

GROWING ⁱⁿ GRACE GUARDED ^{by} TRUTH

Study in 2 Peter



Sermon Title: "A Winding Road with a Settled Destination"

Scripture Title: 2 Peter 3:14-18

Chris Fritz / Sunday, May 28, 2023

INTRODUCTION

Note: These final 5 verses helpfully and beautifully summarize this entire letter!

I. FOUR COMMANDS AND ONE ESSENTIAL RABBIT TRAIL

1) BE DILIGENT in your expectant pursuit of Christ-like purity! (verse 14)

"But according to His promise WE ARE WAITING FOR new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." (2 Peter 3:13)

"...without spot or blemish, and at peace."

2) BE CONFIDENT in the wisdom and timing of God's plan! (verses 15-16)

"Or do you presume on the riches of His kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?" (Romans 2:4)

Essential Rabbit Trail: Though some may try to twist and distort it, YOU CAN TRUST (and love and believe) the totality of God's Word (Old AND New Testaments)!

"...the other Scriptures." (2 Peter 3:16c)

"For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were CARRIED ALONG by the Holy Spirit." (2 Peter 1:21)

3) BE WATCHFUL against error and every subtle deception! (verse 17)

*“...I have written briefly to you, exhorting and declaring **THAT THIS IS the true grace of God. STAND FIRM IN IT.**” (1 Peter 5:12b)*

4) BE ENCOURAGED to grow in the grace, knowledge, and worship of Jesus! (verse 18)

Note: When it comes to knowing Jesus and His grace, you'll never reach the end!

“To HIM be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.” (2 Peter 3:18b)

Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

1. What are the things we're "waiting" for in verse 14? How are we supposed to wait? What does that kind of "waiting" look like? What does it result in?
2. What does Peter say about the "patience" of God in verse 15? What does it result in?
3. How does Peter describe Paul's letters? What does Peter compare Paul's letters to? How does this encourage us to both study and to love the New Testament?
4. In what kinds of ways are we tempted to lose our stability (described in verse 17)?
5. Instead of losing stability, what we are encouraged to do in verse 18? In what ways are you currently pursuing growth? What has been most helpful to you?