



Epistle of 2 Peter

2 Peter 3:13-18 - Living in View of the Future & Conclusion

- **2 Peter 3:13 – “Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.”**
 - **Nevertheless, in contrast to the prophecy of the heavens being dissolved, being on fire, and the elements which will melt with fervent heat, look (present indicative) -the hope that is before us!**
 - **Where is His promise (epangelma)?**
 - **Importantly and first, this term is only used twice in the NT and let’s see if we can find any connection between the two?**
 - **2 Peter 1:2,4 - Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord,.....by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.**
 - **Now His Promise – the new (kainos – new in quality) heavens and new earth where righteousness dwells.**
 - **Isaiah 65:17 - “For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind**



Epistle of 2 Peter

2 Peter 3:13-18 - Living in View of the Future & Conclusion

- *Isaiah 66:22 - “For as the new heavens and the new earth which I will make shall remain before Me,” says the Lord, “So shall your descendants and your name remain.*
- *Rev 21:1 - Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also, there was no more sea.*
- *Rev 21:27 - But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life.*
 - » *Wiersbe – ‘The purpose of prophetic truth is not speculation but motivation’, which I believe relates well to 2 Peter 1:4.*
 - » *Jude 1:24 - “Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, .And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,*
- *2 Peter 3:14 – “Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless;”*
 - *looking forward – seeing that you look for*
 - *How would we as beloved, define being diligent?*
 - *What does it mean to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless?*



Epistle of 2 Peter

2 Peter 3:13-18 - Living in View of the Future & Conclusion

- **THIS IS ENTIRELY FOUNDED ON POSITIONAL TRUTH!**
 - » From where else are we *found* (passive tense) by *Him* to be *in peace, without spot and blameless*?
 - » *1 Peter 1:19 - but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.*
 - » *1 Cor 1: 8 - who will also confirm you to the end, that you may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

- **So how should this affect our walk *in diligence*?**

- This is how positional truth becomes conditional!
 - » *Heb 4:11 - Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience.*
 - » *2 Tim 2:15 - Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*
 - » *Phil 3:9 - and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;*

- **2 Peter 3:15 – “and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation—as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you,”**



Epistle of 2 Peter

2 Peter 3:13-18 - Living in View of the Future & Conclusion

- *consider (account – imperative) that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation*
 - *How do we relate the longsuffering of our Lord to salvation?*
 - As mentioned in this verse, could this reflect Peter’s relationship to his beloved brother Paul which had been granted to him according to the wisdom given to him (Paul). Perhaps the following is to what Peter was referring?
 - » *Rom 2:4 - Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?*
 - How do we relate His longsuffering to us today – more identification but now conditional – we are being saved!
 - » *Gal 5:22 - But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,*
 - » *Col 1:11 - strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;*
 - Perhaps it was tough love by which the respect that Peter had for the beloved Paul grew?
 - » *Gal 2:14 - But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter before them all, “If you, being a Jew, live in the manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews, why do you compel Gentiles to live as Jews?”*



Epistle of 2 Peter

2 Peter 3:13-18 - Living in View of the Future & Conclusion

- **2 Peter 3:16 – “as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.”**
 - **What do we make of how Peter describes Paul's teachings?**
 - **in all his epistles?**
 - Well distributed at this time but had Peter read them all?
 - **these things?**
 - Future events?
 - **speaking of things hard to understand?**
 - Peter’s view of Paul’s epistles also?
 - Was this Paul’s message of grace?
 - J-FB – ‘namely, in reference to Christ’s coming, for example, the statements as to the man of sin and the apostasy, before Christ’s coming.’
 - **untaught and unstable people?**
 - Likely believers here.



Epistle of 2 Peter

2 Peter 3:13-18 - Living in View of the Future & Conclusion

» *James 1:8* - a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

- *twist – wrest, torture, pervert?*

- Even true of believers?

- *to their own destruction*

- But are these believers?

» *2 Peter 2:1* - *But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction.*

- *rest (other) of the scriptures?*

- It appears that Peter regarded Paul's writings as having equal authority as the Old Testament Scriptures (*1 Peter 1 12-21*)

- *2 Peter 3:17,18 – “You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.”*



Epistle of 2 Peter

2 Peter 3:13-18 - Living in View of the Future & Conclusion

- *beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked*
 - Peter ends his epistle with a warning!
 - Based on what Paul and he have transcribed – these truths should be known.
 - » *Gal 5:4 - You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.*
 - Do you feel that this warning relates well to the rest of the letter?
- *but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen*
 - Nothing more than this needs to be proclaimed!
 - Despite the warning, what indicates Peter's love to all of us?
 - We are the *beloved*,
 - The epistle is sound in doctrine!
 - He substantiates our path of growth!
 - » *Eph 4:15 - but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ.*