



Living in Light of Two Worlds (Part 3)

04122Pe3.12-13(36)

2 Peter 3:12-13



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 burning heat and the earth and the works done on it will be exposed. **11** Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, **12** awaiting and earnestly desiring the coming of the day of God, on account of which the heavens will

be destroyed by burning and the elements will dissolve with intense heat! **13** But according to His promise we are expecting new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

— 2 Peter 3:10-13 (speaker's translation from the Greek NT)

The Passage is Also Found on Page 184 of the New Testament Section of the Pew Bibles

As believers we live in the shadow of two worlds: the present creation that will pass away with the coming of Christ and the future recreation that we will inherit based upon God's promise.

I. We are to Live Hopefully: Knowing that Christ will Return (10a)

II. We are to Live Soberly: Understanding that this World is Temporary (10b)

III. We are to live diligently: focusing on the task at hand (11)

IV. We are to live expectantly: looking forward to the glories of Christ (12-13)

A. Theological Issue: What is "the coming day of God"? (12)

1. Why does the emphasis seem to fall on our being ready / alert for Christ's return rather than on our individual death?

a. Some thoughts . . .

(1) In the Bible the emphasis isn't so much on the _____ but on the _____

(2) While we are present with Christ upon death we yet await the final _____

(3) The _____ factor: We don't know what it's going to be like when we die as it relates to the passing of time (cf. v. 8)

B. Translational Issue (12)

1. Are we *hastening* the coming day of God or are we *earnestly desiring* it?
(cf. Acts 1:7, 17:31)

"For Peter describes this day as one that is to come even now, so that men should be prepared for it, to hope for it with joy, and even hasten to run to meet it, as that which sets us free from death, sin, and hell." [Luther]

C. What do we see as it relates to the glories of Christ? (13)

1. Christ's glories are in keeping with God's promise (13)

2. Christ's glories are where righteousness dwells (13)