

What Manner of Persons Ought We To Be? What Kind of People Should the Children of God Be?

2 Peter 3: 3-4

3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,

4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

Scoffers, doubters, unbelievers, walking after their own lusts, their God isn't our God, our God is the Lord Jesus Christ, **their God** is their own **bellies**. They serve themselves, they worship themselves, they are full of lusts, jealousies, envies, strifes, murmurers, complainers, backbiters and slanderers.

2 Peter 3:5-6

5 For this they **willingly are ignorant** of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:

6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

They are willfully ignorant of the Word of God. Not wanting to know God's Truth! But we the Lord's children are not ignorant for we know His word, His promises. Amen!

Abraham believed God and it was counted to him for **righteousness**. **We** also believe God's Word and it is counted to us for righteousness!

2 Peter 3:7-9

7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

2 Peter 3:10

10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

This **present Heavens and Earth**; that is the sky above us, the air we breathe, the Earth, the planet we stand on is **reserved unto fire!** God destroyed the old world of Noah's day by the overflowing of water. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, when one least expects a break in when one is asleep, unaware.

This **present world will pass away, that is it will die—**with a great noise (a nuclear explosion?) And the elements—the very air we breathe) shall melt with fervent heat—the Earth also shall be burned up!

2 Peter 3:11

11 Seeing then that all these things shall be **dissolved**, **what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,**

Let no corrupt communications proceed out of your mouth (dirty jokes, lies, cursings, etc). But only that which may be used for **edifying** (to lift up, encourage, say something good). That it may **minister** grace to the hearers. (Now grace is the unmerited favor of God). For we are saved by grace through faith and that not of yourselves, **it is a gift from God, not of works**, lest any man should boast! **And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God** (to make sad or sorrowful), whereby you are **sealed** unto the **day of redemption**. We are a purchased possession-bought by the blood of Jesus.

The Hope of the Church

2 Peter 3:12-14

12 **Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God**, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

It is a terrible thing to fall into the hands of a living God! Our God is a consuming fire!

What manner of person ought you to be?

Two examples of the type of persons not to be:

1. Samson
2. Esau

Example One—Samson

Do not be a Samson who for the **lust of the flesh**-gave up the **Lord's anointing**, the Lord's protection, and the Lord's strength. Do not dabble in this sinful world and one day the **enemy-Satan attack you and you shake yourself** as Samson did and find out too late that the **Spirit of God has departed from you**. (Samson the Philistines are upon you! Keep your eyes, your love and your affection on Jesus, do not let Jesus find you having spots, wrinkles or blemishes when the trumpet sounds and God raptures out His Church.

Example Two—Esau

Do not be an Esau who for one morsel of meat **'sold his birthright, his inheritance'** his place in God's family. For God said, I am the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He did not say I am the **God of Abraham, Isaac, and Esau**. Esau (who was Isaac's firstborn-for Esau sold his birthright-his place in God)-to his brother Jacob.

What Manner of Person?

Therefore God said, Jacob I loved! But Esau I hated! God hates sin! As men; Jacob and Esau both sinned in their lives but the difference was that Jacob **loved** God and **repented** and **sought** after God! But Esau sought after his "belly"- the lust of the eye and the flesh. **Esau hated God** and loved this world and its sins. Esau never regretted his sinful life "**until**" it came the time for his father's "**blessing**". Isaac's blessing was for his "first born". But remember Esau had sold his birthright. "His right for his father's blessing to his brother Jacob, so we all know the story of how Jacob received the blessing. And though Esau sought for his father's blessing with grievous tears and plea's saying father bless me, even me—but sorrowfully Isaac said son I am sorry but your brother has received your blessing and He shall be blessed. The blessing could not be taken back!

What Manner of Person Ought We Be?

Church the time for our Father's blessing; the blessing of Jesus Christ to us is at hand. **"The blessing of the catching away of the church."** *The Lord's Rapture*. It

shall take place in a *twinkling of an eye* in a *heart beat*. We shall be changed from mortal to immortal, from corruptible to incorruptible **we shall take on the glorified body like unto Jesus' glorified body** and be **caught up to meet Jesus in the air, —to ever be with the Lord!**

What Manner of Person Ought We To Be?

To receive the promise?

To inherit-everlasting life?

Let me read to you out of Revelation the promise.

Revelation 21:1-7

1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

Revelation 22:1-5

1 And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

2 In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

3 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:

4 And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.

5 And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

What Manner of Person Ought We to Be?

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength.

And thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

Do *good* one to another-esteem your brothers and sisters higher than yourself.

What Manner of Person Must You Be?

Love one another-by this Jesus said all men shall know you are my disciples. *Love one another!*

Love does not hurt or harm one another. Judge not lest you be judged, condemn not lest you be condemned.

Forgive one another and you shall be forgiven-forgive every man his sins against you.

Do these things Church and you will hear Jesus say, "Well done my good and faithful servant-enter in to the Kingdom of Heaven!"