

## *Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes*

### **Sermon Notes for April 8-9, 2006**

#### **Responding to God's Will"**

#### **2 Peter 3:14-18**

The key word in this passage is "beloved."

#### **1. We must be diligent (3:14)**

The mandate of diligence is supported by the motivation of the promised end.

The greatest challenge in remaining prepared for a sudden yet potentially distant event is diligence.

Our diligence should be focused on holy living.

#### **2. We must be discerning (3:15-16)**

The mandate of discernment is supported by the motivation of Paul's epistles.

Peter's affirmation of Paul's epistles speaks to:

- The character of Paul's writings
  - Their authorship
  - Their authority
- The complexity of Paul's writings
- The culmination of Paul's relationship

Two reasons people distort the Scripture:

- They are ignorant
- They are insecure

Several ways that people distort the Scripture:

- They corrupt the context
- They major on the minors
- They insert ideas
  
- They demean the meanings
- They employ "experts"

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### **3. We must be defensive (3:17)**

The mandate of defensiveness is supported by the motivation of people with error.

The falling away is not from salvation but from steadfastness.

We are better able to protect ourselves from falling away by:

- Being ready with right training
- Being ready for wrong teaching
- Being ready for wrong teachers
- Spiritual growth

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### **4. We must be developing (3:18)**

The mandate of development is supported by the motivation of praise for eternity.

Our growth does not come from God's increased supply but in our increased demand.

We can know without growing but we cannot grow without knowing.

God is glorified by our spiritual growth.

Our proper response to God is punctuated by the word "amen."

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