

Second Peter Lesson #8

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2 Peter 3:1-9

**Can you think of a time
when God waited on you?**






2 Peter 3:1-2

- **What is the value of reminders?**
 - **Grab our attention**
 - **Help us to focus**
 - **Make us accountable**
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In Chapter One we read

- **2 Peter 1:12** So I will always remind you of these things, even though you know them and are firmly established in the truth you now have. **13** I think it is right to refresh your memory as long as I live in the tent of this body, **14** because I know that I will soon put it aside, as our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me. **15** And I will make every effort to see that after my departure you will always be able to remember these things. NIV
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2 Peter 3:1-2

- **3:1 Dear friends, this is now my second letter to you. I have written both of them as reminders to stimulate you to wholesome thinking. 2 I want you to recall the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets and the command given by our Lord and Savior through your apostles. NIV**
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2 Peter 3:1-2

- **"If a problem has no solution, it may not be a problem to be solved, but a fact to be coped with over time." Shimon Perez**
 - **I believe our inclination to forget and lose sight of the importance of the gospel and its benefits is a 'fact to be coped with'.**
 - **It seems evident Peter saw it that way too.**
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2 Peter 3:3-9

- **2 Peter 3:3** First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. **4** They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." **5** But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. **6** By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. **7** By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men. **8** But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. **9** The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. NIV






2 Peter 3:3-9

- **How is this for perspective – Peter is writing around the year AD 66 and it sounds like he believes he is living in the last days.**
 - **1 John 3:2 Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. 3 Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.**
NIV
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2 Peter 3:3-9

- **Believing that I could face Jesus at any moment serves as a governor on my behavior.**
 - **We get amazing clarity when we realize the proximity of Jesus or of his coming.**
 - **The false teachers of Peter's day were already saying, "where is He?".**
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2 Peter 3:3-9

- **Those who deny His coming must still deal with the promise of His coming.**
 - **Remember – many false teachers use the bible as their bait and the return of Jesus is a very clear promise. (I will come again)**
 - **So what they cannot ignore they try to explain away.**
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2 Peter 3:3-9

- **They begin by questioning what He meant –**
 - **Where is the promise of His coming? (did he really mean it literally?)**
 - **Did God really say you shouldn't eat from that tree?**
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2 Peter 3:3-9

- Sometimes the arguments of the deniers are rooted in logic –
- Look, it's been a long time and there is no sign of Jesus so maybe he was just speaking metaphorically.
- After all, look at how much time has passed – a common tactic of the supposed intellectual denier is to mock the believer into silence.






2 Peter 3:3-9

- To address the length of time that had passed since his ascension Peter speaks about God and time.
 - Noah had a charge from God to preach the gospel and build an ark – no one outside of his family believed him and the years began to drag on.
 - Surely Noah was mocked for building an ark and holding on to God's promise – 120 years passed.
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2 Peter 3:3-9

- **Luke 17:26 And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: 27 They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. NKJV**
 - **Using logic as their basis the unbelievers mocked Noah until the day Noah entered into the ark and the rain started – when Noah ‘left’ there was no more laughing.**
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2 Peter 3:3-9

- **And why was Noah in the ark? It was his protection from judgment.**
 - **There is a picture here for us –**
 - **Noah ‘leaves’ by entering the ark and judgment fell.**
 - **Lot was led out of Sodom and judgment fell.**
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2 Peter 3:3-9

- **There is a judgment about to fall on our world – this is not in doubt.**
 - **Even many unsaved sense that we are approaching some kind of ‘end’ or ‘catastrophe’.**
 - **Sure a lot of time has passed, but does that make the promise any less certain?**
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2 Peter 3:3-9

- **God's sense of time is not the same as ours.**
 - **When we were young a year was a long time to wait. At this stage of our lives a year seems but a snap of the fingers.**
 - **Now, imagine God's perspective – why a thousand years seems to pass as quickly as a day.**
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2 Peter 3:3-9

- **God has a clear purpose in delaying the coming of His Son.**
 - **Though highly offended at our sin He has determined to love us and one of love's attributes is 'patience'.**
 - **No one will ever be able to say that God didn't give them enough time.**
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2 Peter 3:3-9

- **He waits for the sinner to come to repentance and it is His patience that brings the charge of a broken promise.**
 - **All through the bible we read words like ‘wait on the Lord’ or ‘wait on Him’ and now Peter tells us that God is waiting on us.**
 - **Can you think of a time when God waited on you?**
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Questions / Comments