

2 Peter 3

“Peter’s Farewell Address”

I. **V. 1-2 – Peter’s final reminder**

A. V.1-2 – *Another* (and final) reminder = same theme in both letters: Peter did not want them to forget!!! He reminded them of his reminders – 1:12-14.

1) V.1 – Stir up = to fully awaken; fan into flame; to shake back & forth – 1:13.

2) V.1 – Reminder = a recollection; a remembrance prompted by another.

3) V.2 – mindful = a fixture in the mind.

a) *Peter wanted the church to be fully awakened by his constant reminders to have the words of God transfixed in their minds!*

i) Unity & consistency = the Prophets, Apostles & Jesus all spoke the same thing & pointed to one event: the arrival/return of the Messiah!

ii) 66 books; over 40 authors covering a span of 1,500 years...AND NOT A SINGLE CONTRADICTION!!!

II. **V.3-7 – Peter’s final warning**

A. V.3 – “...*knowing this first* (most importantly)...”

1) **“*Scoffers* (Gr. = mocker or derider: to laugh at in scorn or contempt; to scoff or jeer at something serious) *will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts.*”**

a) Scoffers identity tied to their lifestyle: they live how they choose, which is why they scoff at God’s word – 2 Peter 2:10; Rom. 1:18, 25, 28; Matt. 7:15-20.

i) ***“If your lifestyle contradicts the Word of God, you must either change your lifestyle or change the Word of God.” - Wiersbe***

ii) *If you scoff at God’s word, you will remove & distort the proper interpretation of God’s word, so you can remove & distort the conviction of God’s word, which then causes you to live without Biblical responsibility.*

2) **V.4 – “And saying, ‘Where is the promise of His coming?’”**

a) They challenge God’s promise & word – Gen. 3:1.

i) Scoffing at the word of God includes the promise of His return, b/c there is no accountability within that worldview – 2 Cor. 5:10-11.

b) Their logic & reason = nothing has changed over time & it’s taking too long = God isn’t working according to their thoughts & timetable – John 7:1-9; John 11; Is. 5:19; 55:8-9; 2 Pet. 3:15.

i) Gal. 4:4-5 – In **God’s** time, the Messiah was born, the Messiah was crucified and the Messiah will return – Dan. 8:19.

3) **V.5 – “For this they willfully (intentionally) forget:**

a) ***“...that by the word of God...”*** – Ps. 29; 33:8-9; Heb. 11:3

i) It only serves to reason that if people will intentionally ***distort*** God’s word, then they’ll intentionally ***ignore*** God’s word...even the Creator Himself – Col. 1:16-17.

b) **V. 5b – “...by the word of God the heavens were of old...”**

V.6 – “...the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water.”

c) **V.7 – the same Word that created, destroyed and now preserves everything that exists is the same Word that has condemned this**

*sinful world to destruction (v.10; Rev. 21:1) and **this** is what false teachers & scoffers will intentionally forget.*

III. V.8-18 – Peter’s final encouragement & exhortation

A. V.8 – “*Beloved (Christians), don’t forget this one thing...*”

1) V.8 – God is not confined by time – Ps. 90:4; Is. 41:4; 43:13; 57:15; Dan. 7:9; Micah 5:2; John 8:58; Heb. 13:8; Rev. 1:8.

a) V.9 – God keeps His promises – Ps. 89:34; Is. 55:11; Mark 13:31.

b) V.10 – God will return suddenly & forcefully – Matt. 24:36-44; 1 Thess. 4:16; Rev. 19:11-16.