

The Inscrutable Question: The Sophisticated Spiritual Life: Personal Sense of Destiny, 2 Peter 3:13-14

- 3- There are two agencies which determine the course of events: in human history the sovereignty of God and the free will of man coexist by divine decree.
- 4- The power that determines the course of events in the development of one's personal sense of destiny includes the filling of the Holy Spirit, spiritual growth, and the deployment of the ten problem-solving devices. These assets empower the believer's offensive action associated with application under pressure.
- 5- The course of events for the adult believer is navigated by knowledge of his future destiny upon which he is able to focus regardless of the difficulties he may face in time.
- 6- The concept of a personal sense of destiny is addressed by the Apostle Peter in:

2 Peter 3:13 - But according to His promise we expect with confidence [προσδοκάω / *prosdokao* /] a new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness lives.

v. 14 - Therefore, beloved, since you are expecting with confidence [προσδοκάω / *prosdokao* /] these things, be self-motivated [main verb: ἀπουδάζω / *apoudazo*] to be found by Him spotless [ἄσπιλος / *aspilos* /: current on rebound] and blameless [ἀμώμητος / *amometos* /: without blame] in a state of peace [εἰρήνη / *eirene* /: soul tranquility of the Sophisticated Spiritual Life].

- 7- Peter speaks twice about the sixth problem-solving device in this passage. In verse 13 we find the present active indicative of the verb:

προσδοκάω / *prosdokao* / - “to expect; to look forward to; to anticipate.”

The best word to bring over into the English the nuances of this idea is “expect.”

Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary, s.v. “expect”:

To look forward; to anticipate the coming of; to consider certain; implies a high degree of certainty and involves the idea of preparing or envisioning.

present: Aoristic; sets forth an event now occurring.

active: The believer with a personal sense of destiny produces the action of the verb.

indic.: Declarative; the mood of certainty in the statement of a fact. Thus we translate, “to expect with confidence.”

- 8- In verse 14 we find the present active participle of the verb προσδοκάω / *prosdokao* / . The participle is causal and denotes that which is the ground of action in the main verb and is introduced by the word “since” and translated, “since you are expecting with confidence.”
- 9- Those who have a personal sense of destiny confidently expect the future perfection of the new heavens and the new earth. As a result they anticipate the imminent arrival of Jesus Christ to execute the resurrection of the church.
- 10- The confident knowledge of one's future destiny becomes a motivation to continue the spiritual advance by taking offensive action in the Sophisticated Spiritual Life. This offensive action takes place in three stages.