



## The Day Of The LORD

### “Six Principles That Relate To The Day Of The LORD”

#### 2 Peter 3:1-14

#### Scripture

Dear friends, this is now the second letter I have written to you; in both letters, I want to stir up your sincere understanding by way of reminder,<sup>2</sup> so that you recall the words previously spoken by the holy prophets and the command of our LORD and Savior given through your apostles.

<sup>3</sup> Above all, be aware of this: Scoffers will come in the last days scoffing and following their own evil desires,

<sup>4</sup> saying, “Where is His ‘coming’ that He promised? Ever since our ancestors fell asleep, all things continue as they have been since the beginning of creation.”

<sup>5</sup> They deliberately overlook this: By the word of God the heavens came into being long ago and the earth was brought about from water and through water.

<sup>6</sup> Through these the world of that time perished when it was flooded.

<sup>7</sup> By the same word, the present heavens and earth are stored up for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

<sup>8</sup> Dear friends, don’t overlook this one fact: With the LORD one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day.

<sup>9</sup> The LORD does not delay his promise, as some understand delay, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish but all to come to repentance.

<sup>10</sup> But the day of the LORD will come like a thief; on that day the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, the elements will burn and be dissolved, and the earth and the works on it will be disclosed.

<sup>11</sup> Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, it is clear what sort of people you should be in holy conduct and godliness

<sup>12</sup> as you wait for the day of God and hasten its coming. Because of that day, the heavens will be dissolved with fire and the elements will melt with heat.

<sup>13</sup> But based on His promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

<sup>14</sup> Therefore, dear friends, while you wait for these things, make every effort to be found without spot or blemish in His sight, at peace. CSB

## Quotes Of The Day

“The Friendly preacher who fails to warn of the reality of hell betrays the Son of God with a kiss.” — Ray Comfort

“You cannot come to Christ unless the Spirit of God brings you. But what if you ignore His warnings? Then you are in the gravest danger, for someday God will no longer be speaking to you. Then it will be too late— come to Christ while there is still time.” — Billy Graham

## Introduction

Every passage of Scripture has three things in common:

Context Truth, Application.

Peter was living in Rome when he wrote this letter and most scholars agree he wrote it just before he was martyred. He died in 67 or 68 AD so this letter was written sometime between 64-67AD.

Peter knew he was about to die! He lived in an intense time of Christian persecution!

**2 Peter 1:13-15** says, “I consider it right, as long as I am in this bodily tent, **to wake you up with a reminder**, <sup>14</sup> knowing that I will soon lay aside my tent, as our Lord Jesus Christ has also shown me. <sup>15</sup> And I will also make every effort that you may be able to recall these things at any time after my departure. CSB

Before his imminent death the Apostle Peter wanted to “**wake up**” the believers and share with them the most important things believers need to know!

The phrase translated “**wake up**” comes from the Greek word “**diegiero**” which means to stir up from sleep, to awaken, to arouse.

A warning is a sign or statement that serves to caution others about something unfortunate, undesirable, dangerous or menacing.

**The Bible contains various warnings:**

**God warned Noah of the impending flood:**

**Genesis 6:9-14**

Many people in Noah’s day had the opportunity to heed Noah’s warning but they continued in their wickedness— the flood came and swept them all away.

**Angels of God warned Abraham and Lot about the impending destruction of Sodom, Gomorrah and the cities of the plain.**

**Genesis 19:14**

So Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law, who were going to marry his daughters. “Get up,” he said. “Get out of this place, for the Lord is about to destroy the city!” But his sons-in-law thought he was joking. CSB

Mixed up Motives  
Messed up Morals  
Meaningless Message

**Jesus warned about the soon coming Day of the LORD**

**Luke 21:34-36** “Be on your guard, so that your minds are not dulled from carousing, drunkenness, and worries of life, or that day will come on you unexpectedly <sup>35</sup>like a trap. **For it will come on all who live on the face of the whole earth.** <sup>36</sup>But be alert at all times, praying that you may have

strength to escape all these things that are going to take place and to stand before the Son of Man.” CSB

Peter’s last words are a reminder for believers to wake up and remember.

**The Day of the LORD is near!**

**God has impressed upon me to preach this sermon for two reasons:**

### **1. The Importance of Personal Salvation**

Because The Day Of The LORD is quickly approaching be prepared!

**Ecclesiastes 9:12** “For certainly no one knows his time: like fish caught in a cruel net or like birds caught in a trap, so people are trapped in an evil time as it suddenly falls on them.” CSB

**Psalms 90:10-12** “Our lives last seventy years or, if we are strong, eighty years. Even the best of them are struggle and sorrow; indeed, they pass quickly and we fly away. <sup>11</sup> Who understands the power of your anger? Your wrath matches the fear that is due you. <sup>12</sup> Teach us to number our days carefully so that we may develop wisdom in our hearts.” CSB

**Matthew 6:24** “No one can serve two masters, since either he will hate one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.” CSB

### **2. The Priority of Sharing the Good News about Jesus**

**Luke 12:4-5** Jesus said, “I say to you, my friends, don’t fear those who kill the body, and after that can do nothing more. <sup>5</sup> But I will show you the one to fear: Fear him who has authority to throw people into hell after death. Yes, I say to you, this is the one to fear!” CSB

**Hebrews 10:31** “It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.” CSB

**Hebrews 13:5** “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.” CSB

“When the author walks on to the stage the play is over. God is going to invade, all right: but what is the good of saying you are on His side then, when you see the whole natural universe melting away like a dream and something else - something it never entered your head to conceive - comes crashing in; something so beautiful to some of us and so terrible to others that none of us will have any choice left? For this time it will be God without disguise; something so overwhelming that it will strike either irresistible love or irresistible horror into every creature. It will be too late then to choose your side. There is no use saying you choose to lie down when it has become impossible to stand up. That will not be the time for choosing; it will be the time when we discover which side we really have chosen, whether we realized it before or not. Now, today, this moment, is our chance to choose the right side. God is holding back to give us that chance. It will not last for ever. We must take it or leave it.” — C.S. Lewis

In **2 Peter 3:1-14** Peter used his last words to communicate six principles that relate to **The Day of the LORD**.

Six principles that relate to The Day of the LORD:

## **1. Remember the Words of God vv.1-2**

Dear friends, this is now the second letter I have written to you; in both letters, I want to stir up your sincere understanding by way of reminder,<sup>2</sup> so that you recall the words previously spoken by the holy prophets and the command of our Lord and Savior given through your apostles. CSB

The phrase translated “**stir up**” comes from the Greek word “**diegeiro**” meaning to wake up, to arouse from sleep, pay attention.

The apostle Peter reminds us— stop sleep walking, be awakened, pay attention.

The world is burning down all around us. We must recognize, remember and apply the words found in the Scripture.

## THE DAY OF THE LORD IS COMING SOON!

**Romans 15:4** “For whatever was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that we may have hope through endurance and through the encouragement from the Scriptures.” CSB

### **Principles relating to The Day of the LORD: Remember the Words of God**

Six principles that relate to The Day of the LORD:

#### **2. Beware of Scoffers vv.3-7**

Above all, be aware of this: Scoffers will come in the last days scoffing and following their own evil desires, <sup>4</sup> saying, “Where is His ‘coming’ that He promised? Ever since our ancestors fell asleep, all things continue as they have been since the beginning of creation.” <sup>5</sup> **They deliberately overlook this: By the word of God the heavens came into being long ago and the earth was brought about from water and through water. <sup>6</sup> Through these the world of that time perished when it was flooded. <sup>7</sup> By the same word, the present heavens and earth are stored up for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.** CSB

O how very happy is the person that does not “**sit**” — “**ya shab**” — to take a seat, to form a habit, to settle in, to linger with those who are “**mockers/ scoffers**” — “**luwts**” — those who make a mockery, openly disregard and reject the Scripture with their mouth and their conduct.

**Psalms 14:1** The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.” They are corrupt, their deeds are vile; there is no-one who does good. NIV (1984)

**Jude 17-21** says, “<sup>17</sup> But, dear friends, remember what the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ foretold. <sup>18</sup> They said to you, “In the last times there will

be scoffers who will follow their own ungodly desires.” <sup>19</sup> **These are the men who divide you, who follow mere natural instincts and do not have the Spirit.** <sup>20</sup> But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> Keep yourselves in God’s love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life. NIV ( 1984)

Years ago, a pregnant woman stood in the yard of her Baltimore, Maryland home and shook her fists at God. In a torrential rainstorm she shouted vulgarities at God and taunted Him to strike her dead if He did indeed exist. After lightning did not strike her, she turned to her family who had witnessed the unusual ordeal and declared victory because she had proven that God did not exist. She would later tell her son, Bill that she did not care if he became a drug dealer, bank robber, or brought home a boyfriend instead of a girlfriend. The only ambition Madalyn Murray O’Hair had for her son was for him never to become a follower of Christ. The ambition of a godless philosophy destroys the joy and fulfillment of life.

By the way— Her son William “Bill” Murray— not the actor— committed his life to Christ at age 33, is a Baptist Preacher, social conservative lobbyist, and is the chairman of the Religious Freedom Coalition in Washington D.C.

## **Principles relating to The Day of the LORD: BEWARE OF SCOFFERS**

Six principles that relate to The Day of the LORD:

### **3. God is Patient vv.8-9**

Dear friends, don’t overlook this one fact: With the LORD one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day. <sup>9</sup> The LORD does not delay his promise, as some understand delay, **but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish but all to come to repentance.** CSB

The word translated “**patient**” comes from the Greek word “**makrothymeo**” meaning to wait, to delay to show mercy even in the face of insults, wickedness and rebellion.

What would happen if we got what we really deserve?

## **Principles relating to The Day of the LORD: GOD IS PATIENT**

Six principles that relate to The Day of the LORD:

### **4. The Day of the LORD is coming v.10**

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief; on that day the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, the elements will burn and be dissolved, and the earth and the works on it will be disclosed. CSB

In the Old Testament there are many prophecies about The Day Of The LORD.

**Zephaniah 1:14-15** “The great day of the Lord is near, near and rapidly approaching. Listen, the day of the Lord—then the warrior’s cry is bitter.  
<sup>15</sup> That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of destruction and desolation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and total darkness,” CSB

**The Day of the LORD**— Prophets throughout the Old Testament, the apostles of Jesus and Jesus Himself identify The Day of the LORD as the crowning event when God, by His own authority will establish His Kingdom and sovereignty over all the earth. **God will eradicate all evil and bring lasting peace.**

**The Day of the LORD** is an apocalyptic time of God's almighty wrath, which comes upon those who are deemed wicked. The Day of the LORD will be a horrific and cataclysmic event for every person who does not have a relationship with God by grace through faith in Jesus

### **Ten Signs leading to The Day of the LORD:**

Great Deception

Wars and Rumors of Wars



Famines  
Violent Earthquakes and Natural Disasters  
Plagues, Pestilence and Disease  
Persecution  
Many Will Fall Away  
Lawlessness  
The Good News will be Proclaimed in all the World  
Cultural Depravity

**Here is the strange thing about warnings**— When we hear or read about warnings many people ignore them and say that warning is for someone else but not me.

**Four primary reasons people ignore warnings:**

**1. Warnings are for other people not me**

People who ignore warnings are biased toward themselves and actually believe that negative consequences won't happen to them personally. This optimistic bias can lead them to downplay the risks.

**2. Immediate Gratification**

Immediate Gratification is more important than long term benefits.

**3. Personal Resistance**

Some people believe they know what is best for themselves and as a result they ignore and resist warnings as a way of asserting their own dominance.

**4. Lack of Trust of people in positions of authority**

Some people have a deep sense of reluctance to trust people in authority.

Lack of trust leads people to believe those in authority want to control their life.

## **Principles relating to The Day of the LORD: THE DAY OF THE LORD IS COMING**

Six principles that relate to The Day of the LORD:

### **5. Live according to the conduct of the righteous vv.11-2, 14**

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, **it is clear what sort of people you should be in holy conduct and godliness<sup>12</sup> as you wait for the day of God and hasten its coming.** Because of that day, the heavens will be dissolved with fire and the elements will melt with heat.

<sup>14</sup> Therefore, dear friends, while you wait for these things, **make every effort to be found without spot or blemish in his sight, at peace.** CSB

**I John 2:3-6** “This is how we know that we know him: if we keep His commands. <sup>4</sup>The one who says, “I have come to know Him,” and yet doesn’t keep His commands, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. <sup>5</sup>But whoever keeps His word, truly in him the love of God is made complete. This is how we know we are in Him: <sup>6</sup>The one who says he remains in Him should walk just as He walked.” CSB

## **Principles relating to The Day of the LORD: LIVE ACCORDING TO THE CONDUCT OF THE RIGHTEOUS**

Six principles that relate to The Day of the LORD:

### **6. Remember the Promise of God v.13**

But based on his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness dwells. CSB

**John 14:1-6** “Don’t let your heart be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>If I go away and prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to myself, so that where I am you may be also. <sup>4</sup>You know the way to where I am going.”

5“Lord,” Thomas said, “we don’t know where you’re going. How can we know the way?” 6Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” CSB

**This morning we are going to have a specific time of invitation!**

**The Day of the LORD is coming—**

Have you committed your life to following Him as master and Lord of your life.

**The Day of the LORD is coming—**

Are you willing to make a commitment to have Gospel Conversations and share the Good News about Jesus?