The Promise of His Coming

Lesson 22: 2 Peter 3

May 31, 2020
Letter outline

• 1:1-11 Introductory appeal to growth
• 1:12-2:22 The present
  • 1:12-18 Remember the truth of the Gospel
  • 1:19-2:22 Because there will be false teachers among the church
    • 1:19-2:9 Relating to God’s word and the consequences
    • 1:19-21 Prophecy and its interpretation are from God
    • 2:1-3 Destruction will come to false interpreters
    • 2:4-9 God will not spare the wicked, but He will rescue the godly
    • 2:10-22 Characteristics of false teachers
• 3:1-10 The future
  • 3:1-3 Remember the word of the prophets and apostles
  • 3:4-10 Because there will be mockers in the last days
• 3:11-18 Concluding appeal to growth
Knowledge

• 1:2 grace and peace...in the k.
• 1:3 through the true k. of Him
• 1:5 in your moral excellence, k.
• 1:6 and in your k., self-control
• 1:8 in the true k. of our Lord
• 1:16 we made k. to you
• 1:20 k. this first of all
• 2:9 the Lord k. how to rescue
• 2:20 by the k. of the Lord
• 2:21 better...not to have k.
• 2:21 than having k. it, to turn
• 3:3 K. this first of all
• 3:17 k. this beforehand
• 3:18 k. of our Lord
Theme – 2 Peter 3:17-18

You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness, but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.
Chapter outline

• 3:1-10  The future
  • 3:1-3   Remember the word of the prophets and apostles
  • 3:4-10  Because there will be mockers in the last days
• 3:11-18  Concluding appeal to growth
2 Peter 3:1-4

1 This is now, beloved, the second letter I am writing to you in which I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, 2 that you should remember the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior spoken by your apostles.

3 Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts, 4 and saying, “Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation.”

- A main means of encouragement is a call to remember
- Switch from present concerns to future concerns
- The second coming is the focus of the mockers
- The world believes in uniformity
The future
2 Peter 3:5-9

For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago and the earth was formed out of water and by water, through which the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water. But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day. The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.
Concluding appeal to growth
2 Peter 3:10-13

10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up.

11 Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, 12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat!

13 But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

• The day of the Lord will be sudden
• The day of the Lord needs to lead us to live holy lives now
• We are to long for the day of the Lord
• Although heaven and earth will be destroyed God will create a new heaven and earth
Concluding appeal to growth
2 Peter 3:14-18

14 Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless, 15 and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, 16 as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction. 17 You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness, 18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

• There is peace even in the day of the Lord for believers
• God’s patience means salvation
• Be on you guard
  • Against error
  • From falling from steadfastness
• Grow in
  • Grace
  • Knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
Summary

• Mockers of the second coming follow after their own lusts
• The universe has not continued uniformly since creation
• The Lord is not slow, but patient, which is salvation
• The day of the Lord should lead us to live holy lives now
• There is nothing to fear in the day of the Lord for believers
• Be on guard against error
• Grow in the grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior