**THE LETTERS OF ST. PETER**

**Week 13 – 2 Peter 3:1-18 – The Hope of True Knowledge**

**May 18/19, 2021**

**INTRODUCTION**

**1. The Precedent of the Past 3:1-7**

* Peter tells us why he wrote both of his letters to these believers. What was his reason?
* What did they and do we remember?
* What does Peter want them and us to know?

a. First –

b. Second –

* What are the “last days?”

**2. The Promise of the Future 3:8-13**

* Please explain: “one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day.” [Psalm 90:4]
* Third – God is not slow in keeping his promises. [Hebrews 10:37]
* If God is not slow, what is he and why is he like this?

a.

**b. 1 Timothy 2:4**

**c. Revelation 22:21**

**d. Romans 2:4**

* What will the day of the LORD be like?
* Why does Peter use the picture of the thief to teach about the end of the world?

a. Jesus did [Luke 12:39; Revelation 3:3; 16:15]

b. So did Paul [1 Thessalonians 5:2]

c. To emphasize that it will come \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* How does this picture of a thief fit into the mindset of a Millennialist?
* What will happen when Jesus, as a thief, returns on the last day? **Verses 7, 10, 12**

**a. Isaiah 34:4**

**b. 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10**

**c. 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

**d. Matthew 24:35**

* So, knowing these things, what kind of people ought we to be?

**a.**

**b. [1 Thessalonians 4:13-18]**

**c.**

* While we wait, we rely on the LORD’s promise

**3. The Persistence of Expectation 3:14-18**

* What’s the result of understanding these things?

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

* Peter’s understanding and relationship to the Apostle Paul. What might we glean from these verses?
* Who are the ignorant and unstable people who distort Paul’s writings and Scriptures?
* What’s the result of their ignorance and distortions?
* Let’s talk about this phrase: “fall from your own firm position by being led astray through the error of the wicked.”
* How do we avoid this problem?
* As a congregation, how do we encourage members as a result?
* To him be he glory…. AMEN.

**NEXT CLASS – In August**

Some Ideas presented to me for Bible studies include:

* Revisit Revelation
* A study of the Beatitudes of Jesus [Matthew 5]. Perhaps this would include the entire Sermon on the Mount.
* On Sunday I’d like to teach a course entitled: **FORGIVING WHAT YOU CAN’T FORGET**.
* The Pastoral Epistles of Timothy and Titus
* Select Psalms
* Trinity Bible Studies – An overview of the entire Bible in 5 years.
* Revisit Genesis and the Family Life of the Patriarchs with an eye on the “gender,” “marriage,” and “family” concepts of today
* Other?