

“God’s Stimulus Plan”
2 Peter 3:10-13

Introduction:

1. With Christmas Over & The New Year Out Of The Way, We Are Going To Head Back To Our Study Of 2 Peter!
 - 2 Peter 3!
 - 2 Peter Is An Important Letter:
 - Because It Helps Us Know That False Teachers Have / Will Creep Into The Church!
 - And Chapter 3 Is An Important Chapter:
 - Because It Helps Us Know What We Can / Must Do In Order To Be Prepared For & To Deal With Them!
 - And The Whole Letter Deals With The Truth!
 - Chapter 1 - Need To Be Grounded In The Truth!
 - Chapter 2 - Need To Be Guarding The Truth!
 - Chapter 3 - Need To Be Growing In The Truth!
 - So - 2 Peter 3 Is All About Growing In The Truth Of God / Gospel!
 - Verses 1-4 - The Source Of Our Growth!
 - The Word Of God!
 - Verses 5-9 - The Substance Of Our Growth!
 - Intimate Knowledge Of God & Jesus Christ Through His Word!
 - Verses 10-13 - The Stimulus Of Our Growth!
2. The Word “Stimulus” Seems To Be A Very Common Word In America Today!
 - **IE:** Our Government Has Spent Thousands / Millions / Billions / Trillions Of Dollars To Help “Stimulate” Our Economy!
 - For More Jobs! For More Income! For More Sales!
 - Only Time Will Tell If This Has Any Lasting Impact!
 - But Everything That Has Been Done As A “Stimulus” Has Been Focused On The Present!
 - Need More Jobs Now!
 - Need More Income Now!
 - Need More Sales Now!
 - And So Far, There Really Hasn’t Been Much Growth!
 - For All The Trillions Of Dollars Spent!
 - For Christians, However, We Have A Different Kind Of Stimulus!
 - That Can / Should Help Us Grow In The Truth & In Our Walk With God!
 - It Is Not A Focus On The Present!
 - It Is A Focus On The Future!
 - Our Stimulus Is - As Found In 3:10:
 - “The Day Of The Lord!”
 - Read 3:10-13!
 - The Day Of The Lord Is A Period Of Time At The End Of Time That God Will Use To Judge Sinners & To Justify His Saints!
 - This Is Our Stimulus For Growth!
 - God’s Plan For The Future!
 - Not About His Timing!
 - It Will Come As “A Thief In The Night!”
 - It Is Uncertain & Will Be Unexpected - Matthew 24:36 - “But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only!”
 - Those Who Set Dates / Times Are Wrong!
 - **IE:** Recently - Harold Camping - Set May 21, 2011 As The Day Of Judgment - Saying “The Bible Guarantees It!” - The Bible Guarantees No Such Thing! He’s Wrong!
 - It Is Not The Timing Of The Future:
 - That Should Cause / Stimulate Our Growth
 - It Is About His Teaching!

- That The “Day Of The Lord” Will Come!
 - No Matter What The Scoffers Have Said!
 - No Matter What Time Has Elapsed!
3. This Future Is To Impact Your Present!
- The Future Of The World Is To Be The Stimulus Of Our Growth!
 - In What Ways? In Three Ways:
1. ***Impact Your Learning!***
- Not Of ***When*** The Day Of The Lord Will Happen!
 - But Of ***What*** Happens During The Day Of The Lord!
 - We Need To Learn / Understand What The Future Holds For This World That We Know & In Which We Live!
 - 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!”
 - Similar To The Words Given To Us In 1 Thessalonians 5!
 - What Is Going To Happen During The Future “Day Of The Lord?”
 - Everything Is Going To Be Destroyed! Everything!
 - Everything Above Us Will Be Destroyed!
 - “In The Which (Day) The Heavens Shall Pass Away With A Great Noise!”
 - Everything That We See / Know / Use In The Sky!
 - God Will Destroy!
 - **IE:** And The Evolutionists Have It All Wrong!
 - The Big Bang Doesn’t Happen At The Beginning!
 - The Big Bang Will Come At The End!
 - When “All The Host Of Heaven Shall Be Dissolved, And The Heavens Shall Be Rolled Together As A Scroll!” (Isaiah 34:4)
 - Everything Around Us Will Be Destroyed!
 - “And The Elements Shall Melt With Fervent Heat!”
 - Everything That We Know & Have Used Around Us!
 - God Will Destroy!
 - “Elements” - The Substance From Which Everything Is Made! At The Atomic Level, God Will Let Loose That Which Has Been Held Together By His Own Power & Will!
 - Even / Especially The Things We Have Made From The Elements! **IE:** Everything Man Creates Is Made / Molded From What God Created - And He Will Show Who Is Really In Control! Will Not Last!
 - Why Matthew 6:19 - “Lay Not Up For Yourselves Treasures Upon Earth – But Lay Up For Yourselves Treasures In Heaven!” (Yesterday’s Take 20)
 - Every Abode Of Ours Will Be Destroyed!
 - “The Earth Also!”
 - The Material World - That We Know & Love & Live In - Our Homes!
 - God Will Destroy!
 - Every Accomplishment Of Ours Will Be Destroyed!
 - “And The Works That Are Therein Shall Be Burned Up!”
 - Everything That We Have Done / Accomplished / Achieved In This World – And Are So Proud Of!
 - God Will Destroy!
 - If They Are Works Of “Wood, Hay & Stubble!”
 - **IE:** And God Will Use It All For A Big Bon-Fire!
 - This Is Why We Need To Be Ready For The “Day Of The Lord!”
 - If We Are Not Ready – By Turning To & Looking To Jesus Christ – Then Everything That We Have Lived For & Longed For Will Be Gone!
 - And This Future Needs To Impact Your Present!
 - Needs To Impact Your Learning!
 - In The Future:

- Everything Will Be Destroyed!
- C. T. Studd - "Only One Life, 'Twill Soon Be Past, Only What's Done For Christ Will Last!"
- Peter Also Tells Us That This Future Should Also:

2. ***Impact Your Living!***

- 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!"
 - There Needs To Be / There Will Be A Change In Everyone Who Learns About This Future! Dramatic / Drastic Change!
- Change In Your Certainty!
 - "Seeing Then That All These Things Shall Be Dissolved!"
 - Even Though People Deny This Truth!
 - Even Though There Seems To Be A Delay To This Truth!
 - It Does Not Change The Truth!
 - "These Things Will / Shall Be Dissolved!"
 - Everything Peter Just Mentioned In 3:10!
 - Nothing Has Been Left Out!
 - Nothing Will Be Left Out!
 - It Will All Be Destroyed / Dissolved!
 - **IE:** Like An Alka-Seltzer In Water - Until Nothing Is Left!
 - This Is A Fact! We Can / Must Be Certain About It!
 - And This Certainty Will Impact How You Live Today!
- Change In Your Conduct!
 - "What Manner Of Persons Ought Ye To Be In All Holy Conversation!"
 - The Future Ought To Impact Your Present!
 - Especially The Conduct Of Your Life Today!
 - Like 1 Peter 1:15 - "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation!"
 - "Conversation" In Both Verses - Lifestyle!
 - Need To Be Holy! Living Like Christ!
 - Because We Know What Will Happen In The Future!
 - Not Just In Conduct & In Lifestyle!
 - Needs To Go Even Deeper Down!
- Change In Your Character!
 - "And Godliness!"
 - How You Live & Appear Before God!
 - This Can't Be Faked! 1 Samuel 16:7 - "For the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart!"
 - Need To Be Godly! Living For Christ!
 - Because We Know What Will Happen In The Future!
 - "Believers Ought To Live Holy And Godly Lives In This Age Because They Know What Is coming In God's Program For The Ages!" (Dr. James Quorllo)
- Change In Your Craving!
 - 3:12 - "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?"
 - This Is What "Manner Of Persons" You Ought To Be!
 - Because Of What Is Coming!
 - Because Of Who Is Coming!
 - You Ought To Be Craving The Coming Of The Lord Jesus Christ!
 - People With Great Expectation!
 - "Looking For The Coming Of The Day Of God!"
 - Keeping Our Eyes / Ears Open! Living Life On The Edge Of Our Seats! Waiting For When The Lord Is Going To Make His Next Move!
 - People With Great Energy!

- "Hasting Unto The Coming Of The Day Of God!"
- The Future Coming Of The Day Of God Ought To Impact Your Living Today!
 - What You Think About! What You Do! How You Serve! How You Live!
- Because There Is No Doubt What Is Going To Happen!
 - "Wherein the Heavens Being On Fire Shall Be Dissolved, And The Elements Shall Melt With Fervent Heat!"
- And This Future Needs To Impact Your Present!
 - Needs To Impact Your Living!
 - Has It? Will It! Are You "Looking For & Hasting Unto The Coming Of The Day Of God?"
 - If So - It Will Also:

3. ***Impact Your Looking!***

- For Those Who Are Ready For This Coming Day Of Judgment:
 - Through Their Relationship With Jesus Christ, The Son Of God!
 - Then You Do Not Need To Be Afraid Of What Will Happen To You During This Time Of Great Destruction!
 - Instead, You Can Look Beyond This Day Of Judgement To The Day Of Reward! A New Focus!
- 3:13 - "Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness!"
- A New Focus In Confidence!
 - "According To His Promise!"
 - Whose Promise? God's! Our Lord's!
 - God's Promise Of His Coming:
 - Is The Basis For Your Belief!
 - Is The Foundation For Our Faith!
 - Not Just Wishful Thinking / Not Just Another Superstition / It Is The Truth!
 - That Will Stimulate Our Growth!
 - Because What God Has Promised – He Is Able Also To Perform! (Romans 4:21)
- A New Focus On Creation!
 - "Nevertheless We . . . Look For New Heavens & A New Earth!"
 - We Will Have A New Atmosphere!
 - A New Heavens!
 - We Will Have A New Abode!
 - A New Earth!
 - Because According To Revelation 21:1-5:
 - John "Saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. / And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. / And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. / And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. / And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. Jesus Says: "Behold, I Make All Things New!"
- A New Focus On Christ!
 - "Wherein Dwelleth Righteousness!"
 - This Is What We Have To Look Forward To!
 - Everywhere We Look, We Will See Righteousness!
 - Everywhere We Go, We Will Find Righteousness!
 - Because There Will Be No More Sin!
 - We Will Then Experience / Enjoy:
 - Not Just The Purity Of Righteousness!
 - In Our Own Hearts & Minds!
 - Not Just The Practice Of Righteousness!

- In Our Own Actions & Living!
- Not Just The Peace Of Righteousness!
- In Our Relationships With Others!
- But Mostly – The Person Of Righteousness!
- The Lord Jesus Christ!
- Because He Is: “The Lord Our Righteousness!”
- And He Will Dwell With Us & We With Him!
- In That New Heaven & That New Earth!
- And This Future Needs To Impact Your Present!
- Needs To Impact Your Looking!

Conclusion:

1. Because This Future Is The Stimulus Of Our Growth!
 - As Christians In Our Lives Today!
2. How Has The Future Impacted Your Present?
 - What Are You Learning About?
 - Are You Growing In “The Knowledge Of Our Lord And Savior Jesus Christ”? (3:18)
 - What Are You Living For?
 - For Yourself & The Things In This World That Will Be Destroyed In The Day Of The Lord?
 - For Christ & The Things That Will Last For Eternity>
 - What Are You Looking At?
 - What Has Your Attention?
 - Who Has Your Attention?
 - Need To Keep “Looking Unto Jesus The Author And Finisher Of Our Faith!” (Hebrews 12:2)
3. How Will The Future Impact Your Life Today?

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