



Be Found Blameless

(2 Pet 3:14) Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

What goes through your mind when you read something like this? It is written to Christians, so it applies to you. When I read it, I actually re-read it several times, trying to look deeper into it. Today, I'd like to address this admonition by expounding upon the context of this fantastic verse.

But before I do, I'd like to spend a few moments on verse 14, ensuring that you have an understanding of it.



Notice that God calls you, "beloved"? *Isn't this wonderful. God loves you so much that He calls you "beloved!"*

When I read this, I feel VERY good. What about you?

The next phrase, "seeing that ye look for such things," is what prompts us to review the context so that we can find out what those "things" are. We'll do that in a minute.

Then we are told to "be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless." I'll be quick. Diligent means, "to use speed with a special emphasis on brevity of time." We don't have much time before Jesus Christ returns for us, so don't waste anytime taking care of the business at hand. God tells us, very specifically, to be sure to pay attention to what little time we have remaining and to get this job done (be found ...).

The next phrase, "be found of him" should make you ask the question, "who is 'him?'" That is easily answered by looking back to verses nine, ten and 12. The "Lord" refers to God. Anytime the Lord is referenced

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without specifically referring to Jesus Christ in the context, it refers to God. God is the “him” in verse 14. We are to be found of God “in peace.”

Peace is to be a Christian’s way of life. Counterproductive to peace is war or fighting. God does not want us to war with one another, rather, to be peaceful with each other. While this may not be possible in the world, it is possible within your church or fellowship and family of believers. *God is a God of peace.*

(2 Cor 13:11) Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.

We are told to live in peace with each other. Sometimes, this is easier said than done, but it is always a noteworthy goal.

While the entire group may not be at peace, individually, you can strive to be peaceful with others, and teaching others how to do the same.

If you read verse 14 of 2 Peter 3 from the Greek text, the word order is changed. It reads, “Wherefore, beloved, these things expecting (one word for the phrase “seeing that ye look for such things”) be diligent without spot and unblamable by him to be found in peace.” I see a greater emphasis put on “without spot and unblamable” than do I on “in peace.” Don’t get me wrong.

All are important, but even more important are the two directives to us of being “without spot and unblamable.”

“Without spot” means, to be without blemish. Did you know that the sacrificial lamb used for Passover was to be “without spot?”

(1 Pet 1:19) But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

Jesus Christ was our perfect sacrifice, in part because he was without spot. Without spot of what should be your next question?

(James 1:27) Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

The world can get you all spotted, like a leper or a hundred and one Dalmatian dog. Figuratively, this refers

to the world spotting your soul and thoughts and actions. It is possible to live in this world without getting all spotted by

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its insanity and corruption. A Christian is expected to do so. And for how long should you abide like this?

(1 Tim 6:14) That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Until Jesus Christ returns to gather us together with him. That's how long. God expects to find us unspotted by the world. Well, if He does, then it definitely IS possible to be so. But, you will have to work at it, and it is truly no easy task. Keep in mind that Jesus did this, and now, so can you. Think about him every time you are challenged to adopt some worldly way that contradicts God's Will for your life!

Finally, we are told to be "blameless." Yes, this is different than "without spot." It literally

means, "without blame." So, your next question should be, without blame of "what"? Read on.

(Phil 2:15) That ye may be blameless [without blame] and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke [this is our word blameless], in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

Here, "blameless" from the Greek is translated "without rebuke." Now, that's a proactive stance if there ever was one. The onus here is to keep yourself in situations where by no blame regarding worldly corruption can be placed against you.

In other words, you are to live you life so "blame-free" that no one would ever have a reason to come up to you and rebuke you

for having done some bad thing. Please keep in mind that blameless is different than faultless. We are humans and we will make mistakes. If God asked us to be "faultless," He would be asking us to never make mistakes. But, God doesn't ask us for this. He does ask us to watch our behavior in the world and to NOT adopt crooked and perverse ways. Accordingly, He asks us to "shine as lights."

Well, do you now understand what 2 Peter 3:14 means? How about if I put it together for you in a literal sort of way?

(2 Pet 3:14) Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

Literal of 2 Peter 3:14:
Wherefore, you whom I love dearly, expecting those things

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(we'll get to these later), be quick to ensure that God finds you unspotted and behaving in a light-shining Christian way, living in peace among yourselves.”

By now, I'm sure you're quite anxious to find out what “those things” are? I sure was. I could review the entire chapter three, but I won't. But I'd recommend that you read through it several times to the point that you feel comfortable with all that it is saying. I will pick out several key verses in chapter three and discuss those.

(2 Pet 3:1) This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:

This chapter is written to “remind” us of things that we are ALREADY supposed to

know. Only you can answer if you already know them, but if you don't, here's your first lesson on this subject. What subject? It lies at the end of verse four.

(2 Pet 3:2-4) That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour: {3} Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, {4} And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

The subject, in part, is the “coming of Jesus Christ,” which refers to the second coming.

Jesus already came the first time. Very few people accepted him at that time

including the Jews, the principle people for whom he came. Today, many still believe that he didn't come the first time, but they are still wrong. Jesus did come the first time, and at that time, he came in peace. The next time Christ (I changed his name from Jesus to Christ for a reason – when he walked on this earth the first time, he was the Messiah – Jesus. When God raised him from the dead after he was crucified, died, and buried for three days and nights, he became our Christ – the risen one!) returns, he will only come in the clouds, and only for one reason – to gather together his saints.

(1 Th 4:16-17) For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: {17} Then we which

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are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

We will go UP to him and meet him IN THE CLOUDS.

Still, nonetheless, there are scoffers who won't believe this. I'd say that's their problem, and a really serious problem at that!

To really understand this, you need to understand something critical to this subject *that is almost NEVER taught in mainstream Christianity.* It is: there are TWO parts to the second coming of Jesus Christ. The first part is what I just taught you – the gathering together of his saints in the clouds. In mainstream Christianity, this is often called “the rapture,” but almost never called “the second coming.” If

it is, it is only briefly alluded to, thus preventing a deeper understanding of this critical factor to develop in the student's understanding. The second part is the return of Jesus Christ WITH his saints. This is when he comes back to this earth to rule for 1000 years. I'm sure something is now going through your mind. You're wondering about the gap between the first part and the second part. Well, rightly so.

The gap between the first part and the second part is when we, as Christians, will go to heaven. *This is the only time people will have EVER gone to heaven, contrary to popular, mainstream religious belief.* Nearly all religions teach that when you die, you go on to some after-life. Too bad that the Bible never teaches this. Oh well, so much for Biblical

scholars, right? When you die, you are dead and you stay dead until God gets you up either at the return of Christ, or at the judgements. But that gap period is going to be really fantastic. We will all be in heaven together, all Christians who have died, and all who are alive when Christ returns during the first part of this return.

On earth during this “gap,” some crazy things will take place, including the tribulation period. But, no worries, we won't be here.

(1 Th 1:10) And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

And ...

(1 Th 5:9) For God hath not appointed us to wrath,

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but to obtain salvation
by our Lord Jesus Christ,

Simply put, we won't go through the wrath which will take place, in part, during this gap I mentioned. That should make you feel really great! You can pick up any bible and read this, even the ones which are really poorly translated. *If you are a Christian, you will NEVER experience The Wrath period.* You can't. You will be in heaven, which is the only place to go to avoid it!

I had to spend some time on this subject in order to get to the next, which we'll pick up in 2 Peter 3: 5:

(2 Pet 3:5-7) For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of

the water and in the water:
{6} Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

You just read about the mess that the earth was in just prior to Genesis 1:3 when God spoke things back into existence. I could write another Artios on this subject because of its volume, but I'll just highlight it here. When Lucifer tried to become God, there was a HUGE battle in heaven and earth. God kicked Lucifer out of heaven, along with one third of the angels who sided with Lucifer. This battle ruined God's beautiful earth and 2 Peter 3:5 describes what it looked like. It was standing in and out of water. It was all broken up. Verse six says that it was overflowed with water and perished. This terrible battle did not remove earth, but it did ruin it. When you read the famed "Creation" story in Genesis chapter one, you

read about God putting things back together again. In reality, this wasn't the creation. That took place ages and eons before this battle. When it says "by the word of God the heavens were of old," we know that *God simply turned out the lights and the life and activities within the solar system ceased to exist.* There's a whole lot more to it than that though, but let's move on.

(2 Pet 3: 7) But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

Earth today is reserved for its fate, and man won't be the one to destroy it. Earth will be here for at least another thousand years and some, but if you're reading this Artios and are a Christian,

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that clock hasn't yet started ticking. It can't until the first part of the return takes place! Man won't destroy earth; God will! Earth won't run out of supplies no matter what fears man tries to promote. But of the most primary concern along these lines, earth will have enough of everything that you need if you are a Christian. Once we are gone, we don't care! The United Nations, EU, USA or any other group of nations won't be able to control what happens during the wrath period. ***Did I mention that the wrath period will only last about 3.5 years?*** After that, the second part of Christ's return takes place when he and we return to rule upon this earth, giving all who still live here a chance to accept God as their God. They won't be able to become Christians at that time, but they will be able to join God's family. This thousand year period will be a

most wonderful time, a time of peace when Christ is King and calls all of the shots!

But after all of this, and after the devil is thrown into the lake of fire along with all of his cronies, that's when this earth will be destroyed. These heavens and earth are kept in store BY GOD to be destroyed by fire. Once destroyed, there will be nothing left of the old, nothing.

(2 Pet 3:10) But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

This day when the earth and the heavens will be destroyed by fire and a fervent heat is called the day of the Lord. Mainstream religion misuses this term possibly more

than any other that I know. They often say that today is the day of the Lord. It seems that they are hoping to bring it into existence just by mislabeling it. They call other, future events the day of the Lord. Folks, there is only one day of the Lord. And it takes place after we are gone. It will be a great and notable day for sure.

(Acts 2:20) The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come:

There are several aspects of this Day of the Lord, but one thing you must remember is that ***we won't be here and we won't suffer through anything taking place on earth during that time.*** We are Christians and we have already been spared from any of these terrible events.

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(1 Th 5:2-3) For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. {3} For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

Sudden destruction won't come upon us; it is not possible for this to happen to Christians. ***Because we are already born again, we have ALREADY ESCAPED!*** It just couldn't get any better for now.

(2 Pet 3:11) Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

After talking about how the earth and the heavens will be destroyed

by fire and a fervent heat, something strangely familiar surfaces in verse 11. We are being reminded (from verse one) about something that we already are supposed to know) about the fantastic future events depicting the end of the world as we know it. ***SINCE we know how the story ends ALREADY, we should be responsible enough to act like Christians!***

That's the message. If I deposited a huge sum of money into your account, but you didn't know it, and you started telling me all of your financial woes, how silly it would be if I became depressed or worried because of what you were telling me. How silly. But, because I know something fantastic about the situation, I couldn't possibly become depressed or caught up in your woes. I ALREADY know the end of your financial story. I know many things about the

“end” of your situations because of the Word of God. It tells all. The question is, do you believe it? Many don't, but that doesn't change anything at all.

(2 Pet 3:12-13) Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? {13} Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

In order to keep “the end of the story” mindset, we need to be reminded of the end of the story once in a while. The world is too crafty and able to nearly erase this from your mind, but don't let it! Look for the day of God (the day of the Lord) when this earth shall be no more. Look for the new heavens and a NEW EARTH

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wherein dwelleth righteousness. Yes, there will be a brand new earth made (it won't have an ocean though – just thought I'd throw that one out in case you want to know more about it).

(2 Pet 3:14) Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

Now, read our theme verse, verse 14. You can now answer the question of what are “such things?” Are you now looking for such things? Are you knowledgeable of the end of the story? If you are, ***start living like you really do know the end of the story, no matter what daily odds you come up against.*** No man, woman, child, spirit, or other demi-god can or ever could change the end of the story. Of course, the devil thinks that he

still can. That's why he keeps inflicting pain on humanity. But, he can't change it. So stop worrying and start living in peace among yourselves, but above all, be found blameless when God finds you!

Much love in Christ,

Jerry D. Brown