



The Epistles of Peter
2 Peter 3:11-14
From Sermon 6.20.26

Read 2 Peter 3:11-14

Overview from Saturday's sermon: We are now in the homestretch of these rich epistles. Peter only has a few sentences of remaining instruction and encouragement for the Church. It's really a full-circle moment. By divine inspiration, the Apostle returns to the themes and motivations he began with—namely surviving in hostile world and just how much our Christ-like conduct impacts endurance. With the end-times impending, there is always a risk of growing indifferent and cold to holy living. Through loving reminders, Peter wants to challenge the believers to strive in holiness until we are home.

1. Complete these biblical Truth Statements from our series: [Discuss any you feel strongly about]

- Conduct Affects Strength
- Hope Affects Conduct
- Perspective Affects Hope

2. We all, as believers, look forward to Christ's return & His universal glorification, and righteous reign. But why should we also view this as a "bittersweet" event? Our liberation from sin is paralleled by the damnation of the lost = Many of whom are people we love. See also *Revelation 10:8-10*.

3. Holy Conduct Motivation. Read each set of Scriptures. Note and discuss the motive they state.

- *Colossians 1:10-13 & John 14:15*—Gratitude and love for Christ
- *2 Corinthians 5:9-10 & Luke 19:15*—Accountability and reward
- *Matthew 5:16 & 1 Peter 2:12*—Our witness and testimony to the unbelieving world

4. Does your Christian conduct affect your circumstances or do your circumstances affect your Christian conduct? Various Personal Answers. Yes!

5. Peter is preaching from experience. What was his circumstance that caused him to compromise his devotion to Jesus? Christ's arrest, trial, and crucifixion. Discuss

6. What are ways or examples "believers" often justify worldly attitudes and actions while claiming to be devout Christians who love Jesus? Various Answers. He's not coming back any time soon = I'll repent and fly right later. I'm forgiven in heaven = what I do here won't matter. Mine is a "victimless sin".

7. One act of holy conduct that Peter highlights in the passage is that of peace. What kind of peace? Peace with whom?

- With God
- With One Another—See *Ephesians 4:1-3*
- Within Ourselves—See *Philippians 4:6-7*