

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: A New World Order

SERMON REFERENCE: 2 Peter 3:1-15

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #1625

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) The political rhetoric of our day has been about something called a “New World Order.”
 - i) The truth of the matter is that there is a new world order coming, but it is not going to be put together by politicians or the government.
- b) 2 Peter 3:13
 - i) Not only will there be a new world order, but the very heavens themselves are also going to be made new.
- c) The new world order is coming, but not as some think.
 - i) What people call a new order is just a rearrangement of the old disorder.
 - (1) It has been said that one cannot make a good omelet out of bad eggs.
 - (a) No matter how we stir it, mix it, or cook it, it is the same old thing.
 - ii) The new world order is going to come about when the Lord Jesus Christ comes in power and glory to receive His own and to judge the wicked.
- d) 2 Peter deals with authentic Christianity.
 - i) When Peter talks about authentic Christianity, he is warning us against apostates.
- e) In 2 Peter 3, we have the following:
 - i) An argument against the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ by the apostates.
 - ii) An affirmation and confirmation of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ by the apostle.
- f) No matter how bad the situation in the world is today, we know how it is going to end.
 - i) Rather than asking what the world is coming to, we can praise God for who is coming to the world.
 - ii) The cornerstone of our faith is the deity of Christ.
 - iii) The hope of our faith is that Jesus Christ, who came to die for us, is coming to rule and to reign in power and great glory.
- g) We live in a world where there is anarchy, and there is sometimes apostasy in the pulpit and apathy in the pew.
 - i) God’s people ought to be burning, emotional fire brands of truth, love, and power for Jesus Christ.
- h) In today’s message, we will look at the scoffing denials of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ and the Scriptural declaration of His Second Coming.

2) THE SCOFFING DENIALS OF HIS COMING

- a) 2 Peter 3:1-6
 - i) We have in this passage three apostate reactions to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ:
 - (1) An emotional reaction
 - (2) An intellectual reaction
 - (3) A volitional reaction

- (a) The emotions, the mind, and the will argue against the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.
- b) The devil hates the idea of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ because it is there that Satan will be sentenced.
 - i) It is there that judgment will be passed upon sin.
 - ii) It is there that Satan's kingdom of terror will come tumbling down.
 - iii) It is there that the saints will be honored, glorified, and blessed.
- c) The first argument is an emotional argument.
 - i) "There shall come in the last days scoffers."
 - (1) 2 Peter 3:3
 - ii) There are those who will simply laugh and scoff at the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.
 - (1) Scoffing is a substitute for substance.
 - (a) When a person is losing an argument, he will turn to ridicule, sarcasm, or scoffing.
 - (i) He will turn to mockery.
 - (2) Good people have always known that when they stand up for the truth, they are going to be open to mockery and ridicule.
 - (3) In these last days, the ones who will be mocked will be the conservative, Bible-believing Christians.
 - (a) The servant is not better than his Lord.
 - (i) The Lord Jesus was mocked.
 - 1. Mark 5:40
 - 2. Luke 22:63
 - iii) The devil's arsenal to try to keep someone from loving, knowing, and serving God is simply that he might be ridiculed and laughed at.
 - iv) Scoffers hate the Second Coming of Jesus Christ because they are living in sin.
 - (1) Scoffers walk after their own lusts.
 - (a) 2 Peter 3:3
 - (2) A person who ridicules the Second Coming of Jesus Christ has the devil's initials carved in his or her heart.
 - v) The Bible teaches that God is going to laugh also.
 - (1) Proverbs 1:24-27
 - (a) A person can laugh his way into Hell, but he can't laugh his way out of it.
 - vi) Apostates are not content merely to disbelieve holy things.
 - (1) They have an inordinate, devilish desire to ridicule holy things.
 - vii) Scoffers scoff and mock because they love their sin.
 - d) The second argument is the intellectual reaction.
 - i) 2 Peter 3:3-4
 - (1) The mockers were saying that if Jesus Christ were to come in power and glory and there would be new heavens and a new Earth, then that

would mean that there would be a disruption in the reign of natural law.

- (a) They were saying that there never has been such a thing since creation.
- (b) All that science can deal with is phenomena that are readily available to us.
- (c) Therefore, they saw no reason to believe that Jesus Christ is going to come.
- ii) They look at creation with a scientific approach.
- iii) Their argument is that nothing cataclysmic has ever happened, so there is no reason to believe that anything cataclysmic will happen.
 - (1) All things continue as they were.
 - (a) 2 Peter 3:4
 - (b) There never has been a cataclysm; there never will be a cataclysm.
- e) The third argument is the volitional response.
 - i) 2 Peter 3:5
 - ii) They put out their own eyes.
 - (1) They don't want to know.
 - (2) They don't want to understand.
 - (3) If they admit the truth that Jesus Christ is coming in judgment, then that means there is going to have to be a change in their lifestyle.
 - iii) They think that if they shut the truth out of their minds and hearts, then it will go away.
 - (1) They are willingly ignorant.
 - (a) They don't know because they don't want to know.
 - (b) They can't find God for the same reason a thief can't find a policeman.
 - iv) John 3:19
 - v) It is not that they cannot know; it is that they will not know.
 - (1) The problem is not in the head; the problem is in the heart.
 - vi) Romans 1 speaks of those who suppress, smother, and hold back the truth.
 - (1) Willingly ignorant.
 - f) These three apostate responses make a denial of one of the great Bible truths that Jesus Christ is coming again.

3) THE SCRIPTURAL DECLARATION OF HIS COMING (2 PETER 3:1-15)

- a) The Apostle Peter has three apostolic responses to affirm the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.
- b) His memorable promise:
 - i) 2 Peter 3:1-2
 - (1) The "words" mentioned in this passage were a promise.
 - ii) 2 Peter 3:4
 - iii) 2 Peter 3:9

- iv) 2 Peter 3:13
- v) Jesus Christ promised that He will come again.
 - (1) John 14:3
- vi) The Word of God tells us to be mindful that Jesus is coming again.
 - (1) The new birth is so important, but in the New Testament, the new birth is only mentioned nine times.
 - (2) Baptism is mentioned 20 times in the New Testament.
 - (3) Repentance is mentioned 70 times in the New Testament.
 - (4) In the New Testament alone (not including the Old Testament passages), 380 times in clear graphic terms, the New Testament speaks of the fact that Jesus Christ is coming again.
 - (a) If we add the prophets to what the apostles have said, then one verse out of every 25 in the Bible speaks of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.
- vii) Remember, and keep it in mind.
- viii) God, who cannot lie, has promised.
- c) His mighty power:
 - i) Peter said that scoffers are willingly ignorant of two things:
 - (1) Creation
 - (a) 2 Peter 3:5
 - (i) The apostates were saying that nothing cataclysmic had ever happened, and Peter reminded them about creation.
 - (b) God spoke, and it was so.
 - (i) Genesis 1
 - (c) God spoke worlds and universes into existence.
 - (d) By His Word He flung out the sun, moon, and stars.
 - (i) God did this all by His Word.
 - 1. Peter was reminding the people of God's mighty power.
 - (e) Modern skeptics are trying to find the origin of life, but what about the origin of matter?
 - (i) Out of nothing, nothing comes.
 - (f) God spoke, and it stood fast.
 - (i) Psalm 33:9
 - (2) Cataclysm
 - (a) 2 Peter 3:5-6
 - (i) The word "overflowed" in this passage is the word we get our English word "cataclysm" from.
 - (ii) There was a cataclysm.
 - (b) God by His power made a creation, and God by His power brought it out of cataclysm.
 - (c) Peter is warning against the idea that God can't step into history.
 - (i) Don't say that everything is just going on and on and on.
 - (d) If we try to explain creation without a Creator, then we are willingly ignorant.

- ii) 2 Peter 3:7
 - (1) In this passage, the phrase “the same word” is referring to the word that spoke the heavens and Earth into existence.
 - (2) A Greek scholar has said that the phrase “reserved unto fire” in this verse literally means that the heavens and the Earth right now are stored with fire.
 - (a) He uses the word that we get the word “treasury” from.
 - (i) This world is a treasury of fire; the entire universe is stored with fire.
 - 1. The subatomic nature of the universe tells us that everything is not really matter as we know it, but it is really fire.
- iii) Colossians 1:17
 - (1) By Jesus, all things hold together.
 - (a) Whether it be the planets in orbit or the electrons whirling around the nucleus of an atom, Jesus Christ is the glue of the galaxies.
- iv) Hebrews 1:3
- v) Psalm 33:9
- vi) Hebrews 11:3
 - (1) The things that are seen are made out of things which do not appear.
- vii) When Jesus releases His grip, we will see a cataclysm like the universe has never known.
- d) His merciful patience:
 - i) 2 Peter 3:8-15
 - (1) In verse 10, “fervent heat” literally means “internal heat” or “fever heat.”
 - (2) The longsuffering of our God is salvation.
 - ii) God doesn’t want anyone to die and go to Hell.
 - iii) If Jesus Christ had come yesterday and you were not saved, then your destiny for Hell would be irrevocably settled.
 - (1) The Lord has kept the door of mercy open for you.
 - (a) God is a God of mercy.
 - iv) 2 Peter 3:9
 - (1) God is waiting for you to be saved.
 - v) Some may say that if God is so full of mercy, then they don’t have to worry.
 - (1) But 2 Peter 3:10 tells us that the day of the Lord will come.
 - (a) There is the wrath of God, and there is the mercy of God; both of these are attributes of God.
 - (i) If we see God as all wrath and no mercy, then that is only part of the truth.
 - (ii) If we see God as all mercy and no wrath, then that is only part of the truth.
 - 1. When we make part of the truth all of the truth, then that part of the truth becomes an untruth.

- (b) One of these days, mercy must give way to wrath for “the day of the Lord will come.”
 - (i) You don’t know when it is coming.

4) CONCLUSION

- a) 2 Peter 3:10
 - i) The day of the Lord will come suddenly, cataclysmically.
- b) 2 Peter 3:9
- c) What you must do in order not to perish is to come to repentance.
 - i) Repentance is a change of mind.
 - (1) Instead of trusting self and living in sin, turn from sin to Jesus.
 - (a) Take faith from self, and place it in Him.
 - ii) Luke 13:3
- d) Jesus is coming.
 - i) He is coming to take vengeance on those who know not God and who obey not the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
 - ii) He is coming to receive His own.
- e) We know this by His memorable promise, His mighty power, and it is only because of His merciful patience that He hasn’t come yet.
- f) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- g) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16