

## 2 Peter 3:14-18

Living In Light Of Eternity

Pastor Eric Douma  
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### Structure of 3:14-18a

#### **Believers**

“spotless and blameless”  
“regard God’s patience”  
“have been established”

#### **False Teachers**

“stains and blemishes”  
“regard slowness”  
“unstable distort”

2 Peter 1:2 Grace and peace be multiplied in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

2 Peter 3:18 Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

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### Where We Left Off:

2 Peter 3:11-13 Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat! But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

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### Christians Are Called To Godliness

2 Peter 3:14 Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, **spotless** and **blameless**...

2 Peter 2:13 ...suffering wrong as the wages of doing wrong. They count it a pleasure to revel in the daytime. They are **stains** and **blemishes**, reveling in their deceptions, as they carouse with you...

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### God Is Patient With Sinners

2 Peter 3:15 and **regard** the patience of our Lord as salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you,

2 Peter 3:9a The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some **regard** slowness, but is patient toward you.

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### Paul Taught The Same Thing

Romans 2:4 Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?

Romans 3:25 whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed...

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### The Heretics Distort Scripture

2 Peter 3:16 as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the **untaught and unstable distort**, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction.

2 Peter 1:12 Therefore, I will always be ready to remind you of these things, even though you already know them, and **have been established** in the truth...

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### Peter's Final Exhortation

2 Peter 3:17-18 You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, **be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness**, but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

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### Application

1. Are you "making every effort" to live a life that is without spot and blemish?

2 Peter 1:5a Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your **faith** supply: **moral excellence, knowledge, self control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, love.**

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### 1. Are We Being Diligent?

2 Peter 1:10 Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble;

2 Peter 3:14 Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless...

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### 1. Obedience Is Evidence of Faith

Deuteronomy 30:15-18 See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, and death and adversity in that I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in His ways and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His judgments...But if your heart turns away and you will not obey, but are drawn away and worship other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall surely perish.

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### 1. How Are We Diligent?

#### 1. Sit under the means of grace and believe:

Acts 2:42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

#### 2. Abstain from fleshly lusts:

1 Thess. 5:22 Abstain from every form of evil.

#### 3. Control your thought life:

Matt. 15:19 For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders.

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## Application

2. We must grow in the knowledge of Christ.

2 Peter 3:17b-18a ... **be on your guard** so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness, **but grow** in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

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## 2. What We Must Know To Grow

**(1) God grounds the meaning of Scripture.**

2 Peter 1:20-21 But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

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## 2. What We Must Know To Grow

**(2) Who Christ is and what He has done.**

2 Corinthians 11:3-4 But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the **simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ**. For if one comes and preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you bear this beautifully.

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