


GROWING ⁱⁿ GRACE GUARDED ^{by} TRUTH

Study in 2 Peter



Sermon Title: *“The Perfect, Purposeful Patience of God”*

Scripture Title: 2 Peter 3:8-10

Chris Fritz / Sunday, May 7, 2023

INTRODUCTION

2 Peter 3:3, 4

I. GLORIOUS, GRACIOUS, INTENTIONAL, SOVEREIGN PATIENCE

2 Peter 3:8 -

1) Timeless Transcendence: Don't think that God shares your perspective on time!

“This point is simple. We should not simply look at time from our point of view. We need to remember just who this eternal God is before we jump to conclusions about describing the delay as a ‘long time’.” (Paul Gardner)

Note: God views time from a perspective that is very different from ours!

“God is eternal, without beginning or ending, and He dwells in eternity. Eternity is not just ‘extended time.’ Rather, it is existence above and apart from time.” (Warren Wiersbe)

“For thus says THE ONE who is high and lifted up, WHO INHABITS ETERNITY, whose name is Holy: ‘I dwell in the high and holy place, AND ALSO with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, and to revive the heart of the contrite.” (Isaiah 57:15)

“Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting YOU are God. YOU return man to dust and say, ‘Return, O children of man!’ For a thousand years in Your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.” (Psalm 90:1-4)

2 Peter 3:9 -**2) Purposeful Patience: YOU (not other people!) should rejoice in the patience of God!**

2 Peter 2:3b, 9b

Note: Verse 9 explains the very good, gracious, and personal nature of God's patience.

*"Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked, declares the Lord God, and not rather that he should turn from his way and live? ... For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone declares the Lord God; **SO TURN AND LIVE.**" (Ezekiel 18:23, 32)*

*"This is good and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires **ALL PEOPLE to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.**" (1 Timothy 2:3-4)*

2 Peter 3:10 -**3) Determined Decree: The Day of judgment, transformation, and revelation will come!**

2 Peter 3:13 and Isaiah 13:6-9

Note: The Day of the Lord will come "*like a thief*"; so many will be oblivious and unprepared.

1 Thessalonians 5:2-5a

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

1. How do we "struggle" with time? What are some of the common complaints we make regarding our lives and time in general?
2. What does Peter teach us about God and time in verse 8? How does this help us?
3. In what ways are we tempted to think that God is slow? Have you ever thought that God is slow? According to verse 9, what is God?
4. In light of God's patience, how should we view the time we have here on earth?
5. What details does Peter tell us about the coming Day of the Lord?
6. Are you ready for the Day of the Lord? Who are you praying for that needs to know Jesus?