

The End of It All

2 Peter 3



Without referees... how are we to live well?

Notes from 2 Peter 3

The Big Idea

Jesus will certainly come again
to end all wrong and
to make all things right and good

So make every effort
to be at peace with Him and
to be holy



The Cosmic Judge's Seat

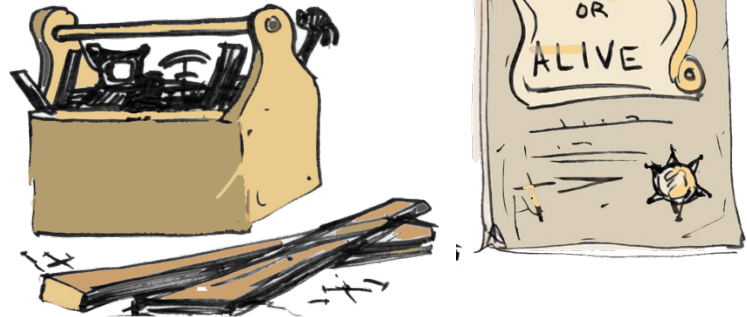
Empty?

Asleep or not paying attention?



Vindictive? Angry?

Working to bring justice and mercy



Putting it into practice

Make peace with Jesus through the cross

"make every effort to be found ... at peace with him" 2 Peter 3:14

"Settle matters quickly with your adversary ... while you are still together on the way" Matthew 5:25

Jesus said: "Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life." John 5:24

Make every effort to grow in holiness

"You ought to live holy and godly lives" 2 Peter 3:11

"we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells" 2 Peter 3:13

"make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him" 2 Peter 3:14

"Make every effort to add to your faith goodness... knowledge... self control... perseverance... godliness... mutual affection... love" 2 Peter 1:5-7

Share the good news of the perfect and forgiving King

God's heart for all people to be saved

His "delay" is bringing more people to salvation

"Let all creation rejoice before the Lord, for he comes, he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples in his faithfulness." Psalm 96:13

Reflection Questions for later today or this week...

1. Salvation is a one time event...we make peace with God by putting our faith in Jesus Christ. Have you done that? If not, what is holding you back? (see 2 Peter 3:14 and also Jesus' call to action in Matthew 5:25)
 2. Salvation is also something we grow into, as we are to grow in the grace of our Savior. What does it mean for you to grow farther into this grace of God?
 3. What injustice in the world is most troubling to you? How does the reality of Jesus coming as the final and perfectly just judge give you hope?
 4. What does it look like for you to "make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with Christ"? (see 2 Peter 3:14) What is an area where you are choosing to grow? (see 2 Peter 1:5-7)
 5. How is your journey of growth going? Are you seeing progress? Are you struggling or needing encouragement?
 6. Where is it tempting for you to live according to the way things are now rather than according to the ways of God and heaven? What helps you live according to His ways in our world that has so much injustice (both in how people relate to God and in how people relate to each other)?
 7. Why is God holding back final judgment? (see 2 Peter 3:9 and 15) Since this is a key purpose of this time while we await the return of Christ, what should we do that fits this purpose of God? How can we help each other?
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Conversation starters

What do you believe happens when people die?

Is there any final justice? How does this thinking affect how you live today?