

“Living in the Light of Christ’s Coming”

2 Peter 3:11-18

Pastor John Miller

I. Introduction

- A. Heaven for the Christian is not just a future destination; it is also a present motivation.
 - 1. “...what manner of persons ought you to be?” (v. 11)
 - a) Or “how should you live?”
 - 2. Peter gives us four admonitions on how we should live in the light of Christ’s coming.
 - 3. Last week:
 - a) “Beloved, be mindful”
 - 1) The truth of God’s Word (v. 2)
 - 2) Last day’s scoffers (v. 3)
 - b) “Beloved, be not ignorant”
 - 1) God is eternal (v. 8)
 - 2) God is merciful (v. 9)
 - 3) God is faithful (v. 10)
 - a. “The day of the Lord will come” (v. 10)
 - 4. Today, two more admonitions
 - a) “Beloved, be diligent.”
 - b) “Beloved, beware”

II. Beloved be Diligent (2 Peter 3:11-14)

- A. “See then that all these things shall be dissolved” (v. 11)
 - 1. What things will be “dissolved?”
 - a) “The end of the world” (v. 10)
 - 2. Peter asks in verse 11, “How should we live?”
 - a) “Not as a materialist”
- B. We should live in two ways.
 - 1. “Holy and godly lives” (v. 11)
 - a) “Holy” is our actions. It is living differently from unbelievers.
 - b) “Godliness” is our attitude. It’s living to honor and please God.
 - c) “For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:11-13)

2. Live in expectation (vv. 12-14)
 - a) “Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God” (v. 12)
 - 1) “Looking for” (v. 12)
 - 2) “Look for” (v. 13)
 - 3) “Look for” (v. 14)
 - b) It portrays an attitude of expectancy
 - c) It means we should be heavenly-minded
 - 1) “Love not the world” (1 John 2:15-17)
 - 2) Jesus said, “What would it profit if you gain the world yet lose your soul?”
 - d) We should be looking for and living for the eternal (vv. 13-14)
 - e) Are you ready for heaven?

III. Beloved Beware (2 Peter 3:15-18)

- A. Don’t lose your evangelistic zeal (vv. 15-16)
 1. “The long-suffering of our Lord is salvation” (v. 15)
 2. Remember what the “scoffers” said—“Jesus won’t keep His promise.”
 - a) He will, but He is long-suffering
 - b) “The Lord’s patience gives people time to be saved” (v. 15).
 - c) Tell your family and friends
- B. Don’t be carried away by false teaching (v. 17)
 1. “Beloved, beware” (v. 17)
 - a) Literally, “be on guard” or “keep your eyes open.”
 - b) It’s a military term to “keep watch at a post.”
 - 1) Or you will be “dragged away” (v. 17)
 - 2) You will fall from your steadfast position (v. 17)
 2. How do you stand steadfast?
 - a) Keep growing. How?
 - 1) In grace (Spirit)
 - 2) Knowledge (knowing the Bible)
 - a. (1 Peter 2:2)
 - b. It’s the knowledge of Jesus Christ
 - c. It’s the most important knowledge a person can have (John 14:6)
 - d. “To Him be the glory both now and forever” (v. 18)

IV. Conclusion

- A. Jesus is coming again!

1. Clean up
 - a) (1 John 1:8-9)
2. Look up
 - a) Don't live for this world
3. Speak up
 - a) The Gospel
 - b) (John 3:16)