

## Standing in the True Grace of God

*Peter's Life, Letters and Lord*

### 2 Peter 3:8–13

**Review 2 Peter 3:1–7. Then read 2 Peter 3:8–13.**

1. What are these “dear friends” not to forget (v. 8)?
2. Commentator Michael Green writes that since for God, “a thousand years are like a day” (v. 8), he “sees time with a *perspective* we lack.”<sup>1</sup> What do you think this means?

Similarly, since for God “a day is like a thousand years” (v. 8), he “sees time with an *intensity* we lack.”<sup>2</sup> What do you think this means?

3. How would appreciating God’s perspective change the way we view people, events, and things around us?
4. The “scoffers” (v. 3) think that because Jesus has not come yet, he’s not coming at all. How is this faulty thinking addressed by Peter’s reminder that for God, a thousand years are like a day?
5. Why is God waiting before he returns? (v. 9; see also Ezek. 33:11; Lk. 13:6–9)

**Reread 1 Peter 3:8–11.**

6. Peter has just explained God’s reasons for delaying his coming, but now in verse 10 he assures his readers in strong terms that the end will indeed come.
  - a. To what does he compare the Lord’s coming? (📖 \* See also Jesus’ words in Mt. 24:43–44.)
  - b. What does this image convey about Jesus’ return?

<sup>1</sup> Michael Green, *2 Peter & Jude* (Downers Grove, IL: Inter-Varsity, 1987), 146.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

\*The 📖 symbol indicates verses for further study.

7. What terrifying events will accompany the Lord's return? (vv. 10b, 12b; Lk. 21:25–27)
8. What else will happen when Jesus returns? (3:7; Isa. 13:9–13)
9. That day *will* come—but it has not come yet. How are we to live, knowing that the end may come at any time? (v. 11; 1 Thess. 5:1–9; Rev. 3:3; 📖\* Mk. 13:32–37)

**Reread 1 Peter 3:11–13.**

10. What are some ways we can “look forward to the day of God and speed its coming” (v. 12)? (Mt. 6:9–10a; 24:14; 28:19)
11. In verse 12b, Peter again describes the events that the day of the Lord will bring. But what does verse 13 say will follow that terrible day?
12. What will we experience in the new heaven and the new earth? (v. 13b)

What won't we experience? (Rev. 21:1–4, 8, 27)

Consider the impact these things have had on you, on those you love and on society. Then contemplate a life without them.

13. Why can we be confident that this glorious new heaven and new earth will come to pass? (v. 13a; Ps. 145:13b; 2 Cor. 1:20a)