

Remember God's Judgement

2Peter 3:1-11

A. A Book About the Future

1. Each chapter in 2 Peter is prophetic
2. It is an epistle to alert its readers to prepare for the return of Christ
3. We need to frequently revisit the moment of our new birth
4. Foundational truths strengthen commitment
5. The basics of the gospel, Christ came for their salvation.
6. Because Christ promised to return, we can live with hope, holiness, & urgency.
7. Peter urges readers to stay grounded in the Bible, discern truth & remain faithful.
8. To remember God's Word is reliable; it shapes our perspective on the future.
9. In an age of doubt, cling to Scripture as your foundation.

C. Peter Warns Of The Scoffers To Come

1. Peter reminds us the words of the prophets are not fables.
2. Peter also warned them of scoffers to come questioning Christ's return.
3. Been many promises of His coming Eg: Matt 24; 25; John 14 & 1 Thess. 4.
4. The flood proves God judges; the present world is reserved for fire & judgment.
5. Consider scoffers of the past who were proved wrong.
6. The scoffers of Noah's time, of Sodom and Gomorrah; Belshazzar (Dan. 5)
7. To believers, the return of Christ is a purifying hope (1 John 3:3)
8. Scoffers try to avoid the question in spite of biblical assurances.
9. The long wait for Christ's coming is no reason to doubt that He will come.
10. But truth must ultimately be faced: Christ will return! Why scoff?

D. Some Prefer Sin to Salvation (v. 3)

1. Some enjoy their old sinful ways, so they reject the gospel.
2. They scoffed at the need for purity, thinking that morality doesn't matter.
3. They scoff at the prophecies of His return and live for what feels good
4. Their poor present judgment will bring them certain future judgment.
5. The long wait seems proof to them that He will not keep His promise
6. Why wait so long? Why hasn't Christ come to fulfill His promise?
7. Why has Christ not come to still the voices of the scoffers?
8. Peter gives some answers to those who wonder why we wait

E. The Lord Demonstrates His Patience

1. Peter has revealed some are willingly ignorant about Christ's return.
2. Jesus said no one would know the day nor the hour of His return (Matt. 24:36)
3. We are always to be ready, expecting His return at any moment (Matt. 24:42)
4. How do we know that Christ will come right on time?
5. The Lord doesn't break promises. When the Lord says it, we can believe it.
6. There are many, many Old Testament promises of His coming. (Eg Isa)
7. Prophets spoke, then, right on time, Christ was born (Gal. 4:3-5)

8. The patience of God is demonstrated in His creation, & in mankind.
9. The Lord delights in the saving of one soul (v. 9).
10. God is not willing that any should perish.
11. The Lord is long-suffering; His patience has not been exhausted.
12. The patience of God is one of the reasons for His seeming delay
13. The psalmist recognized God's patience and gave thanks for it (Ps. 103:8-10)
14. Why, then, are we so impatient regarding the fulfillment of His promise?
15. We ought to wait for Christ's coming with confidence & expectation (1Jn 2:28)
16. These days of waiting should be days of evangelism.
17. God has granted us this moment to trust and serve him.
18. Christ will arrive right on time! Will we be ready?
19. What are you doing to reach one more soul before Christ returns?

F. The Lord's Promise Will Be Fulfilled

1. Speculating about when Christ's return is fruitless. No-one knows in advance.
2. Each passing moment moves us closer to the fulfillment of the promise.
3. God's time is reckoned by His clock, not ours.
4. He has judged before, see the fallen angels, the flood, Sodom & Gomorrah.
5. God's judgment may seem delayed, but it is certain. He will judge again.
6. Don't mistake God's patience for weakness, it's an opportunity for repentance.
7. His patience means salvation, but His judgment will come suddenly.
8. Live in readiness, because judgment will be swift and certain.
9. Use the time God gives to grow in faith and share the Gospel.

G. The Lord's Passion Determines the Arrival of That Great Day

1. God is "not willing that any should perish"
2. The heavens and earth will pass away, with cleansing fire (v. 10).
3. Everything will be laid bare. New heavens & new earth.
4. Every day until the Rapture is a call to repentance
5. Turn while there is time, come to Christ before He comes
6. Don't harden your heart and miss this opportunity (Heb. 4:7)

H. Conclusion

1. The world laughs at the idea of Christ's return, but God's Word is sure.
2. His delay is not neglect but mercy, His patience mercy, not weakness.
3. The call is to holiness, readiness, and growth. Are you ready?
4. Ignorance of Christ's imminent return is no excuse.
5. God's perspective on time is different, His "delay" gives space for repentance.
6. The Day of the Lord will come suddenly and bring cosmic renewal.
7. Use God's patience as an opportunity to share the gospel.
8. Live every day as though Christ could return today. Prepare today!
9. Has the certainty of Christ's return shaped your priorities, actions, & relationships?
10. Hold fast to God's promises, know His Word is true & His timing is perfect.
11. Live with urgency—Christ could return at any moment.