

2 Peter 3:1-13

ReGifting

1. Denying the Second Coming 1-7

A. The Second Letter

"I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to stir you up by way of reminder,"

2 Peter 1:13 ESV

"Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy." And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot." -1 Peter 1:13-19 ESV

B. The Core Message

-Predictions of the prophets

"All the sinners of my people shall die by the sword, who say, 'Disaster shall not overtake or meet us.'" -Amos 9:10 ESV

"You have wearied the Lord with your words. But you say, "How have we wearied him?" By saying, "Everyone who does evil is good in the sight of the Lord, and he delights in them." Or by asking, "Where is the God of justice?" -Malachi 2:17 ESV

"and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'" -Acts 1:11 ESV

C. Scoffers 3

"It denotes people who scorn and despise God's revelation, both moral and prophetic" R. Bauckham 2 Peter WBC.

"Where is?"

"Behold, they say to me, "Where is the word of the Lord? Let it come!"

Jeremiah 17:15 ESV

"Prophecy is not for the critical or curious eye, but for the eye focused on and looking for the Lord Jesus Christ, the Coming One"

AW Tozer, Preparing for Jesus' Return

D. Creation and the Flood 5,6

"And when the Lord smelled the pleasing aroma, the Lord said in his heart, "I will never again curse the ground because of man, for the intention of man's heart is evil from his youth. Neither will I ever again strike down every living creature as I have done. While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.'" -Genesis 8:21-22 ESV

E. The Judgment that is Coming 7

"by the same Word"

2. Thank God for His Patience! 8-10

A. A Command

"For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night. You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning: in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers." -Psalm 90:4-6 ESV

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." Isaiah 55:8-9 ESV

"Almost certainly God is not in time. ...*what we call 'tomorrow' is visible to Him in just the same way as what we call 'today'.* **All the days are 'Now' for Him.** He does not remember you doing things yesterday; He simply sees you doing them, because, though you have lost yesterday, He has not. He does not 'foresee' you doing things tomorrow; He simply sees you doing them: because, though tomorrow is not yet there for you, it is for Him...He knows your tomorrow's actions...because He is already in tomorrow and can simply watch you...the moment at which you have done it is already 'Now' for Him. CS Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

Genesis 1

"For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy." -Exodus 20:11 ESV

B. The Will of God 9

"The Lord is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, forgiving iniquity and transgression, but he will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, to the third and the fourth generation.' Please pardon the iniquity of this people, according to the greatness of your steadfast love, just as you have forgiven this people, from Egypt until now.'" -Numbers 14:18-19 ESV

“They refused to obey and were not mindful of the wonders that you performed among them, but they stiffened their neck and appointed a leader to return to their slavery in Egypt. But you are a God ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and did not forsake them.”
Nehemiah 9:17 ESV

“But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.” -Psalm 86:15 ESV

“And he prayed to the Lord and said, “O Lord, is not this what I said when I was yet in my country? That is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from disaster.” -Jonah 4:2 ESV

““Yet even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments.” Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.” -Joel 2:12-13 ESV

“Do you suppose, O man—you who judge those who practice such things and yet do them yourself—that you will escape the judgment of God? Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God’s kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?” -Romans 2:3-4 ESV

C. Like a Thief 10

“But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into.” -Matthew 24:43 ESV

“For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.” -1 Thessalonians 5:2 ESV

“Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you.” -Revelation 3:3 ESV

“(“Behold, I am coming like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake, keeping his garments on, that he may not go about naked and be seen exposed!”)”
Revelation 16:15 ESV

3. What Kind of Life Would You Live 11-13

A. Holiness and Mission

“Therefore, the point of Bible prophecy is not to alarm us but to alert us to the circumstances leading up to the Lord’s return. This alertness is to spur us on to be ready; and the Bible says a lot about how we can be ready for His return”
AW Tozer, *Preparing for Jesus’ Return*

“His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence,”
2 Peter 1:3 ESV

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.”
Matthew 24:14 ESV

B. Blessed Hope

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.””
Revelation 21:1-5 ESV

Reflection: Are you looking forward to seeing Jesus? Are you living on mission in a Christlike life?

Follow UP in the Word through the Week...

Monday: Genesis 1. What essential core belief is expressed in this chapter? Why is that so important today?

Tuesday: Malachi 2:17. What does the prophet express? What danger is there in this attitude?

Wednesday: Jonah 4:2. What does Jonah express about the character of God? How does this aspect of God’s character help to understand 2 Peter 3:9?

Thursday: Romans 2:3-4. What is God’s kindness supposed to lead us to? How does this explanation help in your understanding of 2 Peter 3:9?

Friday: Matthew 24:14. What does Jesus say about the end? What does this say about our mission today?

Saturday: Revelation 21:1-5. How would you relate this future to someone who does not know Jesus?