

Series: Until I Breathe My Last: 2 Peter

Text: 2 Peter 3:11-18

HI: Walk with the Lord as you wait on His promise.

Title: *The End Draws Nigh*

Hook: Preparedness

Date: 6.26.22

Purpose: To call God's people to walk with Jesus as we await His return.

FCF: Like the original readers, we face the challenge of waiting for Christ's return in a world that undercuts His truth. God's grace meets us here, as we are called to walk with Jesus in the hope of His promise.

COR: If you knew how it would all end (not just your life, but the whole universe), this knowledge would inform your behavior. That's how Peter closes this letter.

Christ Trajectory [CT*]: 15a: He's waiting to judge because he's willing to save.

Apologetic: [In Introduction] Do you see Christians fall short of their ideals? That's a reality, friend. That is why we have a letter like this. We know we're flawed, fickle, and tempted toward what is false. That's why we gather—to get a stay grounded in the truth and to grow together. So, if you don't know Christ, listen to these words in these next few moments, and perhaps you'll meet him, as we grow to know Him better.

Form: Deductive

Outline:

I. The challenge is waiting on the promise. (11-13)

A. Our holiness anticipates it. (11)

B. Our witness accelerates it. (12)

C. His promise assures it. (13)

II. The calling is walking with the Lord. (14-18)

A. Be diligent. (14)

B. Be grateful. (15)

C. Be grounded. (16-17)

D. Be growing. (18)

Main Idea:

Subject: What sort of people ought we to be as we wait on the promise?

Complement: Diligent, grateful, grounded, and growing.

Exegetical Idea: As we wait on the promise, Christians should be diligent in peace and holiness, grateful for mercy, grounded in the Word, and growing in grace.

Theological Idea: Christians are to walk with the Lord as they wait on His promise.

Homiletical Idea: Walk with the Lord as you wait on His promise.

Introduction:

¹¹ Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness,

¹² 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!

¹³ But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

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

¹⁵ And count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him,

¹⁶ as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. 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.

¹⁷ 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.

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. 2 Pet. 3:11-18

HI: Walk with the Lord as you wait on His promise.

READ 2 Peter 3:11-13

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I. The challenge is waiting on the promise. (11-13)

"But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. (Matt. 24:36)

Matthew 24:14 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.

RE-READ 2 Peter 3:14-18

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II. The calling is walking with the Lord. (14-18)

A. Be diligent. (14)

through [Christ] [God was pleased to] reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.²¹ And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, ²³ if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister. (Col. 1:20-23)

B. Be grateful. (15)

C. Be grounded. (16-17)

¹⁴ As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; ¹⁵ but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all *aspects* into Him, who is the head, *even* Christ, (Eph. 4:14-15 NAS)

D. Be growing. (18)

HI: Walk with the Lord as you wait on His promise.

1. Knowledge of Jesus brings grace and peace.
2. Knowing Christ triggers a godly life.
3. Before you forsake the truth, you forget the gospel.
4. We have been given everything we need to live for Jesus until we see Jesus.
5. Those who defy God will face His soon enough.
6. The only reason God is waiting to judge is because He's willing to save.

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