



~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing



Vol. 14 Issue 253

Sept. 08,2011

Prayer

God Father; in Jesus’ name I ask it, Lord strengthen us when we are scoffed at help us always be ready with an answer as to what our hope is and calling. Give us peace. Refresh us in Your mercy and compassion. Supply all our needs and bless us with our daily bread, keep us and protect us in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Worship Music

[The Light In Me-
Brandon Heath](#)

[Give Me Your Eyes-
Brandon Heath](#)

[Love Never Fails-
Brandon Heath](#)

[Don't Get Comfortable-
Brandon Heath](#)

Scripture

2 Peter 3 (2005)

2 Peter 3:1-18 (AMP)

- ¹ BELOVED, I am now writing you this second letter. In [both of] them I have stirred up your un-sullied (sincere) mind by way of remembrance,
- ² That you should recall the predictions of the holy (consecrated, dedicated) prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior [given] through your apostles (His special messengers).
- ³ To begin with, you must know *and* understand this, that scoffers (mockers) will come in the last days with scoffing, [people who] walk after their own fleshly desires
- ⁴ And say, Where is the promise of His coming? For since the forefathers fell asleep, all things have continued exactly as they did from the beginning of creation.
- ⁵ For they willfully overlook *and* forget this [fact], that the heavens [came into] existence long ago by the word of God, and the earth also which was formed out of water and by means of water,
- ⁶ Through which the world that then [existed] was deluged with water and perished.
- ⁷ But by the same word the present heavens and earth have been stored up (reserved) for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly people.
- ⁸ Nevertheless, do not let this one fact escape you, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day.
- ⁹ The Lord does not delay *and* is not tardy *or* slow about what He promises, according to some people's conception of slowness, but He is long-suffering (extraordinarily patient) toward you, not desiring that any should perish, but that all should turn to repentance.
- ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will vanish (pass away) with a thunderous crash, and the [material] elements [of the universe] will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and the works that are upon it will be burned up.
- ¹¹ Since all these things are thus in the process of being dissolved, what kind of person ought [each of] you to be [in the meanwhile] in consecrated *and* holy behavior and devout *and* godly qualities,
- ¹² While you wait and earnestly long for (expect and hasten) the coming of the day of God by reason of which the flaming heavens will be dissolved, and the [material] elements [of the universe] will flare *and* melt with fire?
- ¹³ But we look for new heavens and a new earth according to His promise, in which righteousness (uprightness, freedom from sin, and right standing with God) is to abide.
- ¹⁴ So, beloved, since you are expecting these things, be eager to be found by Him [at His coming] without spot or blemish and at peace [in serene confidence, free from fears and agitating passions and moral conflicts].
- ¹⁵ And consider that the long-suffering of our Lord [His slowness in avenging wrongs and judging the world] is salvation (that which is conducive to the soul's safety), even as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the spiritual insight given him,
- ¹⁶ Speaking of this as he does in all of his letters. There are some things in those [epistles of Paul] that are difficult to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist *and* misconstrue to their own utter destruction, just as [they distort and misinterpret] the rest of the Scriptures.

Radio Stations...

[KWVE ...Calvary Chapel](#)

[KLOVE](#)

Bible Studies

Chuck Smith

[Through The Bible](#)

[Bob Coy/Teachings](#)

[Mike MacIntosh](#)

[Jon Courson](#)

[Biblos.com](#)

[Billy Graham](#)

[Charles Stanley](#)

[David Wilkerson](#)

[Greg Laurie](#)

[Virtue for Women- CatheLaurie](#)

Questions: E-mail

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#)

¹⁷ Let me warn you therefore, beloved, that knowing these things beforehand, you should be on your guard, lest you be carried away by the error of lawless *and* wicked [persons and] fall from your own [present] firm condition [your own steadfastness of mind].

¹⁸ But grow in grace (undeserved favor, spiritual strength) and recognition *and* knowledge *and* understanding of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (the Messiah). To Him [be] glory (honor, majesty, and splendor) both now and to the day of eternity. Amen (so be it)!



2 Peter 3. The Delay of the Lord's Coming

Jesus had said things that could have been construed to imply His return in that first generation of the church (Matthew 16:28 ; 24:34). The apostles used expressions that indicated His near appearance (Romans 13:12 ; Hebrews 10:25 ; James 5:8 ; Revelation 1:3). Jesus hinted that His return might come after a long time (Matthew 25:19) and suggested that it would be wise to prepare for a delay (Matthew 25:4). Paul expressly stated that it would not be until *after* the apostasy (2 Thessalonians 2:2-3). Peter, in this chapter, makes it clear that with God 1000 years are like a day (2 Peter 3:8 ; Psalm 90:4). He will keep His promise according to His own chronology. These passages when put together seem to indicate that God designed that each successive generation should live in constant expectation of the Lord's coming. bearing should all this, after 2000 years of delay, have on our thinking about the Lord's coming? The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise; rather, He is patiently waiting for His people to come to repentance. He desires that no one should perish. Praise God for His loving mercy and grace! His coming is now 2000 years nearer than it was then. The night is far spent. Day may be nearer than we think. Who knows but what the Lord's train, at long last, may even now be whistling for the Grand Central Station, with the angels ready to shout, "All aboard!" of the subjects ridiculed by the false teachers mentioned in chapter 2 is the Lord's second coming (3:3-4). But the Lord *will* come (v. 10). And it will be a day of destruction for the ungodly (v. 7), like the Flood in the days of Noah. Next time it will be by fire, as is very plainly stated (v. 10). Whether by explosion or by collision with another heavenly body or by some other means, we do not know. But from it all, God's people will be delivered, and for them there will be a new heaven and a new earth (vv. 13-14 ; Revelation 21-22). closing, Peter mentions letters of Paul (2 Peter 3:15) and calls them Scripture (v. 16). And, as in his first letter Peter spoke of the Word of God as being the source of the new birth (1 Peter 1:23) and the means of growth (1 Peter 2:2) for the Christian, so he does here. In this letter that foretells apostasy in the church, Peter insists that knowledge of Christ through His word will help us make our calling and election sure (2 Peter 1:2, 4, 10). The way for the church to combat apostasy and to keep itself pure and free from worldly corruption is to hold fast to the Word of God as given by the Prophets and Apostles (1:19 ; 3:2).

(Halley's Bible Handbook, Henry Halley; 2000; Zondervan; History of Bible and commentaries; pages 881-882)



The Return of Christ: V4 Peter prophesied that people would doubt Christ's imminent return and would claim that things were continuing as they had from the beginning. This sounds like the uniformitarianism taught by the evolutionists. V5-6 Evolutionists are willfully ignorant of the evidences of nature that refute their beliefs. The don't accept the biblical account of the flood that covered the earth. V7 Our Earth is reserved for destruction by fire. V8 God isn't bound by time, for He dwells in the eternal now (Revelation 4:8). V9 James 5:7. V10 The destruction of the Earth as prophesied here sounds like nuclear fission. The Bible tells us that Christ holds everything together (Colossians 1:17). When He lets go, the world will blow apart. V11 The spiritual world is the only one that will last. V13 The end of the world doesn't dismay us, for we're looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth. V15 God's long-suffering has been the salvation of many people. V16 Peter read Paul's epistles and confessed that some things in them were difficult to understand. Some people had misinterpreted Paul's teaching and were twisting God's grace as a license to go out and sin, to their own destruction.

(New Testament Study Guide; The Word For Today; Chuck Smith; 2005; commentaries; page 177)



Second Peter 3:8 reminds us that God has His own sense of timing. God does not move in our timing. He is never late, but He is usually not early either. He is often the God of the midnight hour. He sometimes waits until the last second before He gives us what we need. We must learn to trust God's timing. But before we can do that, we must come to the place where we are broken before Him. What I mean is that our self-will and our spirit of independence must be broken before God is free to work His will in our lives and circumstances. Before He intervenes on our behalf, He has to be sure that we are not going to take matters into our own hands and do something out of His perfect timing. Galatians 6:9 says, "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (King James Version). The interesting thing about this scripture is that it always seems to encourage people. Yet really, in this verse, God does not tell us when something is going to happen because "due season" is not specific. If we start checking references that have to do with timing in the Bible, we will find descriptions like: "at the appointed season, in due time, in due season." Many times when I am waiting on God in a situation and I get discouraged about the time it is taking for Him to answer, someone gives me one of those kinds of scriptures and it encourages me. I still do not know any details because "due time" is really just the time that God knows is right, but the scripture does remind

me to trust God. David wrote a power passage in Psalm 31:14, 15: "But I trusted in, relied on, and was confident in You, O Lord; I said, You are my God. My times are in Your hands; deliver me from the hands of my foes and those who pursue me and persecute me." Like David, we must learn to put our confidence in the Lord, trusting Him to deliver us out of our circumstances—and into the next right thing—in His perfect timing.

Putting the Word to Work: Do you ever look at all of the evil in the world and wonder why Jesus has not yet returned to earth? The promise of His coming is certain, yet 2 Peter 3:9 tells us that God, in His mercy and patience toward sinners, is waiting. He does not want any person to perish, but wants everyone to come to salvation through repentance and faith in Jesus. Pray for salvation for those in your life who do not yet know Jesus as Lord and Savior.

What measures do you take to guard your valuables? Perhaps you have an alarm system in your home; you probably lock the doors of your car and keep your money in the bank. Likewise, you should guard the truth of God's Word that you have in your heart so you are not led astray by false teaching (see 2 Peter 3:17). Growing in your relationship with the Lord and in His grace will help you stand firm in the truth. Once we understand grace, we must grow and learn how to receive it in every situation, as 2 Peter 3:18 encourages us. We grow in grace by putting our faith in God and receiving His grace in situations that are difficult or impossible for us. Sometimes we put our faith in God, and He gives us grace for deliverance. At other times we put our faith in God, and He gives us grace to "go through." We must leave that choice to Him and know that either way we can have victory, but only by grace through faith. If you struggle with something right now in your life, ask yourself honestly if you are putting your faith in God and that you believe His grace will meet the need. Remember, grace is unmerited favor to us sinners. It is God's power coming into our situation to do for us what we cannot do for ourselves.

Study Questions For 2nd Peter:

1. What seven things are we taught concerning barrenness and unfruitfulness in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ? (See 2 Peter 1:5-8).
2. Just as God delivered Lot and his family from the judgment due to Sodom and Gomorrah, so God will deliver His Church from the Great Tribulation. How does 2 Peter 2:9 confirm this?
3. Peter mentions that with the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. Why is the Lord patient concerning His return? (See 2 Peter 3:8-9 and 3:15)
4. Seeing that judgment will come, what manner of persons ought we to be? (See 2 Peter 3:11-12).
5. In light of the fact that the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, write a prayer asking the Lord to help you live your life with that expectancy.

(Amplified Bible; The Everyday Life; 2005; Joyce Meyers, Scripture, commentaries, pages 2092-2094)

(Word Search 9, Bible Software; (KJV) 2005; Bibles, dictionary, concordance, sermons, scripture)

Psa 119:105
Thy word [is] a lamp unto
my feet, and a light unto my path.



Chapel Flock; "Thought For The Day"
Spirit Walker Ministry; PO Box 161102; Wichita, Kansas 67216
Telephone Number; 316-243-1438

www.chapel-flock.com

www.blessingboxcottage.org