Sunday, January 8, 2023

1 Timothy 4:13, "Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching."

Title: What Sort of Person Should I Be?
Text: 2 Peter 3:1 - 18

Purpose: I want to INFORM my congregation about decisions to settle in order to "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

Introduction:

- ~ 2 Peter 3:1, "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 Peter 1:10, "Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall."
- ~ 2 Peter 2:21, "For it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than after knowing it to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them."
- ~ 2 Peter 3:11 13, "Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, (12) waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolve, and the heavenly bodies will melt as the burn! (13) But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells."

1. I Need to be Stirred by the Word of God:

~ vs. 1 & 2, "This is now the second letter that I am writing to you, beloved. In both of them I am stirring up (to wake up, awaken, arouse; of the sea, which begins to be agitated; to arouse the mind, stir up, render active) 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. I Need to Recognize Scoffers:

- ~ vs. 3, "knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires."
- ~ vs. 3 the word "scoffers" is only used in the New Testament here and Jude 1:18; a scoffer is a derider one who laughs at or insults, acts like you are stupid or have no value; a false teacher
- ~ Jude 1:18, "They said to you, "In the last time there will be scoffers, following their own ungodly passions.""

~ vs. 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.""

3. I Need to Know...:

- ~ vs. 8, "But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day."
- ~ vs. 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."

Please do not disconnect verse 9 from verse 7, "being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly."

~ vs. 10, "But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, 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."

4. I Need to Ask This Ouestion:

~ vs. 11, "Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness,"

5. I Need to...:

- ~ vs. 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!"
- ~ wait: to allow myself to be twisted together with Jesus Christ who is the living Word
- ~ hastening: to bear personal witness of the Lord Jesus Christ, to support local and foreign missions!

6. I Need to Grow:

- ~ vs. 18, "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen."
- ~ 2 Peter 1:3 11

Conclusion:

Series from Colossians on 'Growing in Our Walk'

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2023 Wolf Creek Friendship Centre Daily at 12 Noon - January 23 to 27 Pastor John will share - Wednesday, Jan 25

New Life Church provides soup - Jan 26