

Peter is at the end of his life

- Most likely he's in prison in Rome during the time of the evil Caesar Nero
- He knows he will die by crucifixion because the Lord told him
- It's very possible he's already seen Rome burn during the Great Fire in AD 64 and the backlash against Christians
- The NT church is growing and maturing but is also under severe satanic attack in the form of outside persecution and internal false teaching
- It seems like a crucial time in the life of the early believers because their hope of Jesus' return is waning - how much longer should they hold on?
- Peter is an apostle and slave of Jesus Christ, leader of the first disciples, leader of the apostles after Pentecost, shepherd of the church, and now inspired author of God's Word to encourage, warn, and mature God's people (then and now) to faithfully persevere in the Grace of God.
- This is Peter's final chapter to fulfill his God-given role in this life
- These are his last words to us

2 Peter 3:1-7

**3** *This is now the second letter that I am writing to you, beloved. In both of them I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, <sup>2</sup> that you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles, <sup>3</sup> knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. <sup>4</sup> They will say, "Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation." <sup>5</sup> For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, <sup>6</sup> and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished. <sup>7</sup> But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.*

**2 Peter Outline**

- I. Remember the Greatness of Salvation (1:1-11)
- II. Trust the Certainty of Scripture (1:12-21)
- III. Beware of Deceptive False Teachers (2:1-22)
- IV. Hope in the Promised Future (3:1-16)
  - A. Remember the Promised Hope (vs 1-2)
    1. Wake up to Wholesome Thinking (vs 1)
    2. Hope from the Past, Hope for the Future (vs 2)
  - B. Scoffers Attack our Hope (vs 3-4)
    1. By Mocking (vs 3a)
    2. Because of Sensual Pleasures (vs 3b)
    3. From Uniformity (vs 4)
  - C. Hope is Secured in a Cosmic Plan (vs 5-7)

**Peter's response to the the scoffers attack is like a Heavyweight Boxer's rapid 3-punch retaliation to his opponent's advance. This is Peter's jab, cross, and uppercut as an answer to why the believer should continue to hope in the future Second Coming (parousia) of Christ**

C. Hope is Secured in a Cosmic Plan (vs 5-7)

1. **Creation**
2. Catastrophe
3. Consummation

*<sup>5</sup> For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God*

“Overlook” - Gr. λανθάνω (lanthanō) - Implying secrecy or hiding, forget, being unaware

“It escapes their notice” (NAS)

“For this they willingly are ignorant of” (KJV)

“They willfully ignore this” (HCSB)

**Peter is clear to start off that the wicked willingly deny the truth to satisfy their sin**

Remember from last week that unbelievers don't have better arguments for their side but just more loudly contend because of their own ulterior motives requiring a license to sin

Proverbs 14:9

<sup>9</sup> Fools mock at the guilt offering, but the upright enjoy acceptance.

*Vs 4 “Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation.”*

**Uniformity argument**

#1 Acknowledge that God created everything but he no longer has any control or influence on it

#2 Deny God all-together and everything has happened from purely natural means (nothing supernatural -> Nobody x Nothing = Everything)

**Peter's argues that God created everything ex nihilo (Latin for “out of nothing”) by His Word**

Genesis 1:1-10 (*Creation Account*)

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

<sup>3</sup> And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. <sup>4</sup> And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

<sup>6</sup> And God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” <sup>7</sup> And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. <sup>8</sup> And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

<sup>9</sup> And God said, “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. <sup>10</sup> God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

**The Triune God created everything by His own divine decree by the word of His mouth**

- God created everything in 6 literal days “*there was evening and morning, the second day*”
  - God has given us the only first hand account of the beginning
  - All of the Bible confirms and proclaims Divine Creation

Isaiah 45:12

<sup>12</sup> I made the earth and created man on it; it was my hands that stretched out the heavens, and I commanded all their host.

Isaiah 45:18

<sup>18</sup> For thus says the Lord, who created the heavens (he is God!),  
who formed the earth and made it (he established it; he did not create it empty,  
he formed it to be inhabited!): “I am the Lord, and there is no other.

Proverbs 8:27-29 (*Personification of Wisdom*)

<sup>27</sup> When he established the heavens, I was there;  
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,  
<sup>28</sup> when he made firm the skies above,  
when he established the fountains of the deep,  
<sup>29</sup> when he assigned to the sea its limit,  
so that the waters might not transgress his command,  
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,

Job 38:4-11 (*Yahweh’s Response to Job*)

<sup>4</sup> “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?  
Tell me, if you have understanding.  
<sup>5</sup> Who determined its measurements—surely you know!  
Or who stretched the line upon it?  
<sup>6</sup> On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone,  
<sup>7</sup> when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?  
<sup>8</sup> “Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb,  
<sup>9</sup> when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band,  
<sup>10</sup> and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors,  
<sup>11</sup> and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther,  
and here shall your proud waves be stayed’?

### **Evolution is a Satanic construct to deny God**

- Naturalistic Evolution says there is no divine influence or involvement, everything happens naturally
- Theistic Evolution is just compromising truth to try to fit evolution into scripture to appease culture
- There’s no Day-Age Theory or Gap Theory
- There is no Evolution evidence and Creation evidence, it’s just interpretation
- Genesis is not poetry, it’s historical narrative

### **God Sustains all of Creation (*addresses Uniformity Argument #1*)**

Colossians 1:16-17

<sup>16</sup> For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Hebrews 1:3

<sup>3</sup> He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high

### **Belief in a literal Six Day Creation is a Gospel Issue**

Acts 17:23-24 (*Paul in Athens*)

<sup>23</sup> For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup> The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man

## 2 Peter 3:5-7

Psalm 90:2

<sup>2</sup> Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

Romans 1:20

<sup>20</sup> For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

### C. Hope is Secured in a Cosmic Plan (vs 5-7)

1. Creation

**2. Catastrophe**

3. Consummation

*<sup>6</sup> and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished.*

Peter believed in a literal world-wide flood

*“Deluged”* - Gr. κατακλύζω (*kataklyzō*) - flood, inundated

2 Peter 2:5 (*God will judge*)

<sup>5</sup> if he did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a **flood** upon the world of the ungodly;

1 Peter 3:20

<sup>20</sup> because they formerly did not obey, when God’s patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water.

*“Perished”* - Gr. ἀπόλλυμαι (*apollymai*) - destroy, ruin, cause destruction

- Also used as “die” - Matthew 10:39, Mark 8:35, Luke 9:24, “disappear by violent means” - Hebrews 1:11)

Genesis 6:5-7 (*The Flood*)

<sup>5</sup> The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. <sup>6</sup> And the Lord regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. <sup>7</sup> So the Lord said, “I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them.” <sup>8</sup> But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.

**Instructions how to build the Ark** - Genesis 6:9-22

- Perfectly sized and shaped boat in order to handle the storm and house all the animals
- Not the cartoon version commonly seen in pictures

**Instructions to load all the animals on the Ark** - Genesis 7:1-10

- Male and female of every kind of animal were brought to Noah
- All in seven days

Genesis 7:11-12 (*The Flood Cometh*)

<sup>11</sup> In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day **all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened**. <sup>12</sup> And rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights.

Genesis 1:6-7 (*God created waters above and waters below for the purpose of the flood*)

<sup>6</sup> And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." <sup>7</sup> **And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse.** And it was so.

Genesis 7:23-24 (*World-wide judgment*)

<sup>23</sup> He blotted out every living thing that was on the face of the ground, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens. They were blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those who were with him in the ark. <sup>24</sup> And the waters prevailed on the earth 150 days.

**"Scoffers gonna scoff"** - vs 3

- Uniformitarian view - nothing has changed, it's always remained the same from the beginning
- That's why Evolution is a direct attack on the authority of scripture because it's trying to explain the world around us without any fingerprint of God
- How did we get the Grand Canyon? Did it get carved up in the upheaval of the flood or did streams of water over billions of years slowly cut its path?
- Ken Ham - What would we expect to see if there was a world-wide flood? Billions of dead things buried in rock layers laid down by water all over the earth. What do we see on the planet? Billions of dead things buried in rock layers laid down by water all over the earth.

Genesis 9:11-17 (*Noahic Covenant to never destroy the world by water*)

<sup>11</sup> I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." <sup>12</sup> And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup> I have set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup> When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup> I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup> When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." <sup>17</sup> God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

C. Hope is Secured in a Cosmic Plan (vs 5-7)

1. Creation
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*<sup>7</sup> But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.*

*"By the same word"* - the same word that creates, destroys

- God is not absent, He is fully present, and He has a divine plan being rolled out in perfect order and detail

*"The heavens and earth **that now exist**"* - current day for Peter and for us...the world we're in

- After the flood

*"Stored up for"* - Gr. θησαυρίζω (thēsaurizō) - treasure up, gather, save up, reserve, cause to happen

- Where we get the word "Thesaurus" - a storehouse, repository
- Matthew 6:19-20 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth..."
- Romans 2:5 "But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself.."

## 2 Peter 3:5-7

“Kept” - Gr. τηρέω (*tēreō*) - guard, keep watch over (as in prison)

2 Peter 2:4 “For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be **kept** until the judgment”

### **In the third punch/response from Peter to the scoffing scoffers, the Word of God confirms a future judgment tied to fire**

Hebrews 9:27

<sup>27</sup> And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment

Psalms 96:13

<sup>13</sup> before the Lord, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth.  
He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness.

Daniel 7:9-10

<sup>9</sup> “As I looked, thrones were placed, and the Ancient of Days took his seat; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames; its wheels were burning fire.

<sup>10</sup> A stream of fire issued and came out from before him; a thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him; the court sat in judgment, and the books were opened.

Malachi 4:1

“For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch.

Matthew 3:10-12 (*John the Baptist's testimony of the coming Savior*)

<sup>10</sup> Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup> “I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Matthew 13:40-42

<sup>40</sup> Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, <sup>42</sup> and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

2 Thessalonians 1:6-9

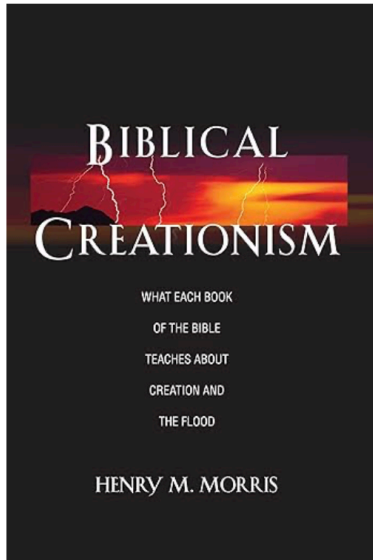
<sup>6</sup> since indeed God considers it just to repay with affliction those who afflict you, <sup>7</sup> and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels <sup>8</sup> in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. <sup>9</sup> They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might

## Additional Resources:

### 2 Peter 3:5

Hebrews 11:3

<sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.



[Biblical Creationism](#) by Henry Morris

Dr. Henry Morris

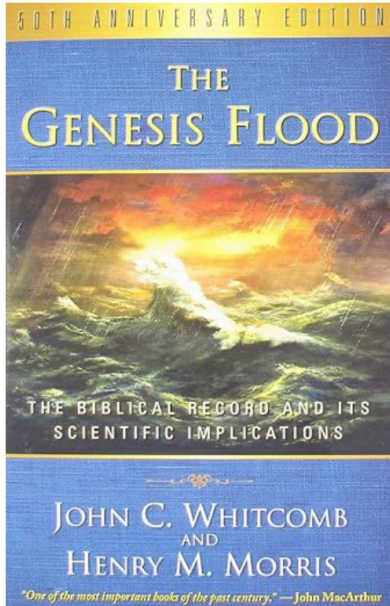
- Professor of Civil Engineering at Virginia Tech from 1959-1970
- Co-Authored *The Genesis Flood* with John Whitcomb, the foundational book of the creationist movement
- Co-founded an organization which later became Institute of Creation Research (ICR)
- While in Blacksburg, he attended College Baptist Church, which later merged with Twin Cities Baptist Church to become Harvest Baptist Church, the home church of Pastor Mark and Melanie Vaughan as well as where Jason & Julie Isaacs attended while in college

Answers in Genesis - [www.answersingenesis.org](http://www.answersingenesis.org)

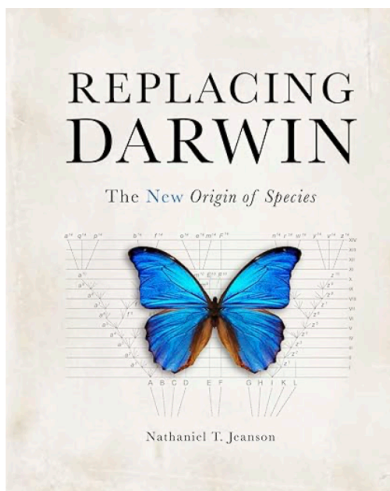
Institute of Creation Research - [www.icr.org](http://www.icr.org)

Biblical Science Institute - [www.biblicalscienceinstitute.com](http://www.biblicalscienceinstitute.com)

**2 Peter 3:6**



[The Genesis Flood](#) by John Whitcomb & Henry Morris



[Replacing Darwin](#) by Nathaniel Jeanson



## 2 Peter 3:7

Hebrews 10:26-27

<sup>26</sup> For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, <sup>27</sup> but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries

Malachi 3:16-18

<sup>16</sup> Then those who feared the Lord spoke with one another. The Lord paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared the Lord and esteemed his name. <sup>17</sup> “They shall be mine, says the Lord of hosts, in the day when I make up my treasured possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him. <sup>18</sup> Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.