



BAND of BROTHERS

SUMMER SERIES 2022 – WEEK 6

2 Peter 3:14-18 – Don't Get Carried Away

You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability.

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

– 2 Peter 2:3:17-18 ESV

- **In conclusion**

Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace. – 2 Peter 3:14 ESV

- Peter has covered a lot of territory

His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness. – 2 Peter 1:3 ESV

...supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. – 2 Peter 1:5-7 ESV

Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! – 2 Peter 3:11-12 ESV

- So, what do we do now?

therefore... – *dio* – “with all that in mind

...in conclusion

...as a result

...on account of

- What “things” are we waiting for – vs 14

*But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. Since **all these things** are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of **the day of God**.* – 2 Peter 3:10-12 ESV

“the day of the Lord”

“The Day of the Lord is a period of time in which God will deal with wicked men directly and dramatically in fearful judgment.” – John Walvoord, “The Day of the Lord,” www.walvoord.com

“The phrase “the day of the LORD [Yahweh]” refers both to the ultimate time when Yahweh will punish and restore the whole world through Christ’s first and second comings...” – Jason S. DeRouchies, “The Day of the Lord,” www.thegospelcoalition.com

- **The coming judgment of God**

- Peter has used two past events to convey the inevitability of Christ’s coming and the judgment that will accompany His return

- Creation

*For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and **the earth was formed out of water** and through water by the word of God... – 2 Peter 3:5 ESV*

Day 3 of creation

And God said, “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. – Genesis 1:9-10 ESV

- The Flood

*...and that by means of these **the world that then existed was deluged with water** and perished. – 2 Peter 3:6 ESV*

The sinfulness of mankind

The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the Lord regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. – Genesis 6:5-6 ESV

*So the Lord said, “I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, **for I am sorry that I have made them.**” – Genesis 6:7 ESV*

*But **Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.***

*These are the generations of Noah. **Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation.** Noah walked with God. – Genesis 6:8-9 ESV*

- It had been 1,656 years since Adam and Eve
- There world had grown progressively wicked
- No judgment had come upon sinful humanity
- But sin **always** brings judgment

Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence. And God saw the earth, and behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. And God said to Noah, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence through them. Behold, I will destroy them with the earth." – Genesis 6:11-13 ESV

*"For in seven days I will send rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and every living thing that I have made **I will blot out from the face of the ground.**" – Genesis 7:4 ESV*

*And **all flesh died** that moved on the earth, birds, livestock, beasts, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all mankind. **Everything on the dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died.** – Genesis 7:21-22 ESV*

They were blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those who were with him in the ark. – Genesis 7:4 ESV

- God eventually judged the wicked
- He would delay no longer
- But He spared a remnant – Noah's family

- **The coming of Christ and the destruction of the ungodly**

*But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until **the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.** – 2 Peter 3:7 ESV*

- Peter is warning that there is another judgment to come
- It is directly tied to the return of Christ
- And it was predicted by the prophets, the apostles, and Jesus Himself

*The Lord of Heaven's Armies says, "The day of judgment is coming, burning like a furnace. **On that day the arrogant and the wicked will be burned up like straw.** They will be consumed—roots, branches, and all." – Malachi 4:1 NLT*

For the Son of Man will come in His Father's glory with His angels, and then He will repay each one according to what he has done. – Matthew 16:27 BSB

- This world will face a second and final judgment
- God will destroy this earth and make a new one
- And we will populate that new earth

*Then I saw **a new heaven and a new earth**, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.*

I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, “Look, God’s home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.”

*And the one sitting on the throne said, “Look, **I am making everything new!**” And then he said to me, “Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true.” – Revelation 21:1-5 NLT*

- **With all that in mind...**

*Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, **waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God**, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to his promise **we are waiting** for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. – 2 Peter 3:11-13 ESV*

- We are waiting...
- And while we are waiting...we are to pursue holiness and godliness
- Just as Paul encouraged us to do

*Dear friends, you always followed my instructions when I was with you. And now that I am away, it is even more important. **Work hard to show the results of your salvation**, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him. – Philippians 2:12-13 NLT*

*Don’t you see how wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can’t you see that his kindness is intended **to turn you from your sin**? – Romans 2:4 NLT*

- The teachings of Peter and Paul were difficult to understand, but true

There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures. – 2 Peter 3:16 ESV

- Peter viewed Paul’s letters to be Scripture
- He put Paul on the same level as the prophets

- And he accuses the false teachers of twisting Paul’s words and the rest of Scripture
- He refers to these people as ignorant, unstable, and lawless

“It was the practice in the early church from the beginning to carry on the Jewish synagogue custom of reading two passages, one from the Pentateuch and one from the Prophets, but then to add a reading from an apostolic writing...The First Christians recognized that the same Holy Spirit who inspired the OT prophets was still at work.” – Norman Hillyer, *1 and 2 Peter, Jude, New International Biblical Commentary*

- **Giving in or growing up**

*You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are **not carried away** with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. **But grow** in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. – 2 Peter 3:17-18 ESV*

- **Not carried away** – *synapagō* – to condescend to yield or submit one’s self to lowly things, conditions, employments: not to evade their power
 - You get swept away, carried along
 - You fail to remain rooted
- **But grow**
 - With all this in mind...**remain rooted and grow**
keep on growing (present imperative)

*May God give you more and more grace and peace **as you grow** in your knowledge of God and Jesus our Lord. – 2 Peter 1:2 NLT*

- Our growth is **imperative** and **non-optional**
- And it is **grace-based** and **Spirit-empowered**

*By his divine power, **God has given us everything we need for living a godly life.** We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself by means of his marvelous glory and excellence. – 2 Peter 1:3 NLT*

- We are commanded to grow

*Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk **so that you will grow** into a full experience of salvation. – 1 Peter 2:2 NLT*

*...**we are to grow up in every way** into him who is the head, into Christ... – Ephesians 4:15 ESV*

- And our growth is to continue...**to the day of eternity**
Stand firm Don’t get distracted

Stay focused
Remain rooted
Keep growing

Maintain hope
Trust His promises
Anticipate His return

- **Discussion questions**

How are we to remain firmly rooted so that we can effectively grow?

What kinds of things prevent us from thinking about and hoping for the imminent return of Christ?

Go back and look at verse 14. What do you think Peter means when he challenges us to “be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish?” How are we to pull that off?