

2 Peter 3:1-7

We Must Not Scoff At God's Spokesmen

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Peter Reminds The Flock

2 Peter 3:1-2 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, that you should remember the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior *spoken* by your apostles.

Scoffers Challenge Jesus' Return

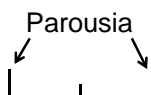
2 Peter 3:3-4 Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with *their* mocking, following after their own lusts, and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation."

The Concept of The Parousia

- The Parousia pertains to the bodily return of Jesus Christ to rapture His people and to establish the kingdom of Israel. This event covers more than one moment of time.

Matthew 24:37 For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah.

Luke 17:26 And just as it happened in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the **days** of the Son of Man.



The Prophets Taught About The Last Days

Micah 4:1-2 And it will come about in the last days That the mountain of the house of the LORD Will be established as the chief of the mountains. It will be raised above the hills, And the peoples will stream to it. Many nations will come and say, "Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD And to the house of the God of Jacob, That He may teach us about His ways..."

We Are Living In The Last Days

Daniel 2:28 However, there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar **the things that must take place** in the last days.

Rev 1:1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, **the things which must take place** soon.

Peter Proves God's Prior Intervention

2 Peter 3:5-7 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.

Application

1. Do we really trust that the prophets and apostles were God's spokesmen?

2 Peter 3:3 Know this first of all, that in the last days **mockers** will come with *their* mocking, following after their own lusts, and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming?"

1. Let Us Never Be Like The Mockers!

Jeremiah 17:15 Where is the word of the LORD? Let it now be fulfilled!

Psalms 79:10 Why should the nations say, "Where is their God?"

Joel 2:17 Why should they among the peoples say, "Where is their God?"

1. Evidence For True Prophets/Apostles

1. A true prophet never contradicts previous revelation to draw people away from Yahweh (Deut. 13:1-5).
2. A true prophet's predictions will come true because God is the author (Deut. 18:20-22).

Ezekiel 26:2-4; 12 Son of man, because Tyre has said concerning Jerusalem, "Aha, the gateway of the peoples is broken; it has opened to me. I shall be filled, *now that* she is laid waste..."

1. Evidence For True Prophets/Apostles

...therefore thus says the Lord GOD, "Behold, I am against you, O Tyre, and I will bring up many nations against you, as the sea brings up its waves. **They will destroy** the walls of Tyre and break down her towers; and **I** will scrape her debris from her and make her a bare rock... Also **they** will make a spoil of your riches and a prey of your merchandise, break down your walls and destroy your pleasant houses, and throw your stones and your timbers and your debris into the water.

1. What About All The Other Religions?

1. Christianity
2. Judaism
3. Islam
4. Eastern religions (pantheistic)

"But if you are in doubt as to what We have revealed to you, ask those who read the Book before you; certainly the truth has come to you from your Lord, therefore you should not be of the disputers." Surah 10:94

1. The Empty Tomb

Acts 2:29-31 Brethren, I may confidently say to you regarding the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and **his tomb is with us to this day**. "And so, because he was a prophet and knew that GOD HAD SWORN TO HIM WITH AN OATH TO SEAT *one* OF HIS DESCENDANTS ON HIS THRONE, he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that HE WAS NEITHER ABANDONED TO HADES, NOR DID His flesh SUFFER DECAY.

1. The Servant Cannot Be Israel!

Isaiah 53:5-6, 9 But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being *fell* upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed. **All of us** like sheep have gone astray, **Each of us** has turned to his own way; But the LORD has caused **the iniquity of us all To fall on Him**...Because He had done no violence, Nor was there any deceit in His mouth.

1. The Servant Cannot Be Israel!

Isaiah 59:2-4 But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, And your sins have hidden *His* face from you so that He does not hear. For your hands are defiled with blood And your fingers with iniquity; Your lips have spoken falsehood, Your tongue mutters wickedness. No one sues righteously and no one pleads honestly. They trust in confusion and speak lies;
