

**GROW** IN  
THE  
GRACE &  
KNOWLEDGE  
OF  
OUR **LORD**  
& SAVIOUR  
JESUS CHRIST

2 Peter 3:18

**2 PETER 3**  
**SCOFFERS**



2 Pet 3:1-7

## Scoffers



## 2 Peter

- Written by Peter to churches in Asia Minor while awaiting execution in Roman prison
- What we have learned so far...
  - A faith of equal standing with Apostles
    - Divine Nature in you
    - Divine power for living
    - Divine Promises to count on
  - Make every effort to add to your faith...
    - Character transformation is an essential consequence of divine nature in you
  - Watch out! False Teachers...
    - Diminish Jesus
    - Character issues reveal who they really are

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2 Pet 3:1-7  
Scoffers



2 Peter

- The summary of Peter's message in the Letter is ultimately to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ and to watch out for the things that will hinder this growth

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2 Pet 3:1-7

## Scoffers



### 2 Peter 3:1-7

This is now the second letter that I am writing to you, beloved. In both of them I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder,<sup>2</sup> that you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles,<sup>3</sup> knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires.<sup>4</sup> They will say, “Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation.”

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2 Pet 3:1-7

## Scoffers



### 2 Peter 3:1-7

<sup>5</sup> For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, <sup>6</sup> and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished. <sup>7</sup> But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

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2 Pet 3:1-7

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## The Believers

- Beloved...
  - Carefully chosen language to convey that Peter's words are based on his love for them
  - Also a reminder that those who are in Christ are his beloved
- Need reminders...
  - Spiritual amnesia – we tend to forget the things of God
- Stirring up your sincere minds
  - Peter is complimenting the church by assuming a posture of sincerity
  - Eager for knowledge of Christ and growth in their faith

2 Pet 3:1-7

Scoffers



## The Scoffers

### 1. Scoffer's tell-tale trait: Scoffing!

- Pr. 1:22... How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will **scoffers** delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge?
- Pr. 9:7... Whoever corrects a **scoffer** gets himself abuse, and he who reproves a wicked man incurs injury.
- Pr. 14:6... A **scoffer** seeks wisdom in vain, but knowledge is easy for a man of understanding.
- Pr. 21:24... “**Scoffer**” is the name of the arrogant, haughty man who acts with arrogant pride.
- Acts 13:41... “Look, you **scoffers**, be astounded and perish; for I am doing a work in your days, a work that you will not believe, even if one tells it to you.”

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2 Pet 3:1-7

## Scoffers



# 2 P R E T E R

## The Scoffers

1. Scoffer's tell-tale trait: Scoffing!
2. Scoffer's motivation: They want to follow their sinful desires!
  - Scoffers scoff because they want to justify their thirst for sin
  - Scoffers particularly aim their scoffing at the Word of God (following the example of the serpent in Gen 3)
  - Specific scoffing for this text: Jesus' return
3. Scoffer's method: Deliberate ignorance!
  - They pick and choose their texts
  - They ignore parts of the Bible that would hinder them from appeasing sinful appetites



2 Pet 3:1-7

Scoffers



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## The Final Verdict

- Just like God's plans were revealed and came to pass in the past, so too will his plans for the future
  - 2 Peter 1:16... "For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ..."
  - God's plans cannot be thwarted and his word is always true
- Destruction awaits the ungodly
- Everything that is temporary will pass away as God will create a new heaven and a new earth

2 Pet 3:1-7

Scoffers



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## What can we learn for today?

1. You are loved and need to be reminded
  - If we could embrace the truth of God's deep love and pleasure for us, it would alleviate most of our doubts, shame and anxieties
  - Make it a habit to embrace the reminders we have today to help re-align yourself with God's purposes and desires for your life (Bible, church, community groups, other believers...)

2 Pet 3:1-7

Scoffers



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## What can we learn for today?

1. You are loved and need to be reminded
2. Scoffers of Today
  - a) From our culture
    - Richard Dawkins – “ridicule them...”
    - Bill Maher – common atheist view that Christians are unintelligent
    - Education
    - Media – movies, TV, music, new religion
    - Social Media – bashing and put-downs
  - b) From within the church
    - A strong push away from trusting God
    - Pressure from within most dangerous
  - c) Why? To appease sinful appetites

2 Pet 3:1-7

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## What can we learn for today?

1. You are loved and need to be reminded
2. Scoffers of Today
3. God's word is true today
  - Jesus IS coming back
  - God still intervenes in our lives
  - We will all give an account for our lives
  - Is. 66:2... All these things my hand has made, and so all these things came to be, declares the LORD. But this is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and **contrite** in spirit and trembles at my word.
  - Psalm 1

2 Pet 3:1-7

## Scoffers



### Psalm 1

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; <sup>2</sup> but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. <sup>3</sup> He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers. <sup>4</sup> The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. <sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; <sup>6</sup> for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

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