

You Can Be Sure 1 Peter 1:22-25

Longer passages are not quoted in the study sheet, but they can be read in the accompanying transcript.

While this world is filled with uncertainties and disappointments, there are some things about which you can be _____. There are absolutes that never _____. We go to the Bible because we know the Bible has _____ itself true time after time.

I get to travel throughout the United States and usually fly out from the Oklahoma City airport. I sometimes have to fly when the _____ are filled with dark clouds and rain. You can easily get wet and cold. Going through the airport lines and waiting to board the airplane can be stressful. But there's an experience in an airplane that never gets _____ to me. It reminds me of something that I need to know. No matter how dark, how wet, how cold, or how dreary a day may be, the sun still _____ above the clouds. The clouds may temporarily _____ out the sun, but the sun is still shining. Life may seem dark and dreary on earth, but the brightness of the sun hasn't diminished one bit. Truth may seem _____ for a time by our culture, but it's not lost or any less true. The Bible urges us to "Buy truth, and do not sell it, Get wisdom and instruction and understanding" (Proverbs 23:23). Buying the truth means taking the time to _____ it out in the Word of God. God wants us to _____ the truth and to _____ it out in our lives. Today, I want us to explore some _____ truths that are unchangeable and undeniable. They're truths about which you can be _____.

Our reading today comes from Peter's first letter, chapter 1, verses 22 to 25.

Some things are disposable, some last for years, some last a lifetime, and some last forever. Many people live for the _____ and lose sight of what lasts forever. We're wise when we _____ what is eternal.

Thousands of years ago, God told Noah, "While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not _____" (Genesis 8:22). What God told Noah has remained _____ to this day after thousands of years: the regular passing of day and night and the seasons of the year have not changed. The whole world _____ on these reliable laws. The earth rotates every twenty-four hours. It takes the Moon 27.32 days to go around the Earth once. It takes the Earth 365 and ¼ days to circle the sun. How come there's been no change in all these years? It's because God regulates it and God keeps His _____. He is the power behind it. You can be sure.

The Bible praises Moses for his _____ in choosing what is lasting. **Read Hebrews 11:24-26.** Moses realized that there's something _____ than being Pharaoh's grandson. In spite of all the riches, power, and advantages of being Pharaoh's grandson, Moses _____ to live like an Israelite. In those days, God's people of Israel were enslaved to

_____ and treated horribly. But Moses chose the God of Israel over the gods of Egypt because the God of Israel was and still is the _____ God.

We all live between two worlds, one filled with _____ things and one with _____. We must understand that what we _____ physically in this world is not all that exists. **Read what the apostle Paul said in 2 Corinthians 4:16-18.**

What are some of these eternal, absolute truths? What is eternally sure and certain? There are at least five things more certain than the shining sun. You can count on them as more certain than a twenty-four hour day. They are _____ truths that are eternal, and they will last longer than the _____. You can be sure of them. They are absolutes.

First, you can be sure that _____ exists and He is eternal. The Bible says, “For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal _____ and divine _____, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse” (Romans 1:20). The existence of the sun, moon, and stars _____ clearly of the eternal powers and the divine nature of God. Psalm 19:1 says, “The Heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.”

Our own physical bodies bear witness that a very powerful and intelligent Being _____ us. The more you know about how complex and intricate your body is, the more you’ll realize that we could never be the _____ of an accident or evolution. We are designed physically and morally by God. It’s clear that God designed us to live in this _____. If this world was different or we were different, we could never have survived. Without an intelligent Designer and a moral Designer, this world wouldn’t make sense. You can be sure there is a God.

Moses proclaimed, “LORD, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God” (Psalm 90:1-2).

Second, you can be sure that Jesus is the Divine Son of God. The Bible says, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was _____ God, and the Word _____ God. He was in the beginning with God. And all things were made _____ him, and without him was not anything made that was made” (John 1:1-3). In verse 14 of this same chapter, John 1, the Bible says, “And the Word became flesh, and _____ among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.” Jesus has always been Divine. He became flesh and dwelled among us.

The Scriptures go on to say about Jesus, “The Father loves the Son and has given all things into His hand. He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not _____ the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him” (John 3:35-36). God has made Jesus Lord and has given everything into His hands. He has all _____ in heaven and on earth (Matthew 28:18). He is Lord of all and has authority over all flesh (John 17:2).

Moses predicted that Jesus would come and be Lord of all. Acts 3:22-24 quotes Moses saying, “The Lord God will raise up for you a _____ like me from your brothers. You

shall _____ to him in whatever he tells you. And it shall be that every soul who does not listen to that prophet shall be destroyed from the people.” Because Jesus is the Lord and is the Son of God, the most important thing that you can do is listen and _____ Him.

Third, you can be sure that God’s _____ is true and it’s eternal. Psalm 119:89 proclaims, “Forever, O Lord, your word is firmly fixed (or settled) in the heavens.” God’s Word doesn’t _____ with the generations; it remains the same. It was true when it was written and it’s _____ true today. When Jesus told the devil, “It is written,” in Luke 4, He was making it _____ that what God had Moses write some 1200-1500 years before was still true and authoritative. One might translate the phrase, “it is written” as “it _____ written.” God wrote it, and nothing can _____ its authority. It stands because God meant for it to stand. You can deny it, avoid it, hide it, or debate it; you can even get everyone to agree with you against the Word; but at the end of the day God’s _____ Word stands as the spiritual and moral authority in our lives. God’s Word stands because God stands! God’s Word is the inspired Word, the authoritative Word, and it’s the last Word. The Lord Jesus promised in Matthew 24:35, “Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.” God’s book, God’s only book, the Bible, will _____ when everything else is gone.

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The Lord Jesus said, “The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a _____; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day” (John 12:48). We will be judged by every word the Lord Jesus speaks. You can’t _____ the Words of Jesus forever. They’ll be brought forward as the _____ of what is right and true and moral. You’ll be judged by them, not by opinion polls or the ideas of the day. You can be sure God’s Word will be present on the last day, the Day of Judgment.

Fourth, you can be sure of the _____ of God for His people. God’s love is undeserved; it’s intentional; and it’s sacrificial. God loves us even when we don’t _____ to be loved, and His grace is greater than our sins. God’s love is intentional. Jesus laid down His _____ on His own initiative. God isn’t obligated to us; we’re obligated to Him. He intentionally chose to love and bless us. God’s love is _____. He so loved us that He was willing to sacrifice His only begotten Son Jesus, and Jesus bore our sins in his body; it was personal, so that we might _____ to sin and _____ to righteousness (1 Peter 2:24). According to 2 Corinthians 5:21, God made Jesus, who knew no sin, to be sin on our behalf that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

The love of God is far greater than I can understand or even describe. There’s never been a moment when God has not loved His people. **Read what Romans 8:35-39 asks.**

Fifth, you can be sure that Jesus is _____ _____. The Bible tells us in Acts 1:10-11 that Jesus ascended to heaven. While the disciples were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand _____ into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the

_____ as you saw him go into heaven.” They made it clear: Jesus is coming a second time; and one day we will meet Him in the _____ (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18).

When Jesus comes, He will raise _____ the dead and will judge mankind. The Lord Jesus said, “Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and come out, those who have done _____ to the resurrection of life, and those who have done _____ to the resurrection of judgment” (John 5:28-29).

Each one of us must one day give an _____ to Jesus Christ, for the lives that we’ve led. Second Corinthians 5:10 says, “we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his _____ done in the body, according to what he’s done, whether good or bad.” Those who have rejected Jesus and lived ungodly lives have reason to _____ His coming, but those who have believed in Him and obeyed Him can look forward to His coming with _____ and _____.

God keeps His _____. The Lord Jesus said, “Let not your _____ be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to _____ a place for you? If I go and prepare a place for you, I’ll come again and I’ll take you to myself, that where I am there you may be also” (John 14:1-3). We can put our trust in God; we can put our trust in His Word; it means living lives that are _____ of His promises, it means living for Him and doing His will. Would you do that? Truth is still true and authoritative regardless of what people think or say. You can try to hide it, ignore it, deny it, rationalize it away, forget it, hate it, or argue against it; but the Truth remains _____ and untouched. It stands the _____ of time and circumstance because God spoke it.

So the Bible urges in Proverbs 23:23, “Buy truth, and do not sell it; buy wisdom, instruction, and understanding.” Don’t settle for anything _____ than the truth. Don’t be deceived by a half-truth or by a counterfeit. God gave us the truth in Christ and the Bible, but we have to _____ it up in our hearts; we have to buy it. We have to then use the truth to _____ between what is from God and what is not. We have to _____ out the truth to have confidence in what we believe and practice.

We must _____ and _____ the truth if we hope to have eternal life. We must _____ Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Hebrews 11:6 says that without faith, we can’t _____ God. The truth means that we’re _____ about our sins. We know they’re wrong and we must forsake our sins in _____. The truth means that we’ll _____ Christ before others and be _____ for the remission of our sins. Jesus taught baptism is necessary to salvation in Mark 16:16 and John 3:5, and so we immerse penitent believers in water so that they might have their sins washed away and be united with Christ. Why not find reassurance by placing your faith in Christ and obeying His teaching. Nothing, nothing, nothing will bless your life more than knowing that you’re right with God!