

Be Diligent to Grow in Grace

2 Peter 3:10-18

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I. The Day of the Lord. 2 Peter 3:10

Just as a thief does not normally warn his victims he is coming to break into their home; no one knows the _____ the Lord will come back. **1 Thessalonians 5:2-3**

- Jesus is not only creator; He is also _____ all things together. We need to stay awake spiritually so we can be _____ that physical death is not the end of the story for those in Christ!

II. The new heavens and a new earth. 2 Peter 3:11-13

We are to have an attitude of excitement and expectation as we wait for the Lord's return, but we are to _____ to do the things He has called us to do as we wait. **Luke 19:12-13**

- *Because we have "escaped the corruption that is in the world", we must live _____.* (Wiersbe)

III. Be found in Him. 2 Peter 3:14-16

Because you were purchased by the Blood of the Lamb that is **without blemish and without spot**, you are now found _____ **without blemish and without spot**, as well.

- As we grow in grace, we learn to _____ one another and even take correction from others. **Galatians 2:11-13**

The longer someone hardens their heart to the voice of God and the Word of God, the more _____ they do to themselves spiritually.

IV. Be steadfast. 2 Peter 3:17-18

If we fail to realize we are _____ and tempted to be self sufficient and live for the lusts of the flesh; we are more susceptible for a fall than someone who knows they are in sin. **1 Corinthians 10:12**

- *The text tells us to 'grow in grace.' We are in the sea of God's grace; we cannot be in a _____ sea, but let us grow now we are in it.* (C. H. Spurgeon)

V. Practical Application.

1. We need the Word of God. **1 Peter 2:2**
2. We need to follow Biblical _____. **James 1:22**
3. We need to seek the Lord. **Deuteronomy 4:29**
4. We need to confess our sins. **1 John 1:9**
5. We need to keep _____. **Romans 12:1**
6. We need constant communion.
7. We will endure testing with _____ experiences. **Romans 1:17**

Small Group Discussion

Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

1. *How should what we have learned about false teachers make a difference in our lives?*
2. *What happens to Christians who stop thinking about and looking forward to Jesus' return?*
Luke 19:12-13, Titus 2:13-14, 1 Thessalonians 1:10, 5:9, 2 Thessalonians 2:7, Luke 21:36, Isaiah 26:19-21, Revelation 3:10, Revelation 6:15-16, Matthew 24:30
3. *How should what we have learned about false teachers make a difference in our witnessing?*
4. *How can our way of life win people to Jesus in the time left before He comes? What do you think are some of the most powerful habits that attract unbelievers?*
Colossians 3:16, Matthew 5:16, Matthew 28:18-20. 2 Timothy 2:15, 1 Peter 2:21
5. *Other than the Bible, what do we need in order to grow spiritually? Diligence, discipline, priorities—how easy or hard are these for you when it comes to pursuing spiritual growth? Why is that? What is one positive step you can take?*
6. *Why is getting involved in a local church important for spiritual growth?*
7. Discuss the practical applications from this sermon.

Some questions taken from Warren Wiersbe