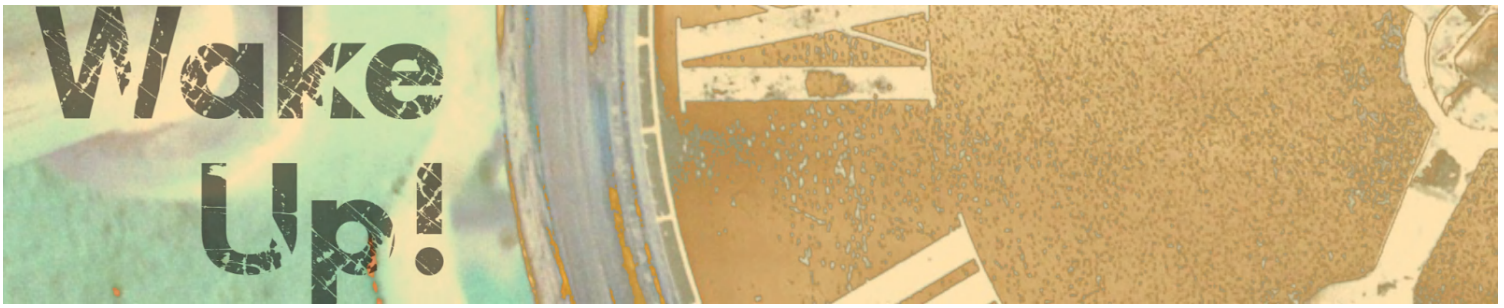


Connect Together

What are some things you do that makes the time fly by? What are some things that seem to take forever? Share how such things can be less tedious or dull.

Lesson Verses - 2 Peter 3:8-13 (CSB)

8 Dear friends, don't overlook this one fact: With the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day. 9 The Lord does not delay his promise, as some understand delay, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish but all to come to repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief; on that day the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, the elements will burn and be dissolved, and the earth and the works on it will be disclosed. 11 Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, it is clear what sort of people you should be in holy conduct and godliness 12 as you wait for the day of God and hasten its coming. Because of that day, the heavens will be dissolved with fire and the elements will melt with heat. 13 But based on his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

Study & Apply

1. a. Before Peter describes the end, what does he want us to be aware of?

   b. How does God's patience highlight His love and mercy?
   (Psalm 86:5; Ephesians 2:4-5)

   c. What is the reason for His patience, who is it ultimately for?
   (Nehemiah 9:30; Romans 2:4, 10:20-21; 1 Timothy 1:16)

APPLY: As believers, how are we to "take advantage" of God's patience? Why is it important not to see saving souls as a "time trial challenge," but rather as a demonstration of His love for those He has called in His providence?

2. a. What kind of lifestyle is Peter reminding us to live? Why?
   (Leviticus 20:26; Hebrews 12:14; Romans 12:1)

   b. If we believe the end-time prophecies, what must we also believe is true?
   (Joshua 23:14; 2 Corinthians 1:20, 7:1; 2 Peter 1:4)

   c. Why does God have to go to such great lengths of destruction?
   (2 Peter 3:7; Romans 8:19-22; Romans 5:12; Genesis 3:17; Isaiah 65:17;)

APPLY: While Christlikeness is the goal of our holiness, who are others that model holiness? While no man is "good" (Psalm 118:8), how can such role models demonstrate valuable practical ways to live in a holy manner?

Discuss & Share

What is the connection between holiness and repentance? Which of these speak to the nature of God and the nature of fallen mankind? How does God's promise of a new created order demand our desire of holiness? How do His promises rectify our inability to be holy (and why is it so important)?

Grow & Minister

Minister to one another through sharing specific prayer requests.