

# THE SECOND EPISTLE GENERAL OF PETER

## 2 Pet. 3:1-4

2 Pet. 3:1 This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in *both* which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:  
2 That ye 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 Saviour:  
3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,  
4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as *they were* from the beginning of the creation.

## I. FAITH'S CONVICTIONS, 1:1-21

A. As to the Walk with God, 1:1-15

B. As to the Word of God, 1:16-21

## II. FAITH'S CONTENTION, 2:1-22

A. The Doctrine of the Heretics, 2:1-3a

B. The Doom of the Heretics, 2:3b-9

C. The Deeds of the Heretics, 2:10-22

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2. An exposure of their claims, 2:15-19

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a. Truth revealed to them, 2:20

(1) Their deliverance, 2:20a

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(a) A further entanglement, 2:20b

(b) A fearful entanglement, 2:20c

b. Truth rejected by them, 2:21

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(1) They are foul within, 2:22a

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(3) They are filthy without, 2:22b

### III. FAITH'S CONSUMMATION, 3:1-18

#### A. Peter exposes the scoffers, 3:1-13

##### 1. Their insistent denial of the Lord's return, 3:1-4

###### a. An anticipated denial, 3:1-2

###### (1) Peter's purpose mentioned, 3:1

2 Pet. 3:1 This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in *both* which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:

Original Word: διεγείρω

Transliteration: diegeiró

Definition: I wake out of sleep, arouse in general, stir up.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/1326.htm>

2 Pet. 1:13 Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, **to stir you up by putting you in remembrance;**

1 Thess. 5:1 But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.

2 For yourselves know perfectly that **the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.**

3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

**5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day:** we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

**6 Therefore let us not sleep, as *do* others; but let us watch and be sober.**

**7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.**

**8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.**

**9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,**

**10 Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.**

Original Word: εἰλικρινής

Transliteration: eilikrinés

Definition: (originally: unmixed), pure, uncontaminated, sincere

*eilikrinés* (from *heilē*, "shining of the sun" and *krystallízō*, "to judge") – properly, *rightly* judged because seen in *full light*; (figuratively) *judged in the rays of God's light*, i.e. with *divine clarity* (spiritual vision) which results in *real insight* (discernment).

*eilikrinés* ("sincere because transparent") describes something *proven* because *well-examined* (totally scrutinized) – therefore, *certified as sincere (inwardly pure)*. (*eilikrinés*) naturally refers to something *completely clear*, free from hypocrisy (deceit, wickedness) which *stands in the full light* of God's approval. This term is used twice in the NT (Phil 1:10; 2 Pet 3:1).

<http://biblehub.com/greek/1506.htm>

- The Holy Spirit moved the Apostle Peter to express concern that He didn't want their pure minds polluted by the scoffers!

Original Word: διάνοια

Transliteration: dianoia

Definition: understanding, intellect, mind, insight.

*diánoia* ("critical thinking"), literally "*thorough* reasoning," incorporates both sides of a matter to reach a meaningful (*personal*) conclusion. Such "full-breadth reasoning" is *essential* to loving (*agapáō*) the Lord and our neighbor (see Mk 12:30). It is also the instrument of self-destruction when exercised without God's light and power (Lk 1:51; Eph 2:3, 4:18; Col 1:21).

<http://biblehub.com/greek/1271.htm>

Luke 10:27 And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy **mind**; and thy neighbour as thyself.

Eph. 1:18 eyes of your **understanding** being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

(2) Peter's point made, 3:2

(a) Previous comments of the prophets, 3:2a "That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets..."

2 Pet. 1:12 Wherefore I will not be negligent **to put you always in remembrance** of these things, though ye know *them*, and be established in the present truth.

13 Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, **to stir you up by putting you in remembrance;**

14 Knowing that shortly I must put off *this* my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me.

15 Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance.

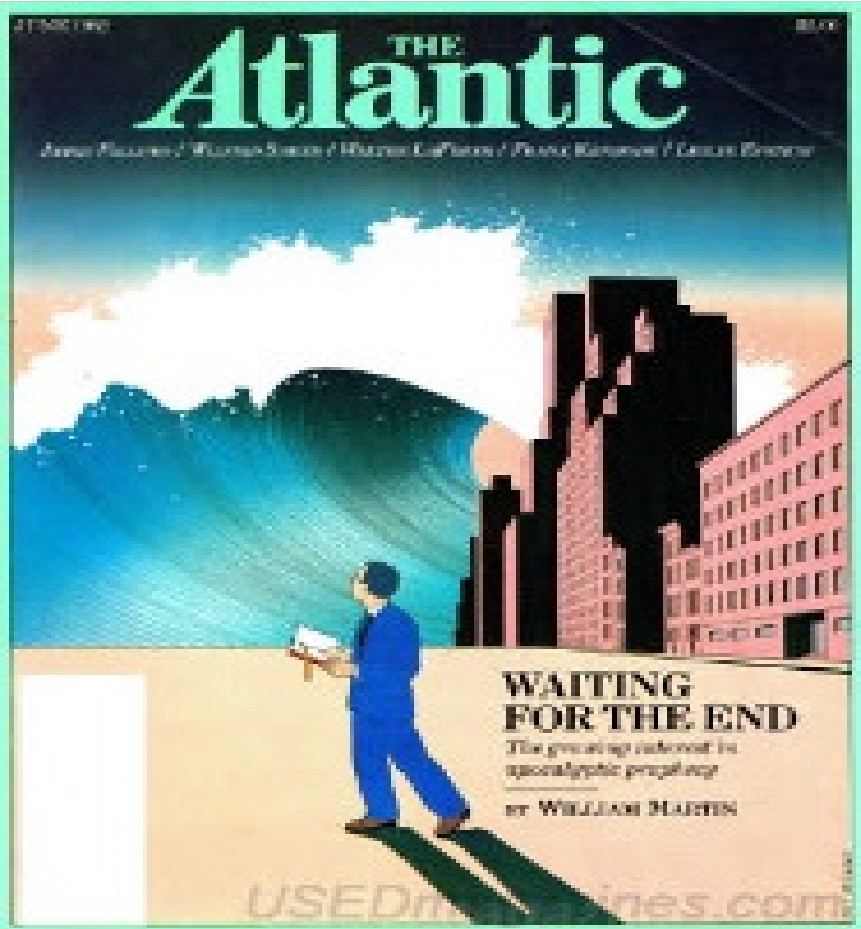
16 For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, **when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ**, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.



(b) Previous commands of the apostles, 3:2b  
“...and of the commandment of us the apostles  
of the Lord and Saviour:”

b. An antagonistic denial, 3:3-4

(1) The scoffers' ridicule exposed, 3:3a “Knowing  
this first, that there shall come in the last days  
scoffers...”



<http://oldmags.com/issue/Atlantic-Monthly-June-1982>

## Waiting for the End

The growing interest in apocalyptic prophecy

- WILLIAM MARTIN
- JUNE 1982 ISSUE

[HTTPS://WWW.THEATLANTIC.COM/MAGAZINE/ARCHIVE/1982/06/WAITING-FOR-THE-END/308707/](https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/1982/06/waiting-for-the-end/308707/)

2 Tim. 3:1 This know also, that **in the last days** perilous times shall come.

2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

1 Jn. 2:18 Little children, **it is the last time**: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.

19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would *no doubt* have continued with us: but *they went out*, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

(2) The scoffers' rottenness exposed, 3:3b  
“...walking after their own lusts,”

Jude 1:18 How that they told you there should **be mockers in the last time**, who should **walk after their own ungodly lusts**.

(3) The scoffers' reasoning exposed, 3:4

2 Pet. 3:4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as *they were* from the beginning of the creation.

Jn. 14:1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, **I will come again**, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also.

Acts 1:11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, **shall so come in like manner** as ye have seen him go into heaven.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jDuDN2Ftrlo>

## Conclusion

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

15 These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.