



above all

Understand the
Last Days

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“Above all” means ultimately we need to live with great conviction.

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Conviction: the state of being fully persuaded by the truth resulting in an unwavering willingness to stand firm, fight, and sacrifice based on that belief.

¹Dear friends, this is now my second letter to you. I have written both of them as reminders to stimulate you to wholesome thinking. ²I want you to recall the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets and the command given by our Lord and Savior through your apostles. ³Above all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires.

2 Peter 3:1-14

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⁴They will say, “Where is this ‘coming’ he promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.” ⁵But they deliberately forget that long ago by God’s word the heavens came into being and the earth was formed out of water and by water. ⁶By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. ⁷By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire,

2 Peter 3:1-18

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being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly. ⁸But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. ⁹The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

2 Peter 3:1-18

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¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare. ¹¹Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives ¹²as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming.

2 Peter 3:1-18

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That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. ¹³But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells. ¹⁴So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.

2 Peter 3:1-14

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¹⁷Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position. ¹⁸But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

2 Peter 3:17-18

The Last Days are Marked by a Mocking of the Second Coming

³Above all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. ⁴They will say, “Where is this ‘coming’ he promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.”

2 Peter 3:3-4

Scoffer: one that mocks, ridicules, reproaches in
the language of contempt

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The Last Days are Marked by a Mocking of the Second Coming

"Look, he is coming with the clouds," and "every eye will see him, even those who pierced him"; and all peoples on earth "will mourn because of him."
So shall it be! Amen.

Revelation 1:7

The Last Days are Marked by Rejecting God as Creator

⁵But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens came into being and the earth was formed out of water and by water. ⁶By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed.

2 Peter 3:5-6

The Last Days are Marked by Rejecting God as Creator

They will replace the power and authority of the
creator with science.

Reigning Creation Theories

1. Evolution
2. Big Bang
3. String Theory
4. Dark Matter

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Reigning Creation Theories

EVOLUTION: The world is a purposeless creation, created by purposeless eternal material

CREATION: God is the first cause and He created a purposeful world

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
Genesis 1:1

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.
Ephesians 2:10

Reigning Creation Theories

BIG BANG: the beginning of the universe started with an unexplainable explosion

CREATION: God's all powerful creative voice began the universe

And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light.

Genesis 1:3

Reigning Creation Theories

“Because the law of gravity and the quantum vacuum exist, therefore, the universe will create itself from nothing.”

-Stephen Hawking

Translated into a simpler, logical format:

“Because something and something else exists, therefore, some other thing will create itself from nothing.”

Reigning Creation Theories

STRING THEORY: The essence of the universe began with the sound through unseen vibrating particles of strings

CREATION: Divine vocal chords produced energy that created the universe

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.

Hebrews 1:3

Reigning Creation Theories

DARK MATTER: A non-theistic, powerful, mysterious, eternal, first-cause with the capacity to create life, order and sustain all things

CREATION: "Mysterium Tremendum" is what the world calls dark matter, and that is God
He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

Colossians 1:17

The Spirit of the Age Mistakes God's Patience for an Absence of Judgment

⁷By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly. ⁸But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

2 Peter 3:7-10

How Then Should We Live

¹³But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells. ¹⁷Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position. ¹⁸But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

2 Peter 3:13,17-18

The disciples in the early church were marked by courage and conviction. Today's church is eroding by compromise and complacency.

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