

A photograph of several ancient Greek columns, likely from the Temple of Apollo at Delphi, showing signs of weathering and decay. The columns are fluted and have papyrus capitals. A dark blue horizontal band is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing white text.

2 Peter: Established in the Truth

A photograph of ancient Greek temple ruins, featuring several tall, fluted columns and a partially collapsed entablature against a cloudy sky. The image is overlaid with a dark blue semi-transparent banner at the top and bottom.

Delivered From the Day of the Lord

2 Peter 3:8-13

An Exposition through 2 Peter: Established in the Truth

***FOUR CLARIFICATIONS OF GOD'S ACTIVITY IN FUTURE JUDGMENT
ON THE DAY OF THE LORD.***

FOUR CLARIFICATIONS OF GOD'S ACTIVITY IN FUTURE JUDGMENT

I. God's **Patience** (2 Peter 3:8-9)

Specifically, they **willfully choose** to ignore or to be willfully blind to:

1. God's divine intervention in **creation** (v5)
2. God's divine intervention in the **flood** (v6)
3. God's divine intervention in the **future** (v7)

FOUR CLARIFICATIONS OF GOD'S ACTIVITY IN FUTURE JUDGMENT

I. God's **Patience** (2 Peter 3:8-9)

*"...with the Lord one day is **like** a thousand years, and a thousand years **like** one day."*

1,000 years is **like** one day to God. This is an **analogy** relating God-time with human-time.

FOUR CLARIFICATIONS OF GOD'S ACTIVITY IN FUTURE JUDGMENT

I. God's **Patience** (2 Peter 3:8-9)

By the willful blindness and hardness of their hearts, they won't let themselves see the **truth** of God's delaying judgment.

God's timetable moves along by His **design** to **save** and **redeem**.

FOUR CLARIFICATIONS OF GOD'S ACTIVITY IN FUTURE JUDGMENT

I. God's **Patience** (2 Peter 3:8-9)

Who is the “**you**” that God is being **patient** toward?

Who are the “**any**” He doesn't want to **perish**?

Who are the “**all**” He wants to come to **repentance**?

FOUR CLARIFICATIONS OF GOD'S ACTIVITY IN FUTURE JUDGMENT

I. God's **Patience** (2 Peter 3:8-9)

1. Peter is **exposing** the **errors/lies** of the false teachers about Jesus coming again in **judgment**.
2. Peter's **theme** is God's **judgment** and **destruction** of *ungodly men (all **unbelievers**)* in the future.
3. Peter is **addressing** God's "**beloved**" -- his addressees are **believers** saved by grace then, now, and in the future.
4. Alongside the theme of future **judgment** against **unbelievers**, Peter **contrasts** God's **patience** with **believers**.

FOUR CLARIFICATIONS OF GOD'S ACTIVITY IN FUTURE JUDGMENT

I. God's **Patience** (2 Peter 3:8-9)

5. "You", "any", and "all" refer to **believers** then, now, and in the future. It could read like this: *"The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward **you**, [**beloved**] not wishing for **any** [**of you, beloved**] to perish but for **all** [**of you, beloved**] to come to repentance."*

FOUR CLARIFICATIONS OF GOD'S ACTIVITY IN FUTURE JUDGMENT

I. God's **Patience** (2 Peter 3:8-9)

God's people are to **view** and **value** His delay not as **apathy** (as the false teachers view it), but as God's merciful patience to spare His chosen ones from **perishing** (i.e., from His **judgment**).

FOUR CLARIFICATIONS OF GOD'S ACTIVITY IN FUTURE JUDGMENT

I. God's **Patience** (2 Peter 3:8-9)

The key to understanding the biblical doctrine of the **Lord's promise and patience** in coming again is His heart to save **every person He predestined** to salvation before He ever made the world.

*“But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has **chosen you from the beginning for salvation** through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth.”*

(2 Thess. 2:13)

FOUR CLARIFICATIONS OF GOD'S ACTIVITY IN FUTURE JUDGMENT

I. God's **Patience** (2 Peter 3:8-9)

1. God takes **no pleasure** in the death of unbelievers.

“Do I have any pleasure in the death of the wicked, declares the Lord God, rather than that he should turn from his ways and live?” (Ezek. 18:23)

*“**For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies, declares the Lord God. Therefore, **repent and live.**”**
(Ezek. 18:30-32)*

This is a call to **everyone** to be saved from sin by turning to God's saving grace in Jesus Christ.

FOUR CLARIFICATIONS OF GOD'S ACTIVITY IN FUTURE JUDGMENT

I. God's **Patience** (2 Peter 3:8-9)

2. God **desires all** unbelievers to be saved from their sins.

“This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” (1 Tim. 2:3-4)

FOUR CLARIFICATIONS OF GOD'S ACTIVITY IN FUTURE JUDGMENT

I. God's **Patience** (2 Peter 3:8-9)

3. God **offers** salvation to **all** who will repent and live.

*“Therefore, having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to all men that **all** people everywhere should **repent.**” (Acts 17:30)*

I. God's **Patience** (2 Peter 3:8-9)

“Such complexity is not all that surprising since God is an infinite and complex being, one who exceeds our understanding. In other words, such exegesis is not a rationalistic expedient but an acknowledgement of the mystery and depth of God's revelation.

“Neither dimension of the biblical text should be denied. God really and truly desires that every person repent and turn to him. We should not retreat to God's decreed will to nullify and negate what the text says. Nor should we use this verse to cancel out God's ordained will.

I. God's **Patience** (2 Peter 3:8-9)

“Better to live with the tension and mystery of the text than to swallow it up in a philosophical system that pretends to understand all of God's ways.

“God's patience and his love are not illusions, but neither do they remove his sovereignty.” *(Tom Schreiner)*

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