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#  Near the End

1 Peter 4:7-11

The major events of God’s history of redemption are all accomplished—one thing remains.

How should believers near the end live?

## Those expecting Jesus at any moment live out three readiness priorities…

1. Don’t panic so you can pray (7)

 Think critically (*sane*) and keep an unencumbered mind (*sober*) so you can pray and not panic.

 *PRAY*—because God is in charge

 --because we need God’s strength to prevent our wavering from God’s will (his marching orders)

2. Practice loving Christians more (8-9)

 *Deeply*

* So small and sometimes larger offences can be overlooked or quickly forgotten—not cover up; grace up
* So hospitality is a joy and not a pain—*without grumbling*

3. Bring praise to God through your giftedness (10-11)

 Use gifts to serve others as trustees of grace.

 “any talent or ability which is empowered by the Holy Spirit and able to be used in the ministry of the church.” (Grudem)

 If speaking, with the consciousness of handling God’s very words

 If serving, with God’s very strength—“*God has ordered the job done; God will pay the expenses, be*

 *they material, physical, or emotional.” (P. Davids)*

 *…so God is in all things praised, because glory and dominion rightly belong to Him.*

Those who endure to the end will be saved (Matt. 10:22; 24:13; Mk. 13:13)