. 13c

in which **righteousness dwells.**

To live life as a wise investor.

To live life as a **farmer**. To live life as a **solider**. To live life as an **athlete**.
It's that we live with the hereafter "right here in front of us"

"To go to heaven, fully to enjoy God, is infinitely better than the most pleasant accommodations here." – Jonathan Edwards

Edwards went on to say (to himself in resolution 22 for his life)

"I therefore resolve, to endeavor to obtain for myself as much happiness, in the other world, as I possibly can, with all the power; might, vigor, and vehemence, yea violence, I am capable of, or can bring myself to exert, in any way that can be thought of."

Psalm 16:11

You will show me the path of life; in **Your presence is fullness of joy;**
at Your right hand **are pleasures forevermore.**

Call me foolish, call me naïve - it doesn't matter to me.

Because from this reality comes my reason for living.

**This is my purpose. This is my future. This is my motivation. This is my mission. This is my target. This is my destination. This is my retirement.
This is my forever!**

End of Study

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