

1 Peter 1:13-15 *Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;*

I. Introduction

A. Season of heaviness (1 Peter 1:3-7)

1. Difficult times with unemployment, overworked first responders, claustrophobia staying home so long
2. Difficult times of civil unrest, hatreds, & destruction
3. Christian sees world upside down in confusion of the future, but God already knows the future
4. Pray with & for one another
5. First century Christians persecuted for their faith, some even put to death

B. What will we do? Three thoughts based upon “wherefore”

II. Fasten (attach) Your Mind (verse 13a-13b)

A. With Scripture

1. Word “wherefore” based on earlier verses in 1 Peter chapter 1
2. Renew your mind by thinking with Scripture (Bible)  
*Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God*
3. Word “gird” means to fasten  
*2 Corinthians 10:5–6 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.*
4. Bible changes our minds, as well as encourages us
5. Gospel that saves you also delivers you every day
6. Any person can know about the Bible, but many not know personally Jesus Himself

7. God never promised us “easy street”, but rather peace & contentment with His presence

*John 16:33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.*

*Hebrews 13:5 [Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.*

#### B. Sober thinking

1. Calm & watchful spirit when facing spiritual enemy

*1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:*

2. Sober means realistic thinking without wrong influence (alcohol, drugs, false words, false news, false friends, etc)

#### C. Secure thinking

*Ephesians 6:14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth,*

*John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.*

1. Security founded on knowing you are saved

*Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to ever one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*

2. Hope for the future when Jesus returns

- i. Continue hoping to end of your life even when discouraged

- ii. Keep fresh hope alive every day to the end

*Galatians 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.*

3. Living hope in the future because Jesus came alive after death

*1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,*

4. Hope in person of Jesus & not built on symbols

### III. Fix Your Gaze (verse 13c)

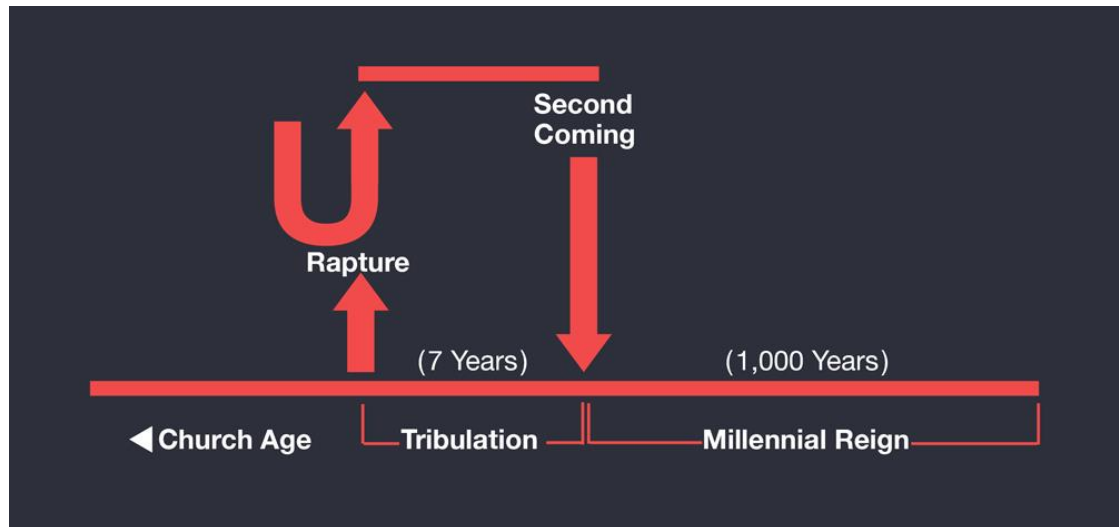
#### A. Revelation of Jesus Christ

1. Christian looks for Jesus to come back again

- Christian's new physical body will be like Jesus after His resurrection when he walked with the Disciples for 40 days

*Philippians 3:20–21 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: 21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.*

B. Timing of the revelation with 3 events



- “Rapture of the church” – Jesus comes back to meet Christian in the air (skies) & take Christian home to heaven

*Titus 2:13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;*

- Great Tribulation of 7 years described in book of Revelation

*1 Thessalonians 5:1–3 But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.*

*Jeremiah 30:7 Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.*

- Second coming of Jesus to set foot on the earth & defeat Anti-Christ

*2 Thessalonians 2:8–10 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders. And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved*

### C. Truth of revelation

1. Scripture declares that Jesus without sin

Hebrews 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

2. God promises that Jesus' will return to rule on earth in millennial reign (rule 1000 years)

*2 Thessalonians 1:7–10 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.*

### IV. Fashion Your Life After Gpd (verses 14-15)

#### A. As obedient children

1. Not a time to walk away from God, but continue to stand for God

Ephesians 6:13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

2. Former life compared to new Christian life

*Romans 6:16–18 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.*

3. Love of the world compared to love of God the Father

*1 John 2:15–17 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever.*

4. Choose one master to serve

*Matthew 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.*

B. As prepared vessels

1. God calls His people copy God & live holy life

*Leviticua 20:7 Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: for I am the LORD your God.*

2. Christian prepared to hope in Jesus' return to purify himself

*1 John 3:3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.*

3. Look to show the testimony of Jesus in our lives

*1 John 3:1–3 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.*

V. Conclusion

- A. What is my motivation for being in church?

- i. Social status?
- ii. Feel good about myself?
- iii. Looks good with my neighbors?

- B. God gives Christian hope in my heart of belonging to Him