

The End Of The World As God Knows It

1 Peter 4:7-11

The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.

Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one

another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 4:5

but they will give account to him
who is ready to judge the living and
the dead.

The end of all things is at hand;

1 Corinthians 10:11

Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come.

1 John 2:18

Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. Therefore we know that it is the last hour.

Community-

God enjoys perfect relationship in the love among the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Covenant-

God promises to bring man back to himself and pursues man in love.

Christ -

God enters human history as a man to do for man what they could never do for themselves

Creation-

God creates a perfect world where we can be brought into this perfect community.

Crown-

God chooses a family, makes it a nation to bless the whole world

Church-

Jesus works through the very people he has saved to rescue the world

Crash-

Man rejects God's gracious invitation and plunges the human race into ruin.

Crisis-

Israel rejects God-prophets sent to call them back.

Consummation-

God restores all things to perfect order and brings us back into perfect community

Rather than thinking of world history in terms of earthly kings and kingdoms, Peter thinks in terms of 'redemptive history'. From that perspective all the previous acts in the drama of redemption have been completed-creation, fall, the calling of Abraham, the exodus from Egypt, the kingdom of Israel, the exile in Babylon and the

return, the birth of Christ, his life, death and resurrection, his ascension into heaven and the pouring out of the Holy Spirit to establish the church. The great 'last act', the church age, had been continuing for about thirty years by the time Peter wrote. Thus the curtain could fall at any time, ushering in the

return of Christ and the end of the age. All things are ready: the end of all things (the 'goal' to which 'all' these events have been leading) is at hand.

– Wayne Grudem



therefore be self-controlled and
sober-minded

Romans 13:12

The night is far gone; the day is at hand.

So then let us **cast off the works of darkness** and put on the armor of light.

2 Peter 3:11

Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in **lives of holiness and godliness,**

The New Testament never invites believers to withdraw from the world because the end is near and to gaze at the skies, hoping that the Lord will return soon. The imminence of the end should function as a stimulus to action in

this world. The knowledge that believers are sojourners and exiles, whose time is short, should galvanize them to make their lives count now.

– Thomas Schreiner



therefore be self-controlled and
sober-minded **for the sake of**
your prayers.

Sobriety and a clear mind have one value above others. They equip us for prayer. Peter does not think of prayer as an effort to induce ecstasy, but as sober, direct, profoundly thoughtful communication with the Lord.

– Edmund Clowney



Above all, **keep loving one another earnestly**, since love covers a multitude of sins.

1:22 Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart

2:17 Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

3:8 Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind.

Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, **since love covers a multitude of sins.**

Proverbs 10:12

Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all offenses.

Where love abounds in a fellowship of Christians, many small offenses, and even some large ones, are readily overlooked and forgotten. But where love is lacking, every word is viewed with suspicion, every action is liable to misunderstanding, and conflicts about - to Satan's perverse delight.

– Wayne Grudem



Show **hospitality** to one another
without grumbling.

Matthew 10:11 And whatever town or village you enter, find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart.

Matthew 10:40 Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me.

Acts 16:15 And after she was baptized...she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay."

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace.

1 Corinthians 12:7

To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

Peter's focus is often lost today. Christians eagerly discuss spiritual gifts, but in a way that would surely distress the apostle. Their concern is not how they can serve others and bring glory to the Lord. Rather they seek self-fulfilment. They want

to discover their gifts so as to establish their own identity. In a Christian context, they want to 'do their own thing'. That gifts are granted for service is lost from sight.

– Edmund Clowney



whoever **speaks**, as one who
speaks oracles of God; whoever
serves, as one who serves by the
strength that God supplies

Speaking gifts

- *Teaching
- *Preaching
- *Prophecy
- *Tongues
- *Interpretation

Serving gifts

- *Leading
- *Helping
- *Encouraging
- *Giving
- *Serving

whoever speaks, as one who
speaks **oracles of God**; whoever
serves, as one who serves by the
strength that God supplies

in order that in **everything God may be glorified** through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

If God be glorified, does it really matter where we are? What becomes of us is of small consequence compared with bringing glory to his great name.

– Charles Spurgeon

