Living in Light of the End: Prayer

1 Peter 4:7

Living in light of the end will lead you to **frequent prayer**, fervent love, and faithful service.

- 1. The rationale.
 - a. Christ has _____ His work.
 - b. God stands ready to _____.
- 2. The result.
 - a. _____.
 - b. _____.
- 3. The response.
 - a. Prayer reveals ______.
 - b. Prayer reveals ______.

First Peter

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Living in Light of the End

Prayer 1 Peter 4:7 1 Peter 4:7-9 The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and be sober for the purpose of prayer. Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaint.

1 Peter 4:10-11

As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. Whoever speaks, let him speak, as it were, the utterances of God; whoever serves, let him do so as by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Big Idea:

Living in light of the end will lead you to **frequent prayer**, fervent love, and faithful service.

Frequent Prayer The Rationale

Rationale

1 Peter 4:7

The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and be sober for the purpose of prayer.

The End is Near

Christ's work is finished.

1 Peter 3:18 and 22

For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, in order that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit...

...who is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, after angels and authorities and powers had been subjected to Him. Christ fulfilled all righteousness, was crucified, buried, rose again, and has ascended to the right hand of the Father.

Nothing remains to be done!

The End is Near

Christ's work is finished.

God stands ready to judge.

God is Ready!

1 Peter 4:5

...but they shall give account to Him

who is ready to judge the living and the dead.

Nothing stands between you and the judgment seat of God except His patient mercy.

Matthew 24:43-44

But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what time of the night the thief was coming, he would have been on the alert and would not have allowed his house to be broken into. For this reason **you be ready too**; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will.

Frequent Prayer

The Rationale

The Result

1 Peter 4:7

The end of all things is near;

therefore, be of sound judgment

and be sober for the purpose of prayer.

1 Peter 4:7

The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment

and be sober for the purpose of prayer.

The result?

Sanity

1 Peter 4:7

The end of all things is near;

therefore, think rationally

and be sober for the purpose of prayer.

Sanity

Luke 8:35

And the people went out to see what had happened; and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting down at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they became frightened.

Sanity

Romans 12:3

For through the grace given to me I say to every man among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.

Sound judgment is sane thinking about God, yourself, and others.

The result?

Sanity

Sobriety

Sobriety

1 Peter 4:7

The end of all things is near; therefore, think rationally

and **Sober up** for the purpose of prayer.

Sobriety

1 Peter 1:13

Therefore, gird your minds for action, **keep sober**, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Sobriety

1 Peter 5:8 Sober up, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Sobriety is not giving up control to substances, to circumstances, or to sentiments.

Frequent Prayer

The Rationale

The Result

The Response

1 Peter 4:7

The end of all things is near;

therefore, think rationally

and sober up for the purpose of **prayer**.

Prayerfulness

Prayer reveals sanity.

1 Peter 4:7

The end of all things is near;

therefore, think rationally

and sober up for the purpose of prayer.

1 Peter 4:7

The end of all things is near; therefore, think rationally

and sober up for the purpose of prayer.

If the time is truly short and you understand who God is and who you are, it would be insane not to pray!

Prayerfulness

Prayer reveals sanity.

Prayer reveals sobriety.

1 Peter 4:7

The end of all things is near; therefore, think rationally

and **Sober up** for the purpose of prayer.

1 Peter 4:7

The end of all things is near; therefore, think rationally

and sober up for the purpose of prayer.

It takes self-discipline and self-control to be prayerful. But it takes Christ in you to be

self-disciplined and self-controlled.

Colossians 1:29

And for this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me. If you understand your need for power and that the power you need comes from God, you will pray.

Conclusion:

Living in light of the end will lead you to **frequent prayer**, fervent love, and faithful service.

For Reflection:

If you are living as if the end is near, nothing will change when you discover that the end is near.