

Who Can Endure The Day Of His Coming? 4370

Proclamation: Titus 2:11–14

Theme: Mal. 3:2a

But who can endure the day of His coming?
And who can stand when He appears?

I. Two Major Bible Themes

- A. The cross
- B. The second coming
 - 1. Demands for holiness
 - 2. Each one's work will become manifest (1 Cor. 3:13)
 - 3. Hidden things brought to light, motives of the heart revealed (1 Cor. 4:5; Matt 10:29)
 - 4. Aspects of holiness:
 - a. Eagerly waiting (1 Cor. 1:7–8)
 - b. Appeal to holiness is based on the fact that Jesus is coming again (1 Thess. 3:12–13)
 - c. Be blameless and holy (1 Thess. 5:23)
 - d. Jesus will purify a people for Himself, zealous for good works (Titus 2:11–14)
 - e. Each one must also purify himself (1 John 3:1–3), Jesus will do His part (Tit. 2) if we do ours (1 John)
 - 5. Do not dwell on the “secret things” and neglect the “revealed things” (Deut. 29:29)
 - 6. Jesus says “watch and pray” for *no one* knows the day or the hour (Mark 13:32)
 - 7. Celebrate communion (1 Cor. 11:26)—proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. *No past but the cross; no future but His coming.*

II. Preparation For The Lord's Coming

- A. What manner of persons are we to be?
 - 1. *Not* what you *do*, but what you *are*
 - 2. First *be*, then *do*
- B. Confession of sins—unconfessed sin is unforgiven sin
- C. Emphasis on Christian character
- D. Church growth: In numbers or in holiness?
- E. The gospel centers in the cross (1 Cor. 15:1–4)
 - 1. Heresy is a worse sin than pornography
 - 2. Teaching that the Christian life is worry-free and comfortable is heresy

III. Four Areas Of Character

- A. Love (Rom. 8:3–4)
 - 1. As believers, we are not required to keep the law of Moses
 - 2. *But* we must fulfill the righteous requirement of the law—which is *love*
 - 3. See also Rom. 13:8–10; Gal. 5:14; 5:6

4. AS “faith without works is dead” (Jas. 2:26)
AND “faith works through love” (Gal. 5:6)
THEN “faith without love is dead”
 5. The goal of instruction is love (1 Tim. 1:5 NASB). If it doesn’t produce love, it is idle talk
- B. Purity and chastity**
1. Abstain from sexual immorality (1 Thess. 4:3–8) If you reject this, you reject God
 2. Unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God (1 Cor. 6:9–11)
BUT you also can be *washed, sanctified, justified*—includes homosexuals!
- C. Honesty, truthfulness**
1. One condition of growing up in Christ (Eph. 4:15)
 2. Avoid deception by loving the truth (2 Thess. 2:9–12)
OR God will send strong delusion
 3. Cultivate a love (*agape*) of the truth
 4. No liars will get into heaven—unless they repent (Rev. 21:8)
- D. Most important: humility**
1. Don’t be too proud to admit you need a doctor.
 2. He that sows to the flesh will reap corruption
 3. Remedy to pride: confess your sins to God. Confess your sins to one another (esp. spouse) (James 5:15–16)
 4. Start at the lowest place (Luke 14:8–11), then there is nowhere to go but up
 - a. Whoever exalts himself will be abased
 - b. Whoever humbles himself will be exalted
 - c. Example of Lucifer (who exalted himself) and Jesus (who humbled Himself) (Phil. 2:8–9)
 5. Phil. 2:3
 - a. Esteem others as better than yourself
 - b. Do nothing out of personal ambition
 6. Put on the apron of humility—show everyone you are a slave (1 Pet. 5:5, *clothed* with humility)
 7. Do not condemn yourself by that which you approve or endorse (Rom. 14:22)

IV. In Summation: What Sort Of Persons Are We To Be?

- A. Seven answers from 2 Peter 3:11**
1. Be holy in conduct and godliness (v. 11)
 2. Looking for the coming of the day of God (v. 12)
 3. Hastening the coming of the day of God (v. 12) (also Matt. 24:14; Rom. 11:25–26)
 4. Be diligent (v. 14)
 5. Be found in peace—with no ruptured relationships (v. 14)
 6. Be without spot—no unconfessed sin (v. 14)
 7. Be blameless—no neglected duties (v. 14)
- B. Final warning (2 Peter 3:17–18)**
Either grow in grace or fall.