

Recap of 5/15/16 (2 Peter 3:10-11):

1. The Day of the Lord will come suddenly, unexpectedly, without warning as a thief.

-“It is folly to ‘set the time’ for the Lord’s return, or to extort from some obscure passages of Scripture passages of Scripture a prediction of the exact date of His coming;” (William Erdman)

-“He will keep His promise according to His Own chronology. These passages put together seem to indicate that God designed that each successive generation should live in constant expectation of the Lord’s Coming. What bearing should all this, after 2000 years of Delay, have on our thought about the Lord’s Coming? Should we abandon hope? NEVER. At least, His Coming is 2000 years nearer than it was. The night is far spent, Day may be nearer than we think. Who knows but what the Lord’s Train , at long last, may, even now, be whistling for the Grand Central Station, with Angels ready to shout, All Aboard?” (Henry Halley)

2. Peter challenges believers to examine their lives (motives, goals, values, priorities, perspectives) in light of this coming judgment. Are believers living separated lives (from sin & evil, from the world, to God)? Are they living worshipful lives? Or are they carbon copies of the world and its ways (infected by the thinking of the false teachers and mockers)?

3. Put another way: “When people realize that the things of this world are temporary, they tend to put less value upon them and more value upon living holy and godly lives...” (William Baker)

4. Peter’s challenge for believers is: 1) to grow (vs. 11); 2) to witness (vs. 12); and to live expectantly (vs. 13).

5. The mockers questioned the Lord’s return and future judgment and as a result lived unholy, ungodly lives. Believers look forward to the Lord’s return and as a result should live holy, godly lives.

6. “Since I am coming to that holy room, where with Thy choir of saints forevermore, I shall be made Thy music; as I come I tune the instrument here at the door. And what I must do then, think here before.” (John Donne, British poet and cleric). “why not invest our time, and our enthusiasm, in building the new us.” (paraphrase of Lawrence Richards).