

ShalomAZ Ministries

In Pursuit of Israel's Redemption

"Since All Will Be Dissolved, How Should We Be?" Rabbi Cosmo Panzetta Devotion and Discussin Questions

Key Texts: 2 Pet. 3:10-13; Ps. 90:4; Joel 2:1-2; Is. 13:6; Zeph. 1:14-18; Mal. 4:1-2; Mt. 24:37-44; Lk 12:35-40; Is. 65:17-18; Rev. 21:1-5

Peter ends his letter with a piercing question, one that refuses to let us sit in complacency. He has already reminded us of what the prophets and apostles declared: that scoffers will come, that judgment has already fallen once in the days of Noah, and that God's seeming delay is not absence but mercy—because He desires none to perish, but all to come to repentance. That's the backdrop of verses 1–9: remember the Word, remember His promises, remember His patience.

But then Peter shifts the focus in verses 10–13 to the unavoidable reality: the Day of the Lord WILL come. It will arrive like a thief, suddenly and without warning. The heavens will roar and dissolve, the very elements will melt with heat, and the works of the earth will be exposed and undone. And in the middle of that sobering vision, Peter asks the million-dollar question: "Since all will be dissolved in this way, how should we be?"

That's the question we must face today. If everything around us—everything we can touch and see—is temporary, fading, and destined for fire, then what kind of existence is necessary? How should we live in light of that reality? This isn't a call to fear—it's a call to clarity. It's a call to live ready, holy, and hopeful as we await the promise of new heavens and a new earth where righteousness dwells.

1. LIVE READY, BECAUSE THE DAY WILL COME SUDDENLY

Peter says, "The Day of the Lord will come like a thief." That image is jarring because it means it will come when no one expects it. Just like the flood came in Noah's day, sweeping away those who ignored the warnings, so the fire of God's judgment will come upon this present heavens and earth. The heavens will roar and dissolve, the elements will melt, the earth and all its works will be exposed.

This isn't a scare tactic—it's a wake-up call. The question isn't *if* the Day of the Lord will come, but *when*. And since it will come suddenly, the call is to live ready. Yeshua Himself said, "If the master of the house had known what time the thief was coming, he would have kept watch." To live ready means we guard our hearts, we don't get lulled into spiritual sleep, and we anchor ourselves in His Word so that we are not surprised but steady.

2. Live Holy, Because Everything Else Will Burn Away

Peter continues: "Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what kind of people should you be?" Literally: "What sort of existence ought you to live?" His

answer is clear: "In holiness of conduct and godliness." If everything in this present world is destined for fire, then why cling to it? Why anchor our identity, our hope, or our security in things that cannot last?

Holiness doesn't mean withdrawal from the world—it means living distinct within it. It means our lives are shaped by God's Word and God's Spirit, not by the cravings of scoffers or the corruption of the age. To live holy is to live differently, to be light in the darkness, to carry the fragrance of Messiah in a world that is fading away. Holiness isn't optional—it's the only way to live in light of eternity.

3. LIVE HOPEFUL, BECAUSE GOD'S PROMISE IS A NEW CREATION

Peter doesn't end with fire—he ends with hope. He says, "According to His promise, we look for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness dwells." This is not just judgment—it's renewal. God's story doesn't stop with burning; it culminates in beauty. He is making all things new.

So we live not in dread but in expectation. We live as people of hope—knowing that righteousness will one day have a permanent home. In that new creation there will be no injustice, no corruption, no violence, no death. Everything that grieves us now will be swallowed up in the joy of His kingdom. And that promise strengthens us to live today with endurance, knowing that the best is yet to come.

CONCLUSION

Peter's question is timeless: "What kind of people should you be?" The answer is simple, but life-changing. Live ready—because the Day will come suddenly. Live holy—because everything else will burn away. Live hopeful—because God's promise is a new creation. God's patience is mercy. His delay is your opportunity. Don't waste the wait. Don't assume you'll have another chance. The Day will come like a thief. Today, the door remains open. Turn to Yeshua, receive His forgiveness, and step into the hope of new creation.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. How do verses 1–9 prepare us to understand the urgency of verses 10–13?
- 2. What does it mean for the Day of the Lord to come "like a thief"?
- 3. Why is holiness so important in light of coming judgment?
- 4. How does the promise of a new heavens and new earth shape our daily choices?
- 5. What does it look like to live hopeful while the world is still groaning?

CLOSING PRAYER:

Abba Father, thank You for Your patience and mercy. Thank You that You are not slow, but patient, giving room for repentance. Teach us to live ready, holy, and hopeful. Anchor our lives in Your promises and help us to live as witnesses of Your coming kingdom. Make us people of remembrance, people of holiness, and people of hope, until the Day of Yeshua's return.

In Yeshua's name, amen.