

2 Peter

Chapter Three

FAITH COMES BY HEARING: Read Chapter Three

SUMMARY: Verses 1-18

1. Reading Scripture can stimulate you to wholesome thinking. God's Word can heal the mind and emotions.
2. Peter begins to address the characteristic traits that will be apparent as Christ's return nears. Peter says that the longer it takes for Christ to return that evil desires will attempt prevail over pure living.
3. Peter encourages his readers not to get sidetracked and lose sight of Jesus' return. Again, Peter makes a certain plea that Jesus will return and it's a guarantee because Scripture has made such certain to us. He states that 1 day with God is like 1,000 years to us. This gives insight into Christ's millennial reign which will be 1,000. It will be a complete day of God's rest. Only Methuselah lived to be 969. He was a mere 31 years short of living 1,000 years. This fulfills the curse brought on by Adam's rebellion. "In the DAY (1,000 years) you eat of the fruit you will die." No man ever lived 1,000 because of the curse. But we live 1,000 years with Christ now because He alone broke the curse. (Read Genesis 2 - 5; Revelation 20)
4. The earth, heavens, and ungodly people will be judged by God.
5. God has no desire for ungodly people to die. He has made every effort to remedy such in Jesus. But a rejection of Jesus brings about His judgment.
6. Peter instructs us not to be afraid of judgment. He exhorts us to look for the day of the Lord and live holy and godly lives.
7. Righteousness dwells in the new heaven and the new earth. This presents the truth that the only way for mankind to live in the new heaven and the new earth is to be righteous. As much as God loves the sinner, if they are not made right with Him they cannot dwell in the new heaven and the new earth.
8. We are to make effort to live spotless, blameless, and at peace with God.
9. We are exhorted to grow in grace, live guarded against teachings of error, and make certain we do not fall away from the position of security that Jesus has made for us.

REFLECTION

1. What verse stuck out to you most?
2. How can Scripture reading stimulate wholesome thinking and aid in handling your emotions?
3. How can staying focused on Christ's return help you to live pure?
4. How is it possible that Jesus alone can bring us into God's rest?
5. Why does it seem so taboo today to talk about judgment upon sin and those who live ungodly?
6. Why would Peter exhort us to live spotless and blameless if it were not possible?

APPLICATION

1. Do you use Scripture to help calm your nerves, your thought life, and your emotions? How could you do so?
2. Are you afraid of judgment? If so, why? If you believe then Jesus has taken such away from you.
3. If God has no desire for the ungodly to die then what can He do to assure them of such?
4. Do you let God use you to assure others they don't have to be judged?
5. Do you know people right now who are ungodly? Do you believe they will be judged? If so, what will you do such?

