

# THE SECOND EPISTLE GENERAL OF PETER

## 2 Pet. 3:5-9

2 Pet. 3:5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:

6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

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

9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

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

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

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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

(2) Their danger, 2:20b-c

(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

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#### 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

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

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(1) The scoffers' ridicule exposed, 3:3a

(2) The scoffers' rottenness exposed, 3:3b

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

2. Their ignorant denial of the Lord's return, 3:5-13

a. The Lord's past judgment: by the Flood, 3:5-6

(1) The flood tides restrained, 3:5

2 Pet. 3:5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:

Original Word: λανθάνω

Transliteration: lanthanó

Definition: I am hidden (concealed), lie hid, **escape notice**, sometimes with acc. of person from whom concealment takes place; I do so and so unconsciously, unknown to myself, I shut my eyes to so and so. = ignorant of

<http://biblehub.com/greek/2990.htm>

Gen. 1:6 And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

7 And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which *were* under the firmament from the waters which *were* above the firmament: and it was so.

8 And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.

9 And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry *land* appear: and it was so.

10 And God called the dry *land* Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that *it was* good.

Heb. 1:2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by *his* Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, **by whom also he made the worlds;**

Heb. 11:3 Through faith we understand that **the worlds were framed by the word of God**, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

(2) The flood tides released, 3:6

2 Pet. 3:6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

Original Word: κατακλύζω

Transliteration: katakluzó

Definition: I flood over, overwhelm, inundate.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/2626.htm>

b. The Lord's predicted judgment: by fire, 3:7-13

(1) We are to consider an appointed day, 3:7

(a) God's fire is already burning, 3:7a "But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire..."

Original Word: θησαυρίζω

Transliteration: thésaurizó

Definition: I store up, treasure up, save, lay up.

*thēsaurízō* – properly, to put away, "store up"; lay aside *treasure*, built up (accumulated) for the day of future

*recompense*

<http://biblehub.com/greek/2343.htm>

Joel 2:30 And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and **fire, and pillars of smoke.**

Psa. 50:3 Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: **a fire shall devour before him**, and it shall be very tempestuous round about him.

Isa. 29:6 Thou shalt be visited of the LORD of hosts with thunder, and with earthquake, and great noise, with storm and tempest, **and the flame of devouring fire.**

Isa. 30:30 And the LORD shall cause his glorious voice to be heard, and shall shew the lighting down of his arm, with the indignation of his anger, **and with the flame of a devouring fire**, with scattering, and tempest, and hailstones.



Isa. 66:15 For, **behold, the LORD will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire.**

16 For **by fire** and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many.

Nah. 1:5 The mountains quake at him, and **the hills melt, and the earth is burned at his presence, yea, the world, and all that dwell therein.**

6 Who can stand before his indignation? and who can abide in the fierceness of his anger? **his fury is poured out like fire,** and the rocks are thrown down by him.

Mal. 4:1 For, **behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven;** and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and **the day that cometh shall burn them up,** saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.

(b) God's fury is already building, 3:7b "...against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men."

Original Word: ἀπώλεια

Transliteration: apóleia

Definition: perdition, destruction, ruin, loss, perishing; eternal ruin or misery,

*apóleia* (from *apóllymi*, "cut off") – *destruction*, causing someone (something) to be *completely severed* – cut off (entirely) from what *could or should* have been. (Note the force of the prefix, *apo*.) <http://biblehub.com/greek/684.htm>

(2) We are to consider an approaching day, 3:8-9

(a) God's mode of living transcends ours, 3:8

2 Pet. 3:8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day *is* with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

1 Thess. 5:2 For yourselves know perfectly that **the day of the Lord** so cometh as a thief in the night.

Zech. 14:1 Behold, **the day of the LORD** cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee.

2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

3 Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.

4 And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

5 And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with thee.

Rev. 16:14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that **great day of God Almighty**.

15 Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.

16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.

(b) God's method of loving transcends ours, 3:9

- i. He is remembering His promise 3:9a "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness..."
- ii. He is revealing His patience, 3:9b-c "...but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

Mark 6:12 And they went out, and preached that **men should repent.**

Luke 13:3 I tell you, Nay: but, **except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.**

Luke 16:30 And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will **repent**.

Acts 17:30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but **now commandeth all men every where to repent:**

Rev. 2:5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and **repent**, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.

Rev. 3:19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: **be zealous therefore, and repent.**

## Conclusion

- Time is irrelevant from God's perspective.
- Time is to be regarded as an opportunity from man's perspective.
- Time to repent is an opportunity for man, from God's longsuffering grace toward man.

2 Pet. 3:11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,