

## The Final Word - Week 11

### The Day of the Lord – 2 Peter 3:10-18

#### 1. The Day of the Lord – 2 Peter 3:10

1 Thessalonians 5:1-9; Matthew 24:43-44; Luke 12:39-40

“the elements will be destroyed” – “The apocalyptic description of that end is not beyond the belief of twentieth-century man who lives with nuclear fission. ‘Total Hiroshima’ is a very real prospect!” (The Broadman Bible Commentary, 1972, p. 187).

“Settle it therefore in your hearts that the day of the Lord will certainly come, and you shall certainly be called to give an account of all things done in the body, whether good or evil; and let your exact walking before God, and your frequent judging yourselves, evidence your firm belief of a future judgment, when many live as if they were never to give any account at all.” 2. The suddenness of this day: *It will come as a thief in the night*, at a time when men are sleeping and secure, and have no manner of apprehension or expectation of the day of the Lord, any more than men have of a thief when they are in a deep sleep, in the dark and silent night. *At midnight there was a cry, Behold, the bridegroom comes*, (Mt. 25:6), and at that time not only the foolish, but also the wise virgins slumbered and slept. *The Lord will come in a day when we look not for him, and an hour when men are not aware*. (Henry, M. (1994). *Matthew Henry’s commentary on the whole Bible: Complete and unabridged in one volume*, p. 2440).

#### 2. Our Conduct – 2 Peter 3:11

“holy conduct and godliness”

2 Peter 1:3-4 – “life and godliness...partakers of the divine nature”

“Holiness of life, worship of God and service to men are the three practical conclusions he draws from this study of the advent. These qualities are meant to be permanently present (*huparchein*) in our lives, in contrast to the unpredictability of our circumstances in a world where things may be dissolved” (Tyndale New Testament Commentaries, p. 140).

#### 3. The New Heaven and the New Earth – 2 Peter 3:12-13

Revelation 21:1-4

“looking for and hastening the day of the Lord”

“There are mysteries here that our minds cannot fully understand or explain, but the basic lesson is clear: the same God who ordains the end also ordains the means to the end, and we are a part of that means. Our task is not to speculate but to serve” (Warren Wiersbe, *The Bible Exposition Commentary*, p. 468).

We must be faithful to share the gospel while there is still time –  
2 Peter 3:9 – God “desires for all to come to repentance”

The Three Circles – *Turning Everyday Conversations into Gospel Conversations* –  
App – Life Conversation Guide

4. **Be Diligent** – 2 Peter 3:14-16  
“diligent” “characterized by steady, earnest, and energetic effort: painstaking” (Merriam Webster Dictionary).
5. **Be Steadfast** - Growing in Grace and Knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ – 2 Peter 3:17-18

Steadfast – used only here in the New Testament, “but is from the same root as the verb Jesus had used in Luke 22:32, ‘When you are converted, strengthen (*sterixon*) your brethren.’ This is a command, which throughout this Epistle, Peter has been seeking to obey. It is not surprising that he who had been so mercurial and had been changed by the grace of God into a man of rock should be so concerned about stability” (Tyndale New Testament Commentary, p. 150).

Grace – God’s favor and forgiving mercy  
Knowledge – personal and experiential

*Since everything here today might well be gone tomorrow, do you see how essential it is to live a holy life? Daily expect the Day of God, eager for its arrival. The galaxies will burn up and the elements melt down that day – but we’ll hardly notice. We’ll be looking the other way, ready for the promised new heavens and the promised new earth, all landscaped with righteousness.*

*2 Peter 3:11-13 (MSG)*