

• • TRANSCRIPT

• October 29th, 2026 "*Peters Plea For Steadfastness*

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If you have your Bibles, if you could please turn to 2nd Peter, 2nd Peter chapter 3. Good to see everyone today. What a blessing.

2nd Peter chapter 3. We're going to be looking at two verses of scripture. 2nd Peter chapter 3 beginning in verse 17. And if you found your place, if you could please stand in honor of God's word.

We want to thank those watching by internet. 2nd Peter chapter 3 verse 17. The Bible says, ye therefore beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness, but grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

To him be glory, both now and forever. Amen. Let's pray.

Father, we thank you. We thank you for your word. We thank you for allowing us to be able to worship you here.

And we ask you now that you would speak to each and every one of us. Father, in the times that we're living in, in all the turmoil that we deal with, Father, I pray that this message would speak to each and every one of us. Again, Lord, we thank you.

I ask you to help me as I preach your word. And it may it be in your power that I preach it in Jesus' name. Amen.

Well, these two verses form the final exhortation of Peter's final epistle. They say in history, this was the final words that were ever written of the apostle Peter. And they are the last recorded words of a man who knows that his departure is near.

He knew he was ready to die. So it's similar to the apostle Paul and second Timothy. So he knows he's close.

So if you hold your finger here, turn to second Peter chapter one, and look what he says in verse 14. He knows his time is short. And here in second Peter chapter one, verse 14, he says, knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, that's his body, even as our Lord Jesus Christ had showed me.

Moreover, I will endeavor that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance. So he's writing this letter is his final burden, I believe. But it's very simple what he has in second Peter chapter three, verse 17 and 18.

He gives us in these two last scriptures, he gives us his concern. Peter was concerned that believers would be led away with error from the wicked. And the spirit of worldliness would take over their lives in the last days.

And isn't it true as we look at the church today, in this day and age, there's so many distractions, there's so many voices speaking to them. And what the apostle Peter didn't want them to fall away from their faith. And it's similar all through the New Testament, the warnings that we have.

And here he wanted them to remain steadfast as they waited for the coming of the Lord. This was a whole key. Jesus is coming.

Stay true to your calling. Stay true to what you've done for the Lord. And here we find it turned back to second Peter chapter three, verse 17 and 18.

And these last verses of his last epistle, he gives us both a warning, but also a way forward in steadfastness. So first we see the warning. Number one, he says beware of falling away.

Look again in second Peter chapter three, verse 17. He says, ye therefore beloved, seeing you know these things before, beware lest ye also being led away in the error of the wicked. So here, Peter begins with ye therefore beloved.

So when you hear that, he at the end of this epistle, he speaks tenderly to the church, but he speaks also with urgency. There's a warning, even though he's speaking tenderly, amen. Peter does not say that you can lose your salvation here.

That's not what he's talking about. He's speaking that you can lose your steadfastness in your faith and in your spiritual walk. What he's saying is you can lose your stability, your stable stability.

Think of that. And also I call it consistency. And that's a problem with all of us.

If we were very honest with ourselves and with each other, yes, times get in a way, things get, take over, and you find yourself not really reading your Bible like you should, amen. So this phase, fall from your own steadfastness, I think it means to drift from the spiritual disciplines. Scripture gives us examples of those he was speaking to who had fallen.

Look at second Peter chapter two, verse one, second Peter chapter two, verse one. He says here, but there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you who privilege shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them and bring upon themselves swift destruction. This is a problem.

You find so many things on the internet, so many teachings, and you got to be careful because your faith could be led away by false doctrine subtly. And here they had fallen away from the truth. And the word of God is the truth.

And we must maintain and filter everything that comes to us by the word of God. But be careful. There are people that know how to twist things.

Second Peter chapter three, verse three and four says this, knowing this first that this shall come in the

last days, scoffers walking after their own lust 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. So they bring in doubt. And I know it's been 2000 years since the word of God has been revealing that Jesus is coming back.

He's coming a second, a second coming to rule and reign. Amen. And they had fallen away from the living and actually living for God and believing in the second coming of Christ.

That's what the Peter is speaking of here. And in second Peter chapter three, verse nine, the Bible says the Lord is not slack concerning his promise. We're still living a promise.

Amen. It's not reality yet. But here it says the Lord is not slack concerning his promise as some men count slackness, but as long suffering to us would not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

So what keeps Christ from coming back? Why, why is he taking his time? I believe because he's given mercy and grace. I believe he's waiting for more to come into faith. Amen.

He doesn't want anyone to perish in James, James chapter five, turn, turn to this James chapter five. And in James chapter five, look what it says in verse seven, James chapter five, verse seven, the Bible says, but be patient. Therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord, behold, the husbandman waited for the precious fruit of the earth and had long patience for it until he receives the early and latter rain.

How many of you have heard me talk, maybe not preach, but heard me talk about this early and latter rain. I believe when here is speaking of the precious fruit of the earth. I believe what this is speaking of is the harvest.

There's a harvest and what's the harvest. It's not the precious fruit. It's not the tangerines or the sweet peaches off the tree.

That's not what he's talking about. He's talking about the souls of men being redeemed by the precious blood of Jesus. And I believe the, the, the former rains was when, when the, the apostles were there and they were, there was a great, a great birth of the church and people were coming to Christ.

And then we find what they call it, the, the dock, the dock ages, huh? Where, where all of a sudden Christianity went down. Well, I believe that the, the latter rains is right before Christ comes. We're going to see a surge of people getting saved.

We could be in that day today as doc and as, as evil as it is, the gospel should be shining the brightest. Amen. So again, let me read that again.

And with that understanding, James chapter five, verse seven says, be patient. Therefore, brethren unto the coming of the Lord, behold, the husband men waited for the precious fruit of the earth and had long patience for it until he receives the early and latter rain. Can you see what I'm saying? He's waiting for souls to get saved.

And we must be steadfast in this present world, living godly lives and proclaiming the gospel message. It's not just a pastor that goes out and, and witnesses. It's the church.

It's the whole church as a responsibility. Titus chapter two, verse 12 and 13 says, teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world, looking for that blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the great God and our savior, Jesus Christ. What is he saying here? He's saying to remain steadfast in your faith.

If we're not careful, we can easily fall back into our old lifestyle and our old attitudes. Amen. But it's the word of God.

It's the submitting to the Holy Spirit and allowing the new man to flourish in our lives. And the only way to do that is to remain steadfast, being in your word, surrendering, praying, and following the leading of the Holy Spirit. Or what's going to happen? We're going to fall back into our old lifestyle and our old attitudes.

Amen. Look what it says in Titus, Titus chapter three, Titus chapter three, in Titus chapter three, verse three, it says, for we are saying that this is going to be a spiritual time for you, not a time to relax, a steadfast time of growing in grace and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ. You know, it's a blessing when I find that those who are just coming into the church or just becoming saved, the excitement they have to learn the word of God, it's a blessing.

Amen. We need to recognize the fact that we can still grow, that we did not make it. We have not achieved.

Amen. Second Timothy chapter three, verse 14 says this, but continue thou in the things which thou has learned and has been assured of, knowing of whom thou has learned them. The Bible is clear.

The doctrines of the word are true. Second Timothy chapter two, verse 15, the Bible says, study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needed not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. We all need to be studying.

And this is a challenge to all of you. Every one of you, those out in the internet, I challenge you to begin to start to study your word. I challenge you to every day, pick up the word more today than you did yesterday.

And listen, if you've been kind of just drifting in your faith, I challenge you today to make a commitment to yourself and to the Lord that you will begin to study his word and seek him in prayer. Ephesians chapter four, verse 23 says this, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind and that ye put on the new man, which is after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. That's my challenge to you.

Throw off the coat, throw off the robe of the world and put on Christ and live for him and make him real in your life and not just a religious thing of you coming. I like what the apostle Paul says in Colossians chapter three, and I'm going to end with this. Colossians chapter three, verse one.

He writes, if ye then be risen with Christ, let me say that again. If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above where Christ sit is on the right hand of God and set your affections on the things above and on other things of the earth. You know, we're living here in the earth, but we're not part of this.

Our home's in heaven. Amen. We have a dual citizenship and one day we're going to be, we're going to

be called back home, just like an ambassador.

You know, we're called ambassadors in second Corinthians chapter five. We are ambassadors. What does an ambassador do? He what? He reflects the country that he's from and the message that he's from that country.

And you and I are ambassadors and we're to witness and to bring people to Christ. And you know, when it's all said and done, we get called back home. Amen.

And one day we're going to be called home when our job is done. And I don't know about you, but I want to be, I want to hear that message. Well done now, good and faithful servant.

Amen. Let's pray. Father, we thank you.

Father, help us. I pray that your message would have gone out in the internet, Lord, and you would have spoken to that one person, that one soul who's been drifting in their faith, that one soul who's put his faith in neutral. And father, I pray, I pray that you would use this message from Peter, his last words ever recorded to remain steadfast, wanting us to be faithful and then encouraging us to grow.

Father, help us, help us as we're living in these days to be true to you. And this I pray in Jesus name. Amen.