



The Epistles of Peter
2 Peter 3:15-18
From Sermon 6.28.26

Read 2 Peter 3:15-18

Overview from Sunday's sermon: Peter's final words are perfect. Not only does God the Holy Spirit have him summarize all that he's been teaching, but Peter paints the bigger picture. Namely, that the Word of God is pure and faithful and that's he's not only voice of divine truth. All that's left is to issue a challenge to all the believers in the Church age: grow. Never grow stagnant. Always be learning and you won't fall victim to the distorters of the faith.

1. What vital Bible person does Peter camp on in these final verses? Paul

2. What did Paul believe and preach about Christ's return compared to that of Peter? Exactly the same things. Christ's return is in God's perfect timing. Christ's bride, the Church, will be protected. The world goes from bad to worse, even with all the signs and wonders. Christ will physically rule and reign. The very end will come as Jesus destroys all of Creation with fire. Jesus is preparing a new heaven and a new earth.

3. The Lead Apostle's Defense of Paul. Discuss each.

- Recognized/Called an Apostle. See *Galatians 2:8-9* & *Romans 1:1*
- Ability to do Miracles. See *Acts 20:7-12*
- His words are Scripture, not opinion nor relative to the day/culture. See *1 Corinthians 11:23a*

4. Why has the world and the wayward church grown so hostile toward Paul? His sound doctrine is counter-cultural. He makes the God of the Old Testament and God of New Testament consistent and holy. He doesn't fit their wishful thinking.

5. What has Peter been saying since the opening words of 1 Peter chapter 1?

To survive in this darkening world of unbelievers, it's going to require perseverance...Conduct affects Perseverance. Discuss

6. What have you learned from this study of Peter's epistles? Various Personal Answers

6a. What makes Peter's letters so very practical for today's church? The coming/increasing persecution. Closer and closer to Christ's return. The influx of false teachers with false doctrine. The cultural rejection of God-ordained authority (church, government, home).

7. Discuss each biblical relationship analogy.

- Master/slave
- Commander/soldier
- Shepherd/sheep

7a. Just as with their opposition to Paul, why does the unbelieving church and world despise these? _____
