

Warning: God's Future Will Mock the Mockers (2 Peter 3:1-7)

- Peter provides some vital reminders and warnings to protect the Lord's "beloved" flock from being deceived by mockers who deny the return of Jesus Christ.
 - Peter believes they have "sincere minds" (v. 1) that are unmixed by heresies and driven by the mind of Christ.
 - Peter also wants to reinforce the most important protection against deception and foundation of all faith: God's Word (v. 2, 5-6, 7).
- There are two truths that safeguard our unshakable faith
 - God's former words that protect our faith (v. 1-2)
 - God's future words that mock the mockers faulty beliefs about the second coming of Christ (v. 3-7)

1. Remember God's former words to the saints (3:1-2)

- Peter knows repetition is effective, so he reminds the church again (1:12-15) about God's powerful word to protect us and dismantle the lies of the mockers.
- It's not about what some may think God is saying now, but what He already said in former times.
 - **Remember the words of the Old Testament "holy prophets"** (v. 2a): God spoke about the final judgment (Isa. 24:1-6, 20-22; Mal. 4:1)
 - **Remember the words of the New Testament "apostles"** (v. 2b): The context points to the "commandment of the Lord and Savior spoken by the apostles" being about the Lord's second coming (in every NT book except Galatians, 2 & 3 John, Philemon and referred by Christ Himself 21 times)

2. Remember God's future words about the scoffers (3:3-7)

- Peter focuses on exposing the utter deficiency and defectiveness of the mockers irrational denial of the second coming of Jesus Christ.
 - **The mockers reject and ridicule the return of Jesus Christ with a false argument** (v. 3-4)

- The “*mockers*” will come (v. 3a)
 - The “*mockers*” will come with a scornful disregard (v. 3b)
 - The “*mockers*” will come with a scornful disregard that is driven by “*their own lusts*” (v. 3c)
 - The “*mockers*” will come with a scornful disregard that is driven by “*their own lusts*” and the unfulfilled promise of Christ’s second coming (v. 4a)
 - The “*mockers*” will come with a scornful disregard that is driven by “*their own lusts*” and the unfulfilled promise of Christ’s second coming that won’t happen because history doesn’t change (v. 4b)
- **God reiterates and reestablishes the return of Jesus Christ with true evidence** (v. 5-7): Peter uses two compelling evidences that overturn their ridiculous argument.
 - **Evidence #1:** Personal reality is blinded by willful ignorance (v. 5a). They deliberately shut their eyes to the facts because they don’t a future judgment when Christ comes.
 - **Evidence #2:** Historical reality reveals catastrophic interventions by God and Peter shares two:
 - **They can’t ignore the formation of the universe** by God’s authoritative Word (v. 5b): Creation is a cataclysmic invasion by God (Gen 1:1-10 – God created a watery mass that God built into a canopy above of water, water below on the earth and the heavens in-between)
 - **They can’t ignore the catastrophic flood** caused by God’s authoritative Word (v. 6): God built into His creation the tool of its destruction in the flood (Gen. 7:11, 22: 8:2)
- What an insidious argument the mockers had that was completely debunked by two catastrophic interventions by God (His creation and His flood)
- All this points to the fact that God is planning to judge the world and the ungodly with “fire” (v. 7; Isa. 66:15; Dan. 7:9-10; Mic. 1:4; Mal. 4:1; Matt. 3:11-12; 2 Thess. 1:7-8)