

2 Peter 3

Jesus

- **Ch.1:** Knowing/Growing in Jesus through God's Spirit/Inerrant Word IOWs Don't be a Straggler
- **Ch.2:** Destructive Doctrines/Doom/Depravity/Deceptions of False Teachers IOWs Don't be a Victim
- **Ch.3...**

Call to Repentance before Coming Judgment

I. Call to Repentance

1 Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in both of which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder), 2 that you 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 Savior...

Beloved: Written to those of like precious faith
Be Mindful of the Words spoken...

- **OT:** Word of God spoken by the **Prophets**
- **NT:** Word of God spoken by the **Apostles**

These gave their lives for us to have God's Word

- Everything we needed for life/godliness
- Everything they said was 100% Correct

Recall/Remember...Chew/Consume/Devour

- Prophet Ezekiel/Apostle John told to eat/ingest the scroll

Psalms 119:11 Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.

Same message from both Prophets/Apostles: Repent God is coming to Judge sin

3 know this first. **Scoffers will come in the last days**, walking according to their own lusts...

Sign of End Times: Mocking and Denial of Coming Judgment

- **Mockers/Scoffers:** lit. Those that act like self-centered children

4 ...[Song of the children] "**Where is the promise of His coming?** For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation."

The sun comes up each day/All remains the same...

5 [But] this they **willfully forget**: that **by the word of God** the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, 6 by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water.

Key Word: **Willingly**

Romans 1:18 ...the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of **men, who suppress [lit. hold down] the truth** in unrighteousness, 19 because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are **without excuse**

Creation reveals a Creator.
Therefore...Denial of God is always a willful act of Rebellion

- God created by speaking nothing into something...

Hebrews 11:3 By faith we understand that the **worlds were framed by the word of God,** so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

- **When God spoke Creation was...**

1. Once Only the Godhead. Father, Son and Holy Spirit
2. God spoke the Heavens/Earth into existence
3. God's Spirit hovered over an Earth covered by water
4. God spoke again and Land/Mountains arise from water

God Created Man from a mix of Dirt and Water

- Adam/Eve walked with God/Sinned against God/Separated from God

Earth became populated and after 1600 years sin culminated in **Genesis 6**

Genesis 6:1 ... it came to pass, **when men began to multiply on the face of the earth,** and daughters were born to them...[Demonic activity escalates] **5 Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually ...7** So the Lord said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them."

- By God's Word earth was created
- By God's Word earth was destroyed...being flooded w/water v6

Genesis 7:11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life...all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. 12 And the rain was on the earth forty days and forty nights **...15** And they went into the ark to Noah, two by two, of all flesh in which is the breath of life. 16 So those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; **and the Lord shut [Noah] in ...21** And all flesh died that moved on the earth: birds and cattle and beasts and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, **and every man.** 22 All in whose nostrils was the breath of the spirit of life, all that was on the dry land, died. 23 So **He destroyed all living things** which were on the face of the ground: both man and cattle, creeping thing and bird of the air. They were destroyed from the earth. Only Noah and those who were with him in the ark remained alive.

- By God's Word earth was **Created**
- By God's Word earth was **Destroyed**
- By God's Word earth was **Restored**

New Beginning

Genesis 8:15 Then **God spoke** to Noah, saying, 16 "Go out of the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you. **17b ...be fruitful and multiply on the earth."** **...20** Then Noah built an altar to the Lord...and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

- **Noah worshiped:** Alone in a new world Noah worshiped.

Genesis 9:11 [God's promise signified by rainbow] Never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood; **never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth."**

Worldwide Judgment. One way of Salvation. Wood/Nails

1 Corinthians 1:18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 19 For it is written: "**I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,** And bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent."

Romans 1:22 22 Professing to be wise, **they became fools...**

- **Not blind faith:** Signs of Erosion/Oral Tradition worldwide/Shells.

God said He would destroy the earth and punish sin
He did that by water...

7 But the heavens and the earth which are **now preserved by the same word,** are **reserved for fire** until the day of judgment and perdition [destruction] of ungodly men.

- **Earth has been Preserved** From Water
- **Earth is currently Reserved** For Fire

Day of Judgment/Day of the Lord
God's Wrath poured out on an Unrepentant World. When?

Matthew 24:37 **...as the days of Noah were,** so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. 38 For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that **Noah entered the ark,** 39 and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, **so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.**

- Days of Noah

Genesis 6:5 [When the Lord again sees] ...the wickedness of man great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart being only evil continually ...

- Days of Lot

Luke 17: 28 Likewise as it was also in the **days of Lot:** They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; 29 but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all.

2 Peter 2:7 [God] ...delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the **filthy conduct** of the **wicked** 8 (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their **lawless deeds**)— 9 then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations

God said: I will destroy the earth and punish sin. He did with water

God says: I will destroy the earth again and this time with fire

- **Signs of Coming Worldwide Judgment:**

1. Scoffers mocking
2. Wicked Intentions
3. Laid-back attitude
4. Perversion promoted
5. Lawlessness

2 Thessalonians 1:8 [God] in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

8 But, beloved, do not forget this **one thing**, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

- Time is meaningless to a God outside of time

Psalms 90:4 For a thousand years in Your sight Are like yesterday when it is past, And like a watch in the night.

Seems like a long time to us but...
God is not Watching a Clock but Waiting for Souls...

9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, **not willing that any should perish** but that **all should come to repentance**.

1 Timothy 2:1 ...I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, 2 for **kings** and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. 3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who **desires all men to be saved** and to **come to the knowledge of the truth**.

- Even the person that seems impossible to be saved

The degree of hopelessness I have for others comes from never realizing that God has done anything for me. Is my own personal experience such a wonderful realization of God's power and might that I can never have a sense of hopelessness for anyone else I see? [Chambers]

IOWs If God can save you He can save anybody...and He wants to
God's desire is to fill Heaven not keep people out...

- If you die without Jesus you will go to hell. It won't be God's will but your own

Ezekiel 18:23 Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?" says the Lord God, "and not that he should turn from his ways and live? ...**30b "Repent**, and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin. 31 away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a **new heart and a new spirit**. For why should you die, O house of Israel? 32 For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies," says the Lord God. **"Therefore turn and live!"**

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, **but that the world through Him might be saved**.

Luke 15:6b ...'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!' 7 I say to you that likewise there will be **more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.**

High Time for Mockers to Repent...Turn from Sin to God
He's Waiting...

Romans 2:4 ...or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God [should] **lead you to repentance?**

If you die without giving your life to Jesus you will go to hell
It won't be God's will or fault but your own

II. Judgment

10 But the **day of the Lord** will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up [Laid bare] .

- **Day of the Lord:** Seven Year Tribulation
 1. Begins at Rapture
 2. Comes as Thief in the Night
 3. Culminates with earth laid bare by judgments
 4. Followed by 2nd Coming/Restoration/Kingdom

11 **Therefore**, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in **holy conduct and godliness**

- **Peter speaking to us:** Those of like precious faith

Since the things of this world are all going to burn
Start living for the next world: Holy and Godly productive lives

12 look... for and hasten... the coming of the **day of God**, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|----------------|------------------|
| ▪ Day of the Lord | Tribulation | Jesus as Judge | Earth Scorched |
| ▪ Day of Christ | Millennium | Jesus as King | Earth Restored |
| ▪ Day of God | Eternity... | God all in all | New Heaven/Earth |

1 Corinthians 15:25 For He [Jesus] must reign till He [Father] has put all enemies under His [Jesus] feet. 26 The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. 27 For "He has put all things under His feet." But when He [Father] says, "all things are put under Him [Jesus]," it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. 28 Now when all things are made subject to Him [Father], then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him [Father] who put all things under Him, **that God may be all in all.**

- **Our Eternal State** in the New Jerusalem

Revelation 21:22 ...I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. 23 The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. **The Lamb is its light.**

Revelation 22:3 And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. 4 They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads. 5 There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.

Day of God: After the Millennium/White Throne Judgment

13 Nevertheless we, **according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.**

- God Promised the Flood Fulfilled
- God Promised the Fire In Queue. After which...

Believers look for the sure promise of a New Heaven/New Earth
IN WHICH RIGHTEOUSNESS DWELLS

Isaiah 34:4 All the host of heaven shall be dissolved, And the **heavens shall be rolled up like a scroll**; All their host shall fall down As the leaf falls from the vine, And as fruit falling from a fig tree.

Isaiah 65:17 ...behold, I create **new heavens and a new earth**; And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind.

Psalms 102:25 Of old You laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands. 26 **They will perish**, but You will endure; Yes, they will all grow old like a garment; Like a cloak You will change them, And **they will be changed.**

Revelation 20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the **earth and the heaven fled away**. And there was found no place for them.

Revelation 21:1 Now I saw a **new heaven and a new earth**, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea.

Today is the Day of Salvation: Repent and Turn to Jesus

Ezekiel 18:32 For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies," says the Lord God. **"Therefore turn and live!"**

III. Steadfast in the Lord

14 Therefore, beloved, **looking forward** to these things, **be diligent** to be found by Him **in peace, without spot and blameless...**

Ready and Waiting when Jesus comes...

- **Diligent:** gr. spoo-dad'-zo Make haste to exert one's self in light of the times

Romans 13:11 And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.

- Found at Peace State of tranquility/Exempt from rage Do not worry
- Found W/Spot Free from defilement of the world Be Holy
- Found Blameless Not easily accused due to lifestyle Blameless...

Adorning Christ in our lives to draw sinner near to Him...

Philippians 2:14 Do all things without complaining and disputing, 15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as **lights in the world**, 16 holding fast the word of life

15 ...and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation—as also our **beloved brother Paul**, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, 16 as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the **rest of the Scriptures**.

The Patience of God is Salvation for Lost Sheep that Repent

- Paul wrote about God’s patience/Desire to save...

Romans 2:4 ...or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God [should] **lead you to repentance?**

- Peter confirms Paul’s writing as Scripture
 1. Sexuality/Marriage
 2. Authority Structure in the Church
 3. Authority Structure in the Family

IOWs Never allow anyone to dismiss Paul’s writings as anything less than Holy Scripture
E.g. *Pauline letters*? Peter calls Paul’s writing *Scripture*. It is Scripture; i.e. the Word of God

17 You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked 18 but **grow in the grace and knowledge** of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

- Since signs point to Jesus coming back soon

Seek the Grand Entrance

2 Peter 1:10 ... be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; 11 for so an **entrance will be supplied to you abundantly** into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Stay alert

1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

Remain Steadfast

1 Corinthians 15:58 ...be **steadfast, immovable**, [how?] always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

Don't be Deceived

- **2 Peter:** Tricks are for kids and...we ain't kids anymore...

Ephesians 4:14 [We are equipped and] ...should **no longer be children**, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the **trickery of men**, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ...

- God's future judgment should impact the way we live today
 1. Seek the Grand Entrance
 2. Stay Alert
 3. Remain Steadfast
 4. Be not Deceived as we...

Grow in Grace and Knowledge of our God and Savior Jesus Christ
To Him be the glory both now and forever. **Amen.**