



Daily Bible Habit

The Epistles Of Peter

Thomas F. Fischer, M.Div., M.S.A.

Focus Points...*For 2 Peter 3*

Listen...

- * To Peter's final words to the Christians of his day as he prepares for his own martyrdom.

Prayer:

Holy Spirit, You embolden those who share God's Word of grace. As I complete Peter's Second Letter, help me to see Peter's uncompromising boldness to proclaim You and his unwavering trust in You in every circumstance. Help me to hear, learn and apply his message to my life. In Your name I pray. Amen.

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Commentary:

The final eighteen verses of Peter's Second Letter remind his hearers to look forward to Jesus' Second Coming. At that time, justice will be done. The evildoers condemned and the righteous saints brought into glory.

Scoffers and evil doers must scoff at the idea of Jesus' coming. They will do everything necessary to deny the temporal and eternal consequences of their evil. Believers must remain confident in Jesus' coming. Such confidence requires patient trust in God's promises.

"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." (3:9)

Preparing for his own martyrdom, Peter is not merely preparing others for Jesus' coming. He's also preparing for his own departure and looking forward to being with Jesus.

"But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness." (3:13).

Peter's mention of Paul may be an indication that Paul is with him. Though Paul had to boldly confront Peter in Acts 15 et al, in these last days of their lives Peter demonstrated a remarkable respect for Paul and his ministry.

Much of what Peter wrote in these epistles is mirrored in Paul's writings. Could that be a coincidence? Not at all!



“He Paul] writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction.” (3:15-16)

Both Peter and Paul shared the joys and disappointments of ministry. Their shared the joy of seeing lives changed for Jesus and the devastation which evildoers brought to the Church. But both shared the same goal: to preach Christ crucified for sinners.

Peter’s final words could be considered his last will and testament for all Christians.

“Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.” (3:18)

Peter’s words are for all Christians of every age. May you grow in God’s grace and knowledge each day as you grow in His Holy Word.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, Your apostle Peter proved faithful in His calling. Help me to grow in Your grace so that I, too, may prove faithful to You in my calling. Keep me strong in my faith. Never let me waver. Enable me to follow You and be faithful to You now and forever. Amen.

Thomas F. Fischer

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