Lownes Free Church Sunday Morning – June 3, 2018

The Last Days! What happens next?

Life Lessons from Four Apostles

So, In Summary. . .

Reviewing What We’ve Learned About the Last Days

2 Peter

Peter’s second letter is a handy catalogue of Last Days thought and categories. As an apostle, he was a contemporary of John, shared ideas with Jude, and even referenced the writings of Paul. As we have seen, what we know of The Last Days is merely an explanation or exposition of what Jesus said about His return, including what leads up to it and how it all ends.

***The Grounding Grace of the Precious Promises***  ch. 1

All that comes to us is through God’s promises fulfilled in Jesus. Our task is to grow in our love for and obedience to those promises, the earliest of which came through the prophets, the very mouthpiece of God.

***The Secret Seduction of the Doctrinal Derelicts*** ch. 2

Unlike the prophets, the false teachers draw people away from God and His character by lying about judgment and morality. They purposely deny the truth of God and, as in the past, will be judged.

***The Messiah Memory and the Purpose of Patience***  ch. 3

The false teachers were using the argument that since everything was continuing in the same way it always had, Jesus’ return was not on the radar. But this creation will be tried by fire, just as the first creation was destroyed by water. What will remain are the new heavens and new earth, but all will await God’s perfect timing, which is providing time for all to submit to His grace. All this has been predicted by Jesus and explained by His Apostles. Remember!

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***Last Days Life Lessons: What have we discovered?***

***1. We have been living in the Last Days since Jesus appeared.***

***2. Jesus will return in God’s time, and no one can predict when.***

***3. Jesus’ return will be accompanied by unmistakable cosmic signs.***

***4. At that time, the dead will be raised, living believers changed.***

***5. In the mean time, earthquakes, wars, and famines are normal, and false teachers will continue to deny truth and derail believers.***

***6. In these days, believers will be persecuted, sometimes severely, with the final antichrist arising in the last of the Last Days.***

***7. Our tasks are to live for Him and take the gospel to the nations.***

***Going Deeper--For Growth Groups:***

1. Rather than reveal anything new, Peter points over and over again to the past. Why? And why do many present “Last Days” preachers do the opposite? Where does the desire to be “original” here come from?

2. Peter agrees with Jude in condemning false teachers as evil and deserving judgment. Why do many in our day reject that kind of thinking? What draws some to become false teachers? And followers?