

HOLY LOVING GOOD MERCIFUL GRACIOUS JUST FAITHFUL TRUTHFUL

HE IS // WE ARE

LOVING GOOD MERCIFUL GRACIOUS

PATIENT WISE HOLY LOVING GOOD

MERCIFUL GRACIOUS JUST FAITHFUL TRUTHFUL PATIENT WISE HOLY

2 Peter 3:1-13

¹ This is now the second letter that I am writing to you, beloved. In both of them I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, ² that you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles,

2 Peter 3:1-13

³ knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. ⁴ They will say, “Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation.”

2 Peter 3:1-13

⁵ For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God ⁶ and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished.

2 Peter 3:1-13

⁷ But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

⁸ But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years,

2 Peter 3:1-13

and a thousand years as one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief,

2 Peter 3:1-13

and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. ¹¹ Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness,

2 Peter 3:1-13

¹² waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! ¹³ But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

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Big Idea

When you find it hard to wait on God, remember the promises of Christ.

- Promises of Christ's Sure Return
- Promises of Christ's Reliable Word
- Promises of Christ's Redeeming Patience
- Promises of Christ's New Creation

1) Sure Return

Remember the promises of Christ's sure return.

- Waiting on Christ's return can cause doubts:
 - Doubts about his power,
 - Doubts about his reliability,
 - Doubts about his character,
 - Doubts about his identity.

2) Reliable Word

Remember the promises of Christ's reliable word.

- Doubts about God's Presence
- Doubts about God's Work
- Doubts about God's Gospel

2) Reliable Word

Remember the promises of Christ's reliable word.

- Clear facts for our doubts
 - God Created,
 - God Judged,
 - God will Judge once more.

3) Redeeming Patience

Remember the promises of Christ's redeeming patience.

- Do not confuse deliberate patience for disengaged indifference.
- We can never overestimate Christ's redeeming patience.

3) Redeeming Patience

Remember the promises of Christ's redeeming patience.

- God's patience in the OT
 - Exo. 34:6-7; Psalm 145:8, Joel 2:13
- True of the Father and the Son
 - John 14:9; Heb. 1:3
- Christ's patience is his Glory
 - 1 Pet. 2:23; Heb. 12:3

3) Redeeming Patience

“Meekness in our Lord was not a weak bearing of evils, but a strong forbearance in the presence of evil. It was not so much a fundamental characteristic of a nature constitutionally averse to asserting itself, as a voluntary submission of a strong person bent on an end.”

B.B. Warfield, *The Emotional Life of our Lord*

4) New Creation

Remember the promises of Christ's new creation.

- Don't abandon future hope for present possibilities,
- We are passing through a world that is passing away,
- Future hope brings present change .

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