A CHURCH OF GOD AT WOODSTOCK AND TRUTH ON THE WEB MINISTRIES Peter and HIS Letters

PART 78 2 PETER, CHAPTER 3



2 Peter - Summary

Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us...To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.



2 Peter 3 [1]

01

This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I **stir up** your **pure minds** by way of **remembrance**:

2 Peter 1:13

Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to **stir you up** by putting you in **remembrance**;



2 Peter 3 [2]

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That ye may be mindful of the **words** which were spoken **before by the holy prophets**, and of the **commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:**

Hebrews 1:1–2

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

Progressive revelation...

- Dust onto dust, but He will crush his head
- He will judge the Earth (Enoch, Noah, Job, etc.)
- He will be of the seed of Abraham
- He will be in the lineage of David
- He will be out of Bethlehem, born of a virgin, despised by His own, etc...
- Halleluiah! He has come! The wait is over!
- Crucified and raised
- He is coming again!



2 Peter 3 [3]

01

Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days **scoffers**, walking **after their own lusts**,

SCOFF, *noun*: Derision, ridicule, mockery or reproach, expressed in language of contempt; expression of scorn or contempt.



2 Peter 3 [3]

01

Knowing this first, that there shall come in <u>the</u> <u>last days</u> **scoffers**, walking after **their own lusts**,

Jude 1:18

How that they told you there should be **mockers** <u>in the last time</u>, who should walk after **their own ungodly lusts**.

MOCK'ERY, noun: The act of deriding and exposing to contempt, by mimicking the words or actions of another.



Mark 15:29–32

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And they that passed by railed on him, wagging their heads, and saying, Ah, thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, Save thyself, and come down from the cross. Likewise also the chief priests mocking said among themselves with the scribes, He saved others; himself he cannot save. Let Christ the King of Israel descend now from the cross, that we may see and believe. And they that were crucified with him reviled him.



1 John 2:18–19

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Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.



2 Peter 3 [4]

And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, **all things continue as they were** from the beginning of the creation.

ONO



Revelation 3:14...17

And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; ... I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

Luke 12:19

And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.

2 Peter 3 [5-7]

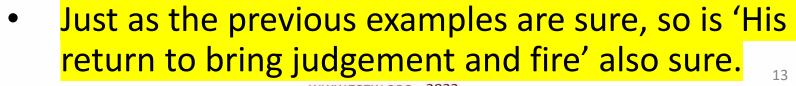
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For this they **willingly are ignorant of**, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.



What are they willingly ignorant of?

- God created the world and brought forth the dry land – and it stayed in place for many years
 - If God can create everything out of nothing, then He is able to preserve or destroy it
- God said He would destroy the world by flood
 - He flooded the dry land, destroying it
- God said He will bring judgement and fire upon the world



Ecclesiastes 8:11–13

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Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil. Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, which fear before him: But it shall not be well with the wicked, neither shall he prolong his days, which are as a shadow; because he feareth not before God.



Romans 1:28

And even as they **did not like to retain God in their knowledge**, God **gave them over** to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;

2 Thessalonians 2:10–11

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And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; **because they received not the love of the truth**, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall **send them strong delusion**, that they should believe a lie:

2 Peter 3 [8-10]

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But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

What does Peter want us NOT to be ignorant of?

- What seems a long time for us is nothing to God, who is eternal
 - He is not delayed in the sense a man would be
- God's delay is for our own good
 - It allows mankind an opportunity to repent
- Jesus will return at a time that is not expected
 - God will return to bring judgement and fire for the wicked



Psalm 90:4

For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night.



Psalm 90:4

For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, (seems like 24 hrs)

- This means each day to God seems like approx. **0.2366** seconds
- ...and as a watch in the night (seems like 4 hrs).
- This means each day to God seems like approx. **0.0394** seconds

Extra credit: 70 years would seem like approx. 6,049 seconds or about 100 minutes to God.



Romans 2:4

01

Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

1 Timothy 2:4-6

Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

Ezekiel 33:11

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Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

Luke 21:34

And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.

Jude 14–15

And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord **cometh** with ten thousands of his saints, **To** execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.





The scoffers <u>are willingly ignorant</u> of the fact that they will have to stand in judgement before God, answering for their wickedness. This gives them comfort and courage to continue in these things, since <u>they think there will be no</u> <u>punishment</u> (and their hearts are inclined to do these things as well)

Peter exhorts the beloved to <u>not be ignorant</u> of this fact: <u>there is a judgement day</u>. We are to live in a manner that avoids destruction (even though at times our hearts may be still inclined to do the same things the scoffers proudly do)





Will Jesus return by 2050?

Americans in general	41%
White evangelical	58%
Roman Catholics	32%
White Protestants	27%
Religiously unaffiliated	20%
No college	59%
Some college	35%
College graduate	19%
USA - 'south'	52%



Pew Research Center, July 2010

- Non-Christian basis
 - Mayan calendar (2012)
 - Heaven's gate (Hale-Bopp comet) (1997)
 - Y2K (2000 [1999])
- In the name of Christ
 - Harold Camping (2011 [and several others])
 - Millerism (1844)
 - Montanism (2nd century)
 - John Wesley (1836)
 - Charles Taze Russell (1874)
 - Jehovah's Witnesses (1917)
 - Hippolytus of Rome, Sextus Julius Africanus, Irenaeus (500)



2 Samuel 12:14

01

Howbeit, because by this deed **thou hast given** great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die.

Numbers 14:15–16

Now if thou shalt kill all this people as one man, then the nations which have heard the fame of thee will speak, saying, Because the LORD was not able to bring this people into the land which he sware unto them, therefore he hath slain them in the wilderness.



2 Peter 3 [11-12]

01

Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?



Romans 13:11–14

And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore **cast off** the works of darkness, and let us **put on** the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.



2 Peter 3 [13-14]

Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.



Peter and Fild Lett

Revelation 21:1...4

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away ... he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be **no more** death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.



Peter and Hills Lette

Romans 8:22–25

For we know that the whole **creation groaneth** and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body. For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.



2 Peter 3 [15-16]

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And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother **Paul** also according to the **wisdom given unto him** hath written unto you; As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.





Wrest / twist Paul's writings (as they do other Scriptures)

Example: many have used Paul's writings to excuse continual, willful sin by Christians. 'I sin everyday, everyone sins everyday.'

Example: homosexuals say that those who believe the Bible condemns homosexuality are twisting Paul's words

They say he didn't mean 'loving relationships' but rather spoke against violent homosexual rape only.



2 Peter 3 [17]

01

Ye therefore, beloved, <u>seeing ye know these</u> <u>things before</u>, **beware** lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness.



Hebrews 6:4–6

For it is **impossible** for those who were **once** enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.



Hebrews 10:26–27

For if we **sin wilfully** after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth **no more sacrifice for sins**, But a certain **fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation**, which shall devour the adversaries.

2 Peter 2:21

For it had **been better** for them **not** to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, **to turn from the holy commandment** delivered unto them.

Acts 10:34–37a

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Then **Peter opened his mouth**, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him. The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:) That word, I say, ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and began from Galilee...



2 Peter 3 [18]

But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.



ENJOY THE REST OF THE SABBATH

