

SECOND PETER CHAPTER 3

Lesson 39

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?

1 May, 2015

In response to the warnings in this epistle, the Holy Spirit closes with an admonishment. We are to be careful to keep our thoughts occupied with the things taught by the holy prophets and the apostles (vss. 1-2)—and to make sure that our eyes are fixed upon eternal things (vss 11-14).

The world system tries to keep your thoughts occupied with things other than the words of God.

The result: our eyes wander away from godly things and toward the ungodly things of this world.

VERSE 11 **“SEEING then...”** Do you consider that the things you can look at in this world **“shall be dissolved?”** Don’t let the world convince you that the things it offers are more important than holiness and godliness.

VERSE 12 **“LOOKING for and hasting...”** Keep your eyes focused upon **“the coming day of God.”** That is a certainty. Everything else you see in this world that tends to distract you is going to burn up.

VERSE 13 **“We...LOOK for new heavens and a new earth...”** because that’s what God promised. We often pray for things that God hasn’t promised; we pray and hope God will see things our way and answer our prayer. But we seldom “look” for the answer to our prayer—because there is no scriptural promise concerning what we asked for.

God wants us to look for a new heavens and a new earth, because He promised its coming.

VERSE 14 **“SEEING that ye LOOK for such things...”** it ought to change the way you act in this world. It’ll keep you out of many temptations, snares, and hurtful lusts that bring sorrows (1 Tim. 6:9-10).

VERSES ABOUT THE MIND:

DEUT. 6:4-9 Everywhere you go, keep your mind full of God’s words. Worldly conversations will try to take your thoughts elsewhere, so you are challenged to get your mind back on Jesus Christ and on what God said.

PSALM 119:11 Fill your mind with the words of God. Memorize the Scriptures.

PHIL. 4:8 Here are the things the Holy Spirit wants us to think about: things that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report, virtuous, and praiseworthy.

The Devil would like to keep our thoughts on other things. We are warned in the Bible about things that are harmful, hurtful, and sinful. But God doesn't want us to keep thinking about those things, so He provides a list of things that will profit us if we'll focus on them.

VERSES ABOUT THE "LOOK:"

HEB. 11:13-16 The faithful Old Testament were given a promise by God. They didn't receive those promises in their lifetime on earth, "**but having SEEN them afar off,**" it affected their outlook on life. Those promises persuaded them to live their lives on earth as "**strangers and pilgrims**" just passing through.

If those saints had allowed their MIND to be filled with the things of this world, they may have "returned" to their former state (vs. 15) and forgotten about the "better country" (vs. 16) that God promised. But they were looking at that place in heaven, and it helped them to remain faithful.

If we want to remain faithful, we need to keep our eyes on our heavenly home, not on the things of this world.

TITUS 2:11-13 "**Looking for that blessed hope**" will help you to live holy, godly, righteous lives in this present world.

There are so many things in this world that will try to get your attention off the things of God and onto things that do—not—matter. That's a temptation we all face. It will be a challenge to keep your eyes on the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.

2 COR 4:16-18 We are instructed to "**LOOK not at the things which are seen** (temporal), **but at the things which are not seen** (eternal).
