

Living like the World will End

2 Peter 3: 11-14

In verse 11 we have a question posed.

2Pe 3:11 *Seeing then that* all these things shall be dissolved, what manner *of persons* ought ye to be in *all* holy conversation and godliness,

“dissolved”

λύω luō loo'-o

A primary verb; to “loosen” (literally or figuratively): - break (up), destroy, dissolve, (un-) loose, melt, put off. Compare G4486.

Consider:

The world feels so solid now.

A day is coming when it will literally loosen and melt away.

Illus:

A bug flying through the air hitting your windscreen.

It has no idea of what is going to happen.

It turns to water on impact.

“What Manner”

ποταπός potapos *pot-ap-os'*

Apparently from G4219 and the base of G4226; interrogitive *whatever*, that is, of *what possible* sort: - what (manner of).

Note, the emphasis:

“what manner *of persons* ought **ye** to be”

Its not They but Ye.

The ungodly think that the world has been here for millions of years and that it will last for millions of years more.

They are wrong on both!!!

Next,

We note the word,

“Conversation”

ἀναστροφή anastrophē *an-as-trof-ay'*

It points to or literally means:

“*behavior*”

Consider.

Very few people now want to be checked on their behavior.

“Live and Let live” is the call of this generation.

“Papa don’t Preach” are the words of Madonna.

Yet She “Preached” recently in Madison Square Gardens
telling her “fans” not to vote for Palin.

You see:

Its ok for the world to preach but we are not allowed to!!!

Next, we note the word

“godliness”

It is found four times in 2 Peter.

(2Pe 1:3)

*According as his divine power hath given unto us all things
that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge
of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:*

So,

We have no excuses!!!

(2Pe 1:6)

*And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance
patience; and to patience godliness;*

(2Pe 1:7)

*And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly
kindness charity.*

(2Pe 3:11)

*Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what
manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation
and godliness,*

The only other place where this word is found in the NT is
the Pastoral Epistles.

Turn, for a moment to 1 Timothy.

(1Ti 2:2)

*For kings, and for all that are in authority; that
we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all
godliness and honesty.*

(1Ti 2:10)

*But (which becometh women professing godliness)
with good works.*

(1Ti 3:16)

*And without controversy great is the mystery of
godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified
in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the
Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up
into glory.*

(1Ti 4:7)

*But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and
exercise thyself rather unto godliness.*

(1Ti 4:8)

For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.

(1Ti 6:3)

If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness;

(1Ti 6:5)

Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself.

(1Ti 6:6)

But godliness with contentment is great gain.

(1Ti 6:11)

But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

(2Ti 3:5)

Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

(Tit 1:1)

Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness;

Q. What are you looking for in life?

Might be a question some might ask.

Back in our text Peter gives us the right answer.

In verse 12-14

We have the idea of looking mentioned 3 times.

2Pe 3:12 **Looking for** and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

2Pe 3:13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, **look for** new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

2Pe 3:14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye **look for** such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

So,

In verses 11-14

Peter is exhorting us to “Live” and “Look” as Christians should.

“Looking for” {Same GK word in the 3 verses.}

προσδοκάω prosdokaō *pros-dok-ah'-o*

From G4314 and **δοκεύω** dokeuō (to *watch*); to *anticipate* (in thought, hope or fear); by implication to *await*: - (be in) expect (-ation), look (for), when looked, tarry, wait for.

Illus:

Could you say a bride was looking for her wedding day if she never thought about buying a wedding dress?

Could you say a Christian was looking for the Day of God who never reads his Bible?

Consider the words of our Lord in Matthew 25.

Mat 25:1 *Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.*

Mat 25:2 And five of them were wise, and five were foolish.

Mat 25:3 They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them:

Mat 25:4 But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.

Mat 25:5 While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.

Mat 25:6 And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.

Mat 25:7 Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.

Mat 25:8 And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out.

Mat 25:9 But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.

Mat 25:10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut.

Mat 25:11 Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.

Mat 25:12 But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.

Mat 25:13 Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

Note:

In verse 13,

Like Peter, our Lord tells us the “Watch” or “Look”

“Watch”

γρηγορεύω grēgoreuō gray-gor-yoo'-o

From G1453; to keep awake, that is, watch (literally or figuratively): - be vigilant, wake, (be) watch (-ful).

Illus;

A Security guard or a Soldier in his post.

Back to our text.

Note;

What Peter says in verse 12 about the heavens.

2Pe 3:12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

Now, the ungodly reading such a verse might despair.

Not so the Christian.

Why?

Because of verse 13!!!

2Pe 3:13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, **look for** new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

Note;

The difference between the New heavens and earth and the old.

“wherein dwelleth righteousness.”

Now;

Peter says in effect in verse 13. If this is what you are looking for, start living in the good of it NOW!!!

2Pe 3:14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye **look for** such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.