



The Mar Thoma Church Diocese of North America & Europe Christian Education Forum

Lenten Meditations

REPENTANCE – LIVE IN HOLINESS

2 Peter 3: 8-13

'Jesus is coming back. It can happen any time. Is it good news or bad news for you?' In the second epistle, Peter emphasizes the need for fruitful growth in faith, warns about the destructive doctrines and false teachers and finally about the need for a life in holiness. The third chapter starts with the assurance that God's promise is not slack. Peter writes that scoffers will challenge the promise of the second coming of the Lord. But here is the reality:

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise. (Verse 8) What may seem a long delay in our eyes is a brief moment for the Lord. That is why Peter says "with the Lord one day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day." Psalmist also says that in Psalm 90:4. Peter assures that the promises of the Lord never change. Then why is this delay? God is so patient and he is giving us chances after chances for our repentance.

The Lord will come (verse 10) Believers should not worry at the delay in Lord's coming. Even though false teachers will question it, it is going to happen. Peter says that the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night. In Matthew 24: 42, we see that Jesus also says the same thing. Apostle Paul made that very clear in 1 Thess 5:2. We don't have the right to set a time frame for that. We should not wait for tomorrow to repent and to lead a life of holiness.

Live for what will last forever (Verse 13) Here Peter warns us about the things that will happen on that day. The whole world will go through terrific changes. Man is so proud in his works and even questions the existence of God. But we need to understand that on that day 'both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Peter reminds believers that if that is the case, we should live a holy life, which will be pleasing to God. We are persuaded too much by the materialistic world that makes us to buy and stack things.

Prayer: God, help us to live a life, which is holy. Give us the strength to make the decision to lead a life, which is acceptable to you. Forgive us for the greedy life we are leading without really understanding the truth from your WORD. Lord, help us to make that strong commitment during these days of Lent. Amen

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*"But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells."
2 Peter 3:13*