

January 2018

Dear Friends,

And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen. (Rom. 16:20 KJV)

So we begin another year, about 1,960 years or so removed from the time St. Paul first sent his epistle to the church at Rome, still waiting. Satan seems to be very active, so what exactly does “shortly” mean? Where is the promise of His coming even as St. Peter says the scoffers will say?

Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. (2 Pet. 3:3-4 KJV)

The scoffers judge by appearance and think everything is going on without change, God doesn't seem to be doing anything as far as they're concerned. St. Peter states that it is their ignorance of God and not God Himself that is the problem. He says that God has already acted to resolve the problem.

For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. (2 Pet. 3:5-7 KJV)

God once judged the earth and it perished, the reconstituted earth is only temporary, to be destroyed instantaneously when the wickedness of Satan and corrupted humanity reaches its fulness. However, God is not a destroyer but a savior, which the world doesn't understand but Peter does.

But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. (2 Pet. 3:8-9 KJV)

God is patient because He is kind and gracious, willing to wait for the completed gathering of all His children. We are not so patient, we just want an end to our difficulty, often not even considering what that might mean for many people on this temporal planet. The “shortly” above is God's shortly not ours and it may mean thousands more years or tomorrow to Him who is unbound by time. Peter writes that God's patience means salvation and says that Paul has written many such things that can be hard to understand that foolish people twist to their own destruction (maybe including Romans 16:20?). (2Peter 3:15-16) So he concludes with a warning and exhortation.

Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen. (2 Pet. 3:17-18 KJV)

Growing in grace with you and waiting patiently,
Jay Weidner



DONATIONS RECEIVED

In memory of Gladys Wiitanen

From Dave Wiitanen

In memory of Kent & Kris Wolfe

From Ross & Fayth Wolfe

In memory of Rev. Andrew & Mrs.

Mickelson

From Ross & Fayth Wolfe

***In memory of Jack Bergstedt & his
brothers & sisters who went on before him***

From Harold Bergstedt

In memory of Jack Munter

From Harold Bergstedt
John & Suzanne Sanregret

In memory of Adam Ostapenko

From Joan & Nicholas Ostapenko

In memory of Joyce Magner


From Joan & Nicholas Ostapenko

In memory of Earl & Taimi Lahti

From Michael & Margaret Laurin



Spring 2018 Class Schedule beginning January 22nd

	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
9:00a.m.	Lutheran Confessions	Churches, Sects & Isms	Lutheran Confessions	Churches, Sects & Isms	Lutheran Confessions
9:00 - 9:50a.m.	Acts of the Apostles	Churches, Sects & Isms	Acts of the Apostles	Working as a Deaconess I	
10:00 - 10:50a.m.	Ministry to the World		Ministry to the World	Working as a Deaconess I	
7:00 - 8:40p.m.	Gospel of Matthew				

Please contact the seminary if you are interested in taking any of these classes -email cilseminary@ilseminary.com or call (906) 482-3337.

Winter Night of Music @ Zion Lutheran Church RESCHEDULED.



Unfortunately, due to some inclement weather, we had to cancel the night of music in December. But...we have rescheduled for **Tuesday, January 30** at 7PM. Refreshments will be served with support from Thrivent Financial. A free will offering will benefit the seminary.