



March 29, 2026 | Matt Magee

Series: Fully Equipped: Pursuing Christian Maturity (2 Peter)

Sermon Title: Living for a Righteous World

Main Scripture: 2 Peter 3:10-13

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CHURCH BODY HIGHLIGHTS

1. [Past Newsletters](#)

1. Icebreaker

- **Remember the opening illustration:** Stepping up to the starting line of a grueling marathon; Running with absolutely everything you have, pushing through the pain; At mile 20, completely exhausted, you look up and realize a devastating truth: you are running on the wrong track, in the wrong city, for a plastic trophy that is already falling apart.
- **Discuss:** Have you ever poured a massive amount of energy into a project, a goal, or a worry, only to realize later that it wasn't worth the exhausting effort? What was that experience like?

2. The Ultimate Finish Line

- **Read** 2 Peter 3:10-13; Isaiah 65:17; Revelation 21:1-4
- **Discuss:** In verse 10, Peter establishes the absolute certainty that this current, temporary world will be dissolved to make way for the new heavens and new earth. When you read the promises in Revelation 21 alongside Peter's words, how does knowing that this broken world has an "expiration date" change the way we view our daily lives?

3. The Exhausting Race

- **Read** Matthew 6:19-21 and Luke 12:16-21 (The Parable of the Rich Fool)
- **Discuss:** Pastor Matt highlighted that, even though we know this world is temporary, we often still live as if it is permanent. We exhaust ourselves frantically running (hastening) after temporary, fading prizes.
- **Go Deeper (Beneath the Surface):** Looking at Jesus' words in Matthew 6 and Luke 12, where do you most often feel the temptation to build a "fireproof life in a highly combustible world"? Is it through trying to control your finances, stressing over your family's future, or finding your ultimate comfort in temporary things? What does the exhaustion of running that specific race look like in your life right now? (Try to avoid superficial answers, press deeper so you're able to help one another, and confess to one another.)

4. The Guaranteed Prize

- **Read** Hebrews 12:1-2 and 1 Thessalonians 5:9-10
- **Discuss:** Look at the bedrock promise in 2 Peter 3:13: *"But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth..."*
- **Focus on Jesus:** Hebrews tells us that Jesus is the "founder and perfecter of our faith." On the cross, Jesus ran the ultimate race of redemption as our substitute. He endured the terrifying, fiery judgment (the wrath mentioned in 1 Thess. 5) of our idolatry so that we wouldn't have to. How does knowing that Jesus already crossed the finish line for you—and permanently secured your victor's crown—relieve the anxiety of your present circumstances?

5. The Holy Race

- **Read** Titus 2:11-13 and Philippians 3:20-21
- **Discuss:** In 2 Peter 3:11, Peter asks, *"What sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness..."*? Paul echoes this in Titus 2, saying that the *grace* of God actually trains us to renounce ungodliness while we wait for our blessed hope.
- **Apply God's Grace:** Because our citizenship is in heaven (Phil. 3:20) and our eternal finish line is perfectly guaranteed by Christ, we are entirely free to step off the world's exhausting track.
 - **What is one specific way you get to run with joyful, open-handed freedom this week?**
 - **What does it look like for you to pursue "holiness and godliness" not as an exhausting obligation, but as a joyful citizen of the new creation?**

6. Closing Prayer

- Take time to pray for one another, asking the Holy Spirit to help you rest in the finished work of Jesus. Pray that as a group, you would joyfully hasten the day of His return, living as holy people empowered by His grace.