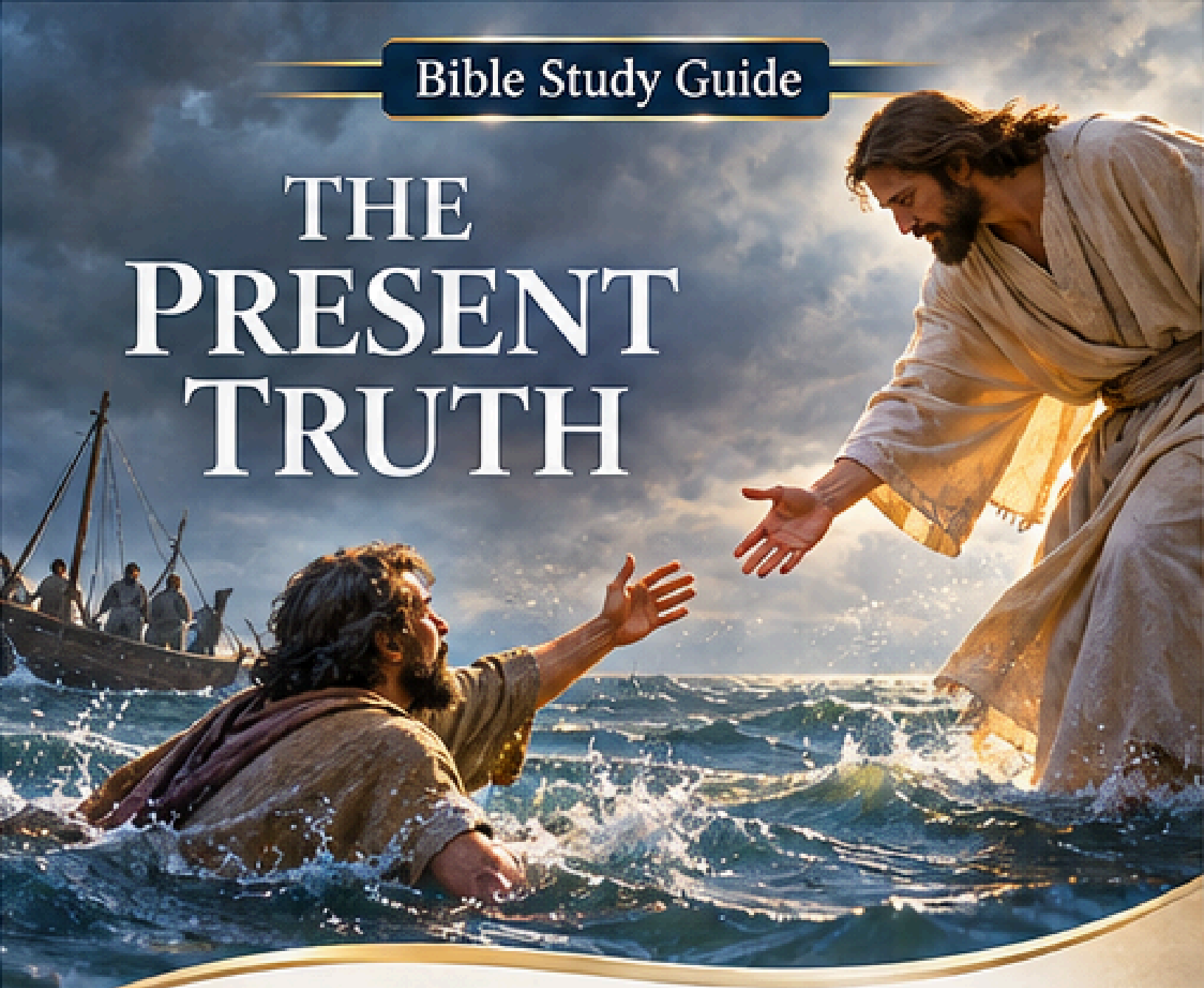
Bible Study Guide

THE PRESENT TRUTH



A Bible Study on God's Last-Day Message, Its Importance, and Our Response

Introduction

Peter stepped out of the boat when Jesus spoke the word Come. For a time he walked on the water toward Christ. When he focused on the wind, fear overtook him and he began to sink. Jesus caught him. The scene illustrates the danger of becoming so absorbed in the storms of the world and controversies around us that we lose sight of the Saviour who alone can keep us standing.

Fill in the blanks from the KJV text, then read the brief explanation.

Bible Study Questions

1 **In what did Peter desire believers to be established?** (2 Peter 1:12-13)

"Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the _____. …"

Present truth is God's enduring truth brought home to the needs of the present hour, not novelty sought for its own sake.

2 **What should believers guard against?** (2 Peter 3:17)

"lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own _____."

Biblical vigilance includes remaining grounded in Christ and His Word.

3 **What did Jesus tell His disciples as He came across the stormy sea?** (Matthew 14:24-27)

"… it is I; _____."

Christ's presence is greater than the storm. Spiritual vigilance does not require a heart dominated by fear.

4 **What is God in times of trouble?** (Psalm 46:1)

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present _____ in trouble."

God's nearness remains a source of strength amid adversity.

5 **What is hope compared to?** (Hebrews 6:19)

"Which hope we have as an _____ of the soul, both sure and stedfast,"

God's promise anchors faith when life's circumstances threaten to overwhelm it.

6 **What command did Jesus give Peter before he stepped onto the water?** (Matthew 14:28-29)

"And he said, _____."

Faith responds to Christ's Word rather than attempting to prove its own strength.

7 **How does genuine faith arise?** (Romans 10:17)

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the _____."

Faith rests upon what God has spoken, not on changing emotions.

8 **Where should the believer's attention be directed?** (Hebrews 12:2)

"_____ the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

The Saviour, not the surrounding winds, is the source and sustainer of faith.

9 **What did Jesus ask Peter after rescuing him?** (Matthew 14:31)

"O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou _____?"

The waves did not overcome Christ's power; Peter needed to keep trusting Him.

10 **Why did the wise man's house survive the storm?** (Matthew 7:25)

"and it fell not: for it was founded upon a _____."

Doing the words of Jesus establishes a foundation that withstands trial.

11 **What can toss spiritually immature believers to and fro?** (Ephesians 4:14-15)

"That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every _____... But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ."

Constant fascination with new controversy can distract from growth in Christ. Scripture calls us to rooted, loving truth.

12 **In what spirit should we speak truth?** (Ephesians 4:15)

"But speaking the truth in _____, may grow up into him in all things,"

Truth and love are not competitors; maturity in Christ requires both.

13 **What does Paul call believers to do rather than sleep?** (1 Thessalonians 5:6, 8)

"Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us _____ and be sober... putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation."

Christian watchfulness is joined to faith, love, and hope; it is not merely the tracking of alarming events.

14 **What time is it for the followers of Jesus?** (Romans 13:11)

"that now it is high time to awake out of _____: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed."

The nearness of Christ's coming calls for spiritual wakefulness now.

15 **What marks the patience of the saints?** (Revelation 14:12)

"here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the _____."

Loyalty to God's commandments and faith in Jesus belong together.

16 **What is the crowning grace in Peter's progression of Christian character?** (2 Peter 1:5-7)

"... And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness _____."

The life of Christ produces a growing character in harmony with truth. This is vital preparation for His coming.

17 **What results when the Christian graces abound?** (2 Peter 1:8)

"they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor _____ in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Growing in Christ makes knowledge fruitful in character and action.

18 **What is the hope of glory?** (Colossians 1:27)

"which is Christ in you, the _____:"

The deepest preparation for Christ's coming is His life dwelling within His people.

Appeal

Will you keep your eyes on Jesus amid the winds of strife and controversy, and receive the living truth that transforms your character today?

Commitment

I choose to be established in the present truth through Christ, keep my eyes on Him, and grow in the graces of His character.

_____

Signature

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