You Can Be Sure
1 Peter 1:22-25

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.

Read 1 Peter 1:23-25.

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!