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Where Righteousness Dwells

2 Peter 3:10-18

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Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

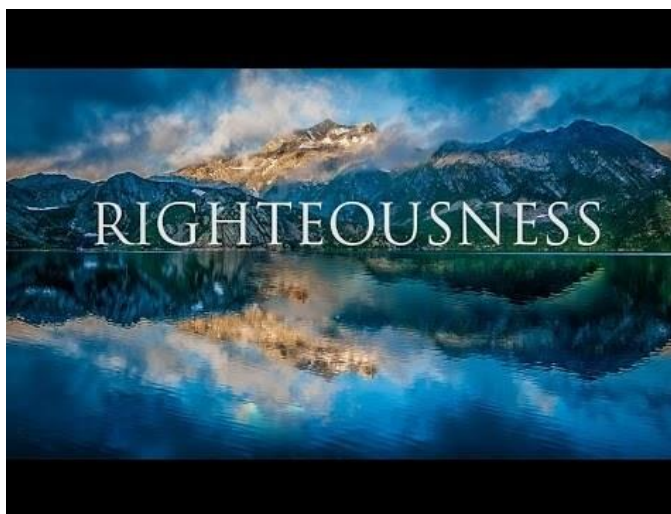
What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



This is the last part of 2 Peter. This section contains one of the key parts of Scripture that confirms that we should include Paul's writings in the New Testament. In verse 16 Peter talks about Paul's writings and then refers to the rest of Scripture thus putting Paul's writings on the level of Scripture. This is an important point for the New Testament as a whole but it is not the main idea of this passage. In this passage Peter is warning us not to give up on the Lord's return. He reminds us that this earth will be destroyed and there will be a new heaven and a new earth in which righteousness will dwell. Join us this week as we talk about how we should anticipate the Lord's return and what we should be doing while we wait.

2 Peter 3:10-18 (NASB)

A New Heaven and Earth

¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up.

¹¹ Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, ¹² looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat! ¹³ But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

¹⁴ Therefore, beloved, since you look

for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless, ¹⁵ and regard the patience of our Lord *as* salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, ¹⁶ as also in all *his* letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, *as they do* also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction. ¹⁷ You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness, ¹⁸ but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him *be* the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

o EXAMINE His Word (Observation) (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?
5. What is emphasized?
6. Is there anything in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?
7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation) (For Community Group discussion)
What does God MEAN?

8. What is the day of the Lord? How will the day of the Lord come? What does this mean?

9. What will happen to this earth?

10. What will the new heaven and new earth be like?

11. How can we regard the patience of the Lord as Salvation? What does this mean?

12. What is the significance of verse 16 when Peter is talking about Paul's writing and then says "also the rest of Scriptures"?

③ EMBRACE His Word (Application) (For Community Group discussion)
Why does this MATTER to me?

13. How does knowing that the earth will be destroyed effect how we live now?

14. When should we expect Jesus to return?

15. Have you heard people disregard God because Jesus has not returned like He said? How should we respond to this line of thought?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

Sermon Notes