

Group Study #3 APOCALYPSE

Read: 2 Peter 3

How to Live in View of Apocalypse: Holy, Godly, Waiting, Diligent, Spotless, Without Blemish, At Peace.

Truth- I Understand that I am to live holy and godly while I wait for the coming of the day of the God.

The world is coming to an end, and God is the One who is bringing it to an end. God will refine the earth with fire in a similar way to Noah's day with the flood waters. God's refiners fire will destroy all evil and the ungodly. Out of the ashes of Armageddon and the Apocalypse, God will perfectly restore heaven, earth, and the righteous.

2 Peter 3:7 (ESV) 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.

The timing of the second coming of Jesus is described as a "thief." The goal of a thief is to break in when a person least expects it. The lost world is living as though the day of judgement and destruction is not a reality. Sin is rampant. Evil is abounding. There is no justice for the saints. But the day of the Lord will expose the deeds done in darkness.

2 Peter 3:10 (ESV) 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.

So, how are we to live knowing that God is coming to judge and destroy the ungodly. The Apostle Peter says we are to live Holy and Godly lives as we wait for Jesus' return.

2 Peter 3:11-13 (ESV) 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 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.

The knowledge of the impending Apocalypse should refine us now. Armed with the truth that God is absolutely coming to judge the world according to their deeds, we should set the example for the lost world in word and action. We should diligently follow the Lord. We should wake up each day eagerly waiting for the return of Messiah. Just like the sacrificial lambs were spotless at the Temple, our lives should be without sin...spotless and without blemish. We should also live at peace with our neighbors. The world is full of chaos all around, but our lives should be full of peace. We quickly forgive. We are quick to point out the hope that we have in Jesus. We listen to the Holy Spirit, and we following Him.

2 Peter 3:14 (ESV) Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

Study Questions:

1. How should understanding the Apocalypse change the way we think and live?
2. Explain how the Apocalypse is like a thief.
3. What are some practical ways we can live holy, godly, and spotless lives?
4. What does it mean to be “diligent to be found by him...at peace”?