

## How then should we respond?<sup>1</sup> The Very Last Word! 2 Peter 3:11-18

### What sort of people should we be?

<sup>11</sup> Since all these things are thus to be dissolved,  
what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness?

<sup>12</sup> waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God,  
because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved,  
and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn!

<sup>13</sup> But according to his promise  
we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth  
in which righteousness dwells.

How do we “hasten”  
the coming day of  
God?

### Since we are waiting . . .

<sup>14</sup> Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these,  
**be diligent** (*aoist imperative; urgency: “Be eager”*) **to be found by him without spot or blemish,**  
and at peace.

<sup>15</sup> **And count** (*present imperative; continuous action: “Be counting”*) **the patience of our Lord as salvation,**  
just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him,  
as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters.  
There are some things in them that are hard to understand,  
which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction,  
as they do the other Scriptures.

### Take care!

<sup>17</sup> You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand,  
**take care** (*present imperative; continuous action: “guard yourselves”*) that you are not carried away with the  
error of lawless people and lose your own stability.

### **GROW!!!!**

<sup>18</sup> **But grow** (*present imperative; continuous action; “be growing”*) in the grace and knowledge of our  
Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**A fitting doxology and conclusion to any prayer.**  
To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

---

<sup>1</sup>Message prepared and shared with the congregation of West Salem Baptist church and other friends, Sunday, September 27, 2020.  
Citations from Scripture are from the English Standard Version of the Bible.