**Faith Foundations 2022-2023**

**The Catholic Epistles, Part 2**

**Session 8—2 Peter 3:14-18**

**After talking about false teachers and the coming day of the Lord, Peter evidently had said everything he felt needed to be said, because he decided to end his letter at this point. But before he stopped writing, he added some final words of encouragement to his readers, so that they would remain faithful to their Lord Jesus and conduct their lives according to His will.**

**Read 2 Peter 3:14-18. What are “these” that Peter’s readers are waiting for?**

**When will Jesus “find” the readers?**

**What are the readers supposed to be diligent to do? How is this possible for sinful people?**

**How should the readers view God’s patience, and why?**

**How had Paul uniquely experienced God’s patience as salvation in his life?**

**How had Peter himself experienced God’s patience as salvation in his life?**

**How does Peter describe Paul’s letters? What do the ignorant do to them?**

**Does Peter’s description of Paul’s letters ring true to you? Why or why not?**

**What does Peter imply about Paul’s letters when he refers to the “other Scriptures?”**

**With what should Peter’s readers avoid being carried away? How does this connect back to his discussion of the false teachers in chapter 2?**

**What would happen to the readers if they failed to heed Peter’s counsel? What does he mean by “stability?”**

**What should the readers be doing instead of being carried away by error? How should they accomplish this?**

**As always, Peter is highly concerned that his readers remain in the true faith and avoid the false teachings that have crept into the church. Their lawlessness and immorality may be tempting, but they lead only to destruction, which will be made manifest on the last day when Jesus returns for judgment. But if we Christians do not follow their falsehoods and embrace God’s Word instead, we will not be destroyed along with them. Rather, we will be raised to eternal life with Jesus in His kingdom, which is all the motivation we need not to follow the false teachers and their lies. They may promise us much, but only Jesus delivers!**