CHRIST CHAPEL BIBLE CHURCH

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Anticipation AND Action

2 PETER 3:1-13

I. Peter reminds the church to expect _____ and their cynicism.

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, that you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles, knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. 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." vv. 1-4

Peter's rebuttals to the scoffers:

The argument from _____ *:* He's done it before *(vv. 5-7)*

The argument from _____ *:* His timeline is different than ours *(vv. 8-9)*

II. Peter reminds the church to anticipate the _____ .

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. vv. 10-13

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DAY OF THE LORD
Imminent and abrupt
Absolute and indisputable
Beautiful ***or*** terrifying

Peter's challenge to the believer:

Christ's return, judgment and future plan should _____ us to live holy and godly lives.

IN LIGHT OF THE COMING *Day of the Lord* ...

What do I need to repent from so holiness and godliness define more of my life?

Who do I need to be praying for and sharing the hope of Christ with?

STEADFAST *Hope*

ANCHORING TO JESUS IN THE LAST DAYS

HOME GROUP
Lesson + Devotional

Before you begin, ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and guide your study.

1. Read 2 Peter 3:1-13. What is a "scoffer" (v. 3)? Have you ever talked to someone who scoffed at God's Word? How did you react?

2. The mockers who come in the last days will focus their derision primarily on what Christian doctrine?

3. What biblical event does Peter use to refute the mocker's argument?

4. According to Peter, how does God view time? Why is this important for us to remember in our everyday life?

5. Why has God delayed the return of His Son?

6. Why do we need to be ready for Jesus' second coming? What should we be doing while we wait?

7. Why are so many things in our lives unimportant when we consider that Jesus may return at any time?

8. Look back over your sermon notes. In light of the coming Day of the Lord, what changes do you need to implement in your life so you're ready to meet Him?

HELPFUL
Quotes

A scoffer is someone who treats lightly that which ought to be taken seriously. The people in Noah's day scoffed at the idea of a judgment, and the citizens of Sodom scoffed at the possibility of fire and brimstone destroying their sinful city. If you have tried at all to witness for Jesus Christ, you have no doubt met people who scoff at the idea of hell or a future day of judgment for this world.

If your lifestyle contradicts the Word of God, you must either change your lifestyle or change the Word of God. The apostates choose the latter approach, so they scoff at the doctrines of judgment and the coming of the Lord. What is their argument? The uniformity of the world. "Nothing cataclysmic has happened in the past," they argue, "so there is no reason to believe it will happen in the future." They take the scientific approach by examining evidence, applying reason and drawing a conclusion. The fact that they willfully ignore a good deal of evidence does not seem to disturb them.

As far back as the days of Enoch, God warned that judgment was coming (Jude 14-15). Many of the Hebrew prophets announced the day of the Lord and warned that the world would be judged (Is 2:10-22; 13:6–16; Jer 30:7; Dan 12:1; Joel; Amos 5:18-20; Zeph; Zech 12:1–14:3). ... Our Lord taught about this day of judgment in His sermon on the Mount of Olives (Matt 24–25). Paul discussed it in 1 Thessalonians 5 and 2 Thessalonians 1-2. The apostle John described this terrible day in Revelation 6–19. It will be a time when God's wrath will be poured out on the nations, and when Satan will be free to give vent to his anger and malice. It will culminate with the return of Jesus Christ in glory and victory. - *Warren Wiersbe*

YOUR NEXT STEP AT
Christ Chapel

Connect and Belong
New or returning, fill out a Connect Card and experience life together at Christ Chapel.

Together in Prayer
We want to pray with and for you this week as we go to God together.

Partner with Us by Giving
Be a part of what God is doing near and far by giving to local and global ministry partners.

Upcoming Events
Join in to grow your faith, make disciples, and reach those who do not know or walk with Jesus.

A WONDERFUL
Offer

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

1. Admit that you're a sinner, separated from a holy and perfect God. ***(Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)***
2. Understand that the penalty for your sin is death – eternal separation from God and all that is good. ***(Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)***
3. Believe that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and conquered death by rising from the dead. ***(Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)***
4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior from sin and death and your provider of true and eternal life. ***(Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)***

You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:

Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in him alone as the only way to be reconciled to you. Thank you for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen.

We'd love to know about your decision. Scan the QR code to learn more about following Jesus!

SERMON BLANKS: scoffers, precedent, perspective, Day of the Lord, compel