



TOPIC A Reminder to Remember

SPEAKER Ps Andrew Tan

THEME Lessons from 2 Peter

DATE 26 & 27 June 2021

## MESSAGE SUMMARY

### INTRODUCTION

In 2 Peter 3, Apostle Peter addresses believers from the early church warmly, reminding them to remember the commands given by God through the apostles. The call for us is not merely a simple mental act, but involves the recalling of God's truth in such a way that it affects our entire life. In this sermon, Ps Andrew Tan unpacks the final instalment of the book of 2 Peter on lessons Apostle Peter wants us to remember.

### REMINDER TO REMEMBER

#### GOD'S PROMISED WORD (v3-7)

Apostle Peter highlights to the church the mocking and ridiculing by the false teachers in the last days. They sow doubt and scepticism into the church on the Second Coming of Jesus as a judge. The false teachers deliberately suppress the truth and deny judgement so that they are able to live according to their own ungodly desires, in the ways of the world. Peter reminds the church that God had stepped in not once but twice (v5,7) to deal with the world, and that the world as it is, continues to exist only by His word, and that nothing would stop God from stepping in once again to destroy the present heavens and the earth.

Reflection:

- How well do we know His Promised Word?
- How are our lives guided by His Promised Word?

#### GOD'S PROMISED PATIENCE (v8-10)

Apostle Peter goes on to quote from Psalm 90:4, pointing out that God is not locked in by time the way humans are. God's delay is not cause for embarrassment but rather for relief as it gives us time to get our lives in order, and for our loved ones who have not heard of who God is (Ezekiel 33:11). God is not only a loving Saviour who pursues us but one who also judges us by the law.

Reflection:

- How are we using the time God has given to us (living our lives) during this period of God's Promised Patience?
- Who else do we know who needs to hear the Good News before this period of God's Promised Patience runs out?

## GOD'S PROMISED FUTURE (v11-14)

We are called as believers to look beyond the destruction to the new heavens and earth. The knowledge of the new heavens and earth should have an impact on the way we live now.

Reflection:

- What kind of life should we be living, in view of His Promised Future of a new heaven and a new earth?
- Are we living holy and godly lives? (v11)
- What efforts are we making to be spotless, blameless, and at peace with Him? (v14)

## CONCLUSION

Apostle Peter reminds us of God's patience (v15) and that He forewarns us of what is to come (v17). Hence today, we have no excuse to be found to be with error with the warnings told to us.

Everything that we need for this life and the next life has already been given to us. Our Christian journey is one of going back to remember who God is, what He has done, what He has said in His word about Himself, and what He is going to do in the future.

His judgement does not come now because of His promised patience so that we can get ourselves right with him, especially those who have yet to hear of Him. We need to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus due to our tendency of straying and forgetting (v18).

# QUESTIONS

1. How is your faith journey at this point in your life? How have you been experiencing God's grace and knowledge in increasing measure by living according to His word?

2. 2 Peter 3:8-10 and Ezekiel 33:11 seem to reinforce the message of God's patience and desire to redeem everyone before He comes again. However, there is also a danger of us taking His patience for granted. Are we guilty of this? In what way?

3. Ps Andrew Tan reminded us that the end of the world is not the end of our existence – There will be a new heaven and a new earth. How are you preparing for God's promised future and what are you looking forward to in this new heaven and earth? If you are not looking forward to it, why not?