2 Peter 3:11-14

Remembering Truth When it Really Counts
"…a primer to guard against false teaching"
<u>Understanding Our Promise</u>

<u>Be Transformed for His Glory</u>

Understanding Our Promise (3:1-18)

1. Its Certainty: (3:1-10) – Don't Lose Hope
2. **Its Power (3:11-18) – Be Transformed for His Glory**

Today's Learning Objective:
As believers in Christ, we are to be _____ and _____ to His Coming again, with _____ in all our behavior. It will be the day when God completes His dealing with sin in His creation. Therefore, we are to recognize the reality of coming judgment and the destruction of all things.

Anticipating the Coming of the Lord (3:11-18)
11 Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people 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 destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat! 13 But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells. 14 Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless, 15 and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, 16 as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction. 17 You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness, 18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

- **Anticipating the Coming of the Lord**

  - In 2 Peter 3, Peter is focusing on the events associated with the second coming of Christ to earth. In chapter 1 he wrote about the _____ provided at His first coming. In the first part of chapter 3 he focused attention on the assurance of the second coming and the judgment that will take place then. He referred to the events around the second coming as the "_____." (3:10)

    1. "the day of the Lord" – is a _____ encompassing a number of events.

    2. All these events are tied together with the coming of Christ to earth, the judgment that will take place and the ultimate redemption of God's creation. Some of the major events that will take place include:

       a. _____ (1 Thess. 4:16,17) – True believers brought into the presence of God

b. _____ (Rev. 6:15-17) – God's wrath poured out on a sinful world; and at His working to bring Israel to its knees and draw it to faith in Jesus as the Messiah.

c. _____ (Rev. 19:11-16) – The enemies of the Lord will be destroyed.

d. _____ (Rev. 20:1-7 – Christ will reign in righteousness.

e. _____; and _____ (Rev. 20:11-15) – God's final judgment on all who have rejected Him by faith.

f. _____ (2 Pet. 3:10-13; Rev. 21:1)

Peter's focal point has been on judgment and destruction because this is what the false teachers want to deny. (2 Pet. 3:4) They want to deny that Jesus Christ is coming again, and bothered by His dealing with sin and judging the wicked.

Is this true today? (2 Tim 4:1-4)

- **A Call for Steadfastness**

➢ Peter has been reminding his readers that judgment will come and God has a purpose in why it has not yet happened. He is going to elaborate on that purpose beginning with verse 11.

1. 2 Pet. 3:11: "Since <u>all these things</u> are to be destroyed in this way,…" – refers to verse 10, the _____, the _____, and all its works are going to be destroyed.

2. Since this is going to happen, "…what sort of people ought you to be in _____." What is Peter asking us to recognize?

   a. Holiness and godliness is to characterize _____.

   b. Peter began this concept back in chapter 1 and in his first letter. (2 Pet. 1:3-5; 1 Pet. 1:13) – God provides _____.

   c. Peter is implying that if you really know _____, if you really understand the _____, then you are driven to the pursuit of holiness and godliness in your _____.

3. 2 Pet. 3:12: "looking for and hastening" – used in verse 12, 13, 14 – Our behavior and conduct is motivated by _____. Believers have a different _____ and _____ of life.

    a. We are not to fear the future day of the Lord, but _____ for it. (1 Cor. 1:7; 16:22; 1 John 2:28, 3:3)

4. "…the coming of the day of God…" - Rev. 16:14; 1 Cor. 15:28; Rom. 8:18-23)

5. 2 Pet. 3:13: "But according to His promise…" – the "promise" of a new _____ is rooted in the OT. (Ps. 102:25; Isa. 65:17; 66:22; 2 Pet. 2:19-21)
    God _____ and that _____ will come true!

6. God will create a "new heavens and new earth" (Matt.24:35)
    a. There is a connection with the old because they are "new" heavens and earth. "New" – _____, _____, _____.

    b. Precedence – 1&2 Peter: First heavens and earth suffered _____.

    c. This time, in an even greater, more complete way, the earth and heavens will be radically altered and made completely _____when they are destroyed by _____and the _____by God.

    d. "But it has been so long." – _____.

    e. The new heavens and new earth will be the _____. What does this mean? (Rev. 21:1-4, 22-27; Isa. 60:19-22)

7. 2 Pet. 3:14 Peter commands _____ in our pursuit of holiness and godliness. (2 Pet. 5-11)
    a. Diligence in pursuit by what resources/means?

8. "Peace" of salvation _____ (Rom 5:1; Rom. 8:1)

9. Believers should have a _____ and a _____. These are in contrast to the false teachers (2 Pet. 2:13), but like Jesus Christ (1 Pet. 1:19)

a. The _____ is to manifest itself in our lives as His people.

b. At His second coming, we must be diligent to be found by Him in _____and to be _____ of our salvation. Does this mean as a Christian, we live without sin?

c. As a child of God walking in obedience to Him, how does it address the sin that keeps asserting itself in your life?

d. For believers, the promise of Christ's return serves as a _____ incentive for holy living. Why? What are some practical things believers should be practicing?