



The Second Coming of Christ

Part Five - "Practical Application in light of The Second Coming" 2 Peter 3:14-18

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 All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pew Bible Page Number is 1119.
 In the STUDY VERSE SECTION, God's Word is printed in regular faced text with Pastor Joe's commentary in the smaller faced text.
 Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. • Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com.

REVIEW FROM LAST WEEK

The Perseverance Needed until the Second Coming

1. Sustain the hope of Christ coming.
2. Maintain the holiness of Christ in our lives.
3. Develop a heart like Christ for the lost.
4. God's promises about the *end time* motivates us to persevere in the *meantime*.

TODAY'S STUDY SECTION

STUDY VERSE SECTION – 2 Peter 3:14–18, NASB95 -¹⁴ Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things [i.e. the rapture of the believers and the judgment of the unbelievers] be diligent to be found by Him [a sobering reminder that no one will be able to hide from Christ when He returns] in peace [lit., peace of mind], spotless [denotes Christian character] and blameless [denotes reputation; the phrase "spotless and blameless" are used together as a call to the highest level of integrity and person holiness], ¹⁵ and regard the patience of our Lord as [a chance for others to find] salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, ¹⁶ as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught [those who lack understanding] and unstable [they are not consistent in their teaching] distort [lit., place on a torture table], as they do also the rest of the Scriptures [lit., the written Word (used 50x in the NT to rf., God's Holy Word)] to their own destruction. ¹⁷ You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled [lit., without the law] men and fall from your own steadfastness [lit., firm footing], ¹⁸ but grow [lit., advance] in the grace [lit., unmerited favor—you don't earn this] and knowledge [lit., theological and experiential knowledge] of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory [i.e. "divine

glory;" "I am the Lord, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another, nor My praise to graven images (false gods) – Is. 42:8] both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

Practical Application until the Second Coming

1. We must be guided by Christ.

2 Peter 3:14, GNB -¹⁴ And so, my friends, as you wait for that Day, do your best to be pure and faultless in God's sight and to be at peace with him.

2. We must guard against spiritual error.

2 Peter 3:15–17, NLT -¹⁵ ...This is what our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you with the wisdom God gave him—¹⁶ speaking of these things in all of his letters. Some of his comments are hard to understand, and those who are ignorant and unstable have twisted his letters to mean something quite different, just as they do with other parts of Scripture. And this will result in their destruction. ¹⁷ You already know these things, dear friends. So be on guard; then you will not be carried away by the errors of these wicked people and lose your own secure footing.

3. We must grow in grace and knowledge of Christ.

2 Peter 3:18a, NCV -¹⁸ But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ...

4. We must give all glory to Christ.

2 Peter 3:18b, NCV -¹⁸ ...Glory be to him now and forever! Amen.

Here's The POINT **Guiding • Guarding • Growing • Glorifying**

As you are guided by Christ, guard yourself from spiritual error, grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ and live to glorify Him.

LIFE APPLICATION SECTION

Between NOW and the time you Meet Christ:

- A. Stand guard over your personal surrender to God. (v. 14a)
- B. Stand guard over your personal character for God. (vv. 14b-15)
- C. Stand guard over the Word of God. (vv. 16-17)
- D. Stand guard over the Glory of God. (v. 18)