

# ***Time is Short! So Be on Guard, Be Holy, and Grow in Jesus Christ!***

**2 Peter 3:11–18**

## **WHAT IS TRUE AND WHAT TO DO:**

The end of the world should motivate Christians because Jesus is coming to judge and remake the world. So, believers ought to remember how they are to wait for the Lord's return. Christians should commit themselves to right living for the sake of evangelizing, making disciples, and growing in their faith.

- 1.) Time is **short!** Do you know what happens when Christ **returns**? (v. 3:11–13)
  - a. All “these things” (v.11) refer to the present heavens and earth (aka the universe as we know it); they are to be **dissolved** (ref. to v. 7–10).
  - b. Based on God's prophetic **promise**, new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness dwells, will come (Isa. 65:17; 66:22, v. 3:4, 13).
- 2.) While we **wait** and **hasten** (eagerly await) the Day of the Lord (v.3:14) ...
  - a. Be **holy** in conduct and **godliness** as you wait.
  - b. Be at **peace** (e.g., reconciled to God through Jesus or be saved)
  - c. Make every effort to greet the coming Lord as His pure, **spotless** bride; Only the righteous will be able to enter the new world that is coming. Will the Lord find your character completely untarnished if He were to return today?
- 3.) You have now been **warned** ahead of time, so **be on guard** and do not give in to the world's ways or falsehoods (vv. 15–18)
  - a. **Be patient** (willing to wait) as God is patient; think of the Lord's patience as Salvation (v.15). While false teachers see the delay of the Second Coming as 'lateness,' Christians should interpret it positively as their chance to repent and gain the salvation they might have missed if there had been no such delay (v. 3:9, 13, 15; *Be patient remembering God's promise*)
  - b. **Beware** of false teaching (doctrines) and teachers (3:15–17)
    - “Beloved”; God's Love is at the Heart of Peter's Instruction
    - Listen also to the apostle Paul; know that lawless false teachers will twist Paul's words and Scripture, but punishment is coming
  - c. **Glorify God**; grow in **grace** and in the **knowledge** of Jesus (3:18)

**CONCLUSION AND APPLICATION:** *Knowing the truth, live every day for Jesus!*