

# *Prepare Diligently to Meet God*

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Straight Paths Bible Church

2 Peter 3:11-14 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, 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? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

- I. The end of all things is laid before us and we are exhorted to prepare for it.
  - A. It will be an awesome and overwhelming calamity that will come upon all the world.
  - B. The heavens and the earth will be dissolved with all the works that are therein.
  - C. There will be new heavens and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness.
  - D. There will be no place for us in that new heavens and new earth if we are not righteous.
  - E. If we do not diligently prepare for this future event that is as certain to come to pass as God is in heaven, we will be cast out into outer darkness – out of the universe and the presence of God and the righteous forever.
  
- II. First of all, we are told to be found of him in peace.
  - A. To find ourselves without a world to live in or a heaven to look up at and be at odds with God would be the ultimate disaster for our soul.
  - B. We must be diligent to make sure we are at peace with God here and now.
  - C. That means to know for certain that God does not have ought against us.
  - D. It means to know for certain that we do not harbor ought against God in our hearts.
  - E. It means that we do not live under the condemnation of a guilty conscience because of sins that we have not forsaken.
  - F. To be at peace with God means we can assure our hearts before him and come before him with confidence.
  - G. To be at peace with God means that when we are finally in his presence it will be like a wonderful reunion of dear friends or loved ones who have longed to see one another for a long time.
  - H. It will not be a dreaded meeting if we are truly at peace with God.
  - I. We must apply ourselves diligently to this task – not lazily, or apathetically.
  
- III. We are told to be found in that day "without spot."
  - A. We are to apply ourselves diligently to this task, also.
  - B. It is our responsibility to make sure that our mind and our heart are not spotted by the world.
  - C. A spot is:
    1. A mark on a substance made by foreign matter; a speck; a blot; a stain; a place discolored.
    2. A stain on character or reputation; something that soils purity; disgrace; reproach; fault; blemish.
  - D. It is something that is visible to others that should not be there.
  - E. A spot is something that is not there by nature, but has been caused by disease, pestilence, or bad associations.

- F. It is something that others see that ruins or lessens our reputation and influence as a Christian.
- G. We can have spots on our mind and the way we think and reason.
  - 1. If we walk in the counsel of the ungodly we will begin to think and reason like they do and not even realize it.
- H. We can have spots on our heart by the things on which we set our affection.

1 John 2:15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

- I. We do not want to stand before God with heaven and earth dissolved out from under our feet with spots on our mind, heart, or reputation.

IV. We are to be diligent to be blameless.

- A. Unblameable – without fault; innocent; not meriting censure or blame.
- B. We should strive to make sure that our sins have been forgiven and we are not guilty before God or others.
- C. We should strive to make sure that no one has ought against us.

Matthew 5:23-24 Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.

- D. God does not take our part when we assume an attitude of indifference toward what other people think of us or blame us for.
- E. If someone blames us for something we should do all we can do to resolve that problem so that they do not blame us.
- F. We should live and conduct ourselves in such a way as to not create situations where we are at fault.
- G. To be blameless we must walk wisely and not in foolishness and vanity.

V. We are to beware lest we be led away with the error of the wicked.

2 Peter 3:17 Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness.

- A. The error of the wicked is that they are not going to prepare for the end of things.
- B. They are not going to prepare because they do not believe it is going to happen.
- C. Since they do not believe that it is going to happen they will not be concerned about peace with God, spots, and the guilt of their sin.

VI. We are to grow in grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 3:18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

- A. The more we can learn about Jesus here and now, the better it will be for us when we finally look him in the face.
- B. The more He owns of us the more comfortable we will be when we see his eyes upon us in his very presence.
- C. We should begin giving him glory now so that when forever begins in the new heavens and the new earth it will only be a continuation of what we already do.