

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 horizontal band containing white text.

Remember, Jesus is Coming Again

2 Peter 3:1-7

An Exposition through 2 Peter: Established in the Truth

I. **Anchor** Your Hearts in God's Truth (2 Peter 3:1-2)

Peter's first action is to call them to arms **mentally**.

- “**Sincere** minds” = minds made wholesome, pure and good by the gospel.
- He wants them to **remember truth**.

“In biblical thinking reminders grip the whole person, so that we are possessed again by the gospel and its truth, so that we are energized to **live for the glory of God.**” (Dr. Thomas Schreiner)

II. Anticipate Mockers to Scorn God's Truth (2 Peter 3:3-4)

- Prepare your mind for spiritual battle as people **within the church** give in to false notions about the **priorities** of **heaven** for your life on **earth**.
- While verse 3 gives us the **content of their hearts**, verse 4 gives us the **heart of their content** -- the heart of their teaching.
- They are so consumed with and driven by their own lusts that they even mock Jesus' second coming.

III. Answer by the Word of God's Truth (2 Peter 3:5-7)

Peter mentions:

- God's power to **create** His world
- God's power to **control** His world
- God's power to **conserve** His world.

III. Answer by the Word of God's Truth (2 Peter 3:5-7)

- “Flooded” = *kataklyzo*, where we get our word **cataclysm**

III. Answer by the Word of God's Truth (2 Peter 3:5-7)

- God also demonstrates His **conserving** power that *“**by His word** the present heavens and earth are **being reserved** for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.”* (v. 7)
- *“The earth is the Lord's and all it contains, the world, and those who dwell in it. For He has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.”* (Psalm 24:1)

III. Answer by the Word of God's Truth (2 Peter 3:5-7)

- Noetic (*nous*) = mind. The noetic effects of sin refer to how sin influences one's mind.
- The **principle point** about the noetic effects of sin is this: As the issues of life force unbelievers closer to answers and realities revealing the twin truths of **God is** (authority) and **God is good** (benevolence), sin's influence on the mind **intensifies**.

III. Answer by the Word of God's Truth (2 Peter 3:5-7)

- “The mounting evidence for the scoffers’ rejection of Christ conveys one overriding truth: [false] preachers and people alike reject the doctrine of the second coming because they desire to live in a universe without moral accountability.” *(David Helm)*
- However, a **redeemed** mind possesses the **mind of Christ** (1 Cor. 2:16), and a **spiritually-renewed mind** (Rom 12:2) is being taught to think God’s truth about the issues of life.

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