

Sermon Notes – May 28, 2017

Review

- ⇒ We began our journey with Peter on September 25th. We've listened to God's Word through Peter, a normal guy who fished for a living and was a close friend and follower of Jesus during His earthly ministry. He was called by Jesus to be an Apostle, a role with *authority*.
- ⇒ Two weeks ago we saw that God's apparent "slowness" is driven by His patience and mercy, giving ample time for people to respond to God's offer of forgiveness in Christ.
- ⇒ Last week remembered that, according to the Bible, this world is not eternal; God will one day renew this earth and create "*a new heaven & a new earth, the home of righteousness.*"

Today's Text: II Peter 3:17-18 (READ 3:10-18)

In our text today, Peter closes this second letter with two verses that are "loaded" with urgent reminders.

Four Apologetic Reminders!

- ⇒ Guard & value truth! There is an ongoing battle for truth, & the stakes are high. The Bible affirms that some things are _____ and some things are _____.
I Peter 3:15
- ⇒ Hold on to Scripture! Christianity is not based on _____ or opinions, but on God's revelation. Further, Scripture teaches that a great Day of _____ IS coming.
I Peter 1:23
II Peter 1:16-21
II Peter 2 & 3 (esp. 3:7, 10, 12, 18)
- ⇒ God's truth is to be _____; believers should be marked by the _____ of Christ & _____ of life. Active disobedience undermines our assurance of salvation.
I Peter 1:14-16; 2:11-17
- ⇒ Don't let suffering for righteousness _____!

Beware...and Be Growing
II Peter 3:17-18 Pastor Jay Mosser

I Peter 2:19; 3:14-17; 4:1, 12-19;

Turn Away from Error: Hold on to God's Truth!

- ⇒ Knowing that the battle for truth is real calls us to be equipped, ready, and engaged.
- ⇒ The "battle" is a spiritual battle — _____ are not our enemies — so our manner & words should be winsome, kind, and packed with grace.
- ⇒ Grace and truth are not in _____; they are both essential, just as they were for Christ. Cf. John 1:14 & 17

Turn Toward Christ: Grow in Grace & in Christ

- ⇒ Growing in grace is not just about _____; it is about the kind of people we are becoming as God's grace changes us. This is a life-long journey.
- ⇒ Growth in Christ in this context is growing in our personal experience with Christ; the more we know Christ Himself, the more we should be _____. Cf. Acts 4:13

Responding to God's Word: Two Prayers

- ⇒ "*Lord, I want to love your Word and invest my life in knowing & loving & obeying & explaining your truth to others.*"
- ⇒ "*Lord, I want to know you more. Help me to pursue Christ above all, allowing the kindness of gentleness of Christ to shape my daily life & values & personality.*"

Next Sunday: June 4, 2017

"Blessed is the Man"

(Psalm 1)

Pastor Jay

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