

THE DAY OF THE LORD (August 12, 2007)
(2 Peter 3:10-13)

I. Peter tells us of its destructive nature.

- A. This great day will come upon us without notice.
- B. The heavens will pass away, which refers to the atmosphere and universe.
- C. The elements, the smallest particles of matter that make up life, will melt with fervent heat.
- D. This fire will destroy the earth and all that is in it and on it.
 - 1. There have been great fires on the earth.
 - 2. However, there is always something left behind.
 - 3. This will not be the case when the Lord returns.
- E. We don't know how God is going to do this.
 - 1. We do know that if He can destroy by one means, water, He has the power to destroy it by another means, fire.
 - 2. What God uses to bring this about, we do not know.
- F. When the Lord returns there is no way that it will be secretive.

II. Peter tells us to live a dedicated life in view of the Lord's return.

- A. Peter asks a tremendous question: How should you live your life in view of the return of Jesus?
- B. What manner of person should you be?
 - 1. One caught up in the lies of false teachers?
 - 2. One who lives according to the flesh?
 - 3. One who says I will do it later?
- C. He tells us to live holy lives.
 - 1. 1 Peter 1:15-16.
 - 2. The book of 1 Peter reveals how to live a holy life.
- D. We should be godly.
 - 1. We will never have the attributes of deity - omniscience, omnipresence, etc.
 - 2. However, we can love the things God loves and hate the things that God hates.

III. Peter tells us to desire the Lord's return.

- A. The word hasting is translated as earnestly desiring in the American Standard Version of the Bible.
- B. Looking for carries the idea of looking forward to the Lord's return.
- C. Hasting means having a deep longing for something, in this case, the return of Jesus.
- D. Do we want the Lord to come in our lifetime?
 - 1. Most people want the return of Jesus or death to stay away from them as long as possible.
 - 2. It should be something we want more than anything.

IV. Peter tells us of a new dwelling place.

- A. God that cannot lie promised us heaven.
- B. A new heavens and a new earth is a metaphor for the dwelling place of the righteous when this world is destroyed.
- C. This will be the place in which the righteous dwell.

1. Righteousness is a quality of God and His people.
2. Therefore, this has to refer to heaven.