"Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless; and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation--as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures. You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen." (2 Peter 3:11-18 NKJV)

### **PETER EMPHASIZES:**

**1. FAITH INCLUDES BELIEF IN WHAT WE CANNOT SEE, AND INCLUDES THE DESTRUCTION OF THE EARTH, AND VS 11-13;** LIFE BEYOND **2. THAT WE SHOULD CONTINE LEARNING FROM THE SCRIPTURES VS 14-16; 3. THAT "GRACE AND KNOWLEDGE" GROW TOGETHER!** 

**VS 17-18** 

# 1. WHAT IS "GRACE?" Unearned, Undeserved Favor Given From God To Men "Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name" (Romans 1:5)

"Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord" (2 Peter 1:2)

"but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen." (2 Peter 3:18)

#### **2. Who Has Received God's "Grace?"**

"But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD." (Genesis 6:8) "By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith." (Hebrews 11:7)

"Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did." (Genesis 6:22)

NOAH WAS SAVED BY "GRACE THROUGH FAITH" GOD'S GRACE PROVIDED INSTRUCTIONS, NOAH'S OBEDIENCE SHOWED HIS FAITH. IT IS EXACTLY THE SAME TODAY!!! **3. GOD'S "GRACE" GAVE JESUS & TAUGHT US OF HIM** "And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and **the grace of God was upon Him**." (Luke 2:40)

"For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ." (John 1:17)

"When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord." (Acts 11:23)

"For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for you Gentiles-- if indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you" (Ephesians 3:1-2)

## **4. WHAT "GRACE" IS NOT**

### (1 A Substitute For Obedience

"For **by grace you have been saved through faith**, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For **we are His workmanship**, **created in Christ Jesus for good works**, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." (Ephesians 2:8-10)

(2 Another Means Of Salvation

"For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age" (Titus 2:11-12)

FOR WHAT ARE YOU WAITING? "Go into all the world and preach the gospel GRACE to every creature. He who believes and is baptized FAITH will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned." (Mark 16:15-16)