

August 10, 2020

God wants...

In light of what God wants, how should I live?

2 Peter 3:9-12

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.^[a]

¹¹ Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives ¹² as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming.

What does God want?

He wanted Adam and Eve and their offspring to live in perfect relationship with him. By human will, that went south fast. However, God's desire never changed. That's why he had a plan to send his son Jesus to die for us. He knew Jesus' death would provide forgiveness for all who would call on him to receive it. This would re-establish the lost relationship with mankind.

But God cannot force anyone to choose him any more than he could have forced Adam and Eve to obey him in the first place.

This is where the church (the true Christ followers) comes in. We have been commissioned to share the truth of God's love in a compelling way. Not with BIG words and eloquent speeches, but with our lives.

Living holy and godly lives, and speaking simply and lovingly about what God has done for us is our most high calling. It will spread the good news and ultimately speed the coming of God and his final judgement. How? Because the gospel must be preached in all the world before he returns. By living obediently and proclaiming the excellencies of God and his love, the world will see and hear the hope that is ours and the hope that can be theirs as well.

That day of judgement is coming like a thief in the night. So what do I do about it?

*The answer to, "How **should** we live?" Is not too difficult to answer. The Bible is clear about that. The more difficult question to answer well is, "How **will** I live?" It's your choice to live like that, because God can't force you to obey him.*