

Studies in Second Peter

2 Peter 3:1—18

The Patience of God

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I. The Skeptics Arise

- A. In the last days mockers will come:
 - 1. Where is the promise of His coming
 - 2. All continues as it was in the beginning
(Uniformitarianism of the 1st Century)
- B. It escapes their notice
 - 1. God spoke the universe into existence
 - 2. The earth was formed out of water and by water
(Validation of Genesis 1)
 - 3. The earth was destroyed by its very substance
(A universal flood)

II. The Patience of God Born Out of Love

- A. By the Word of His Power the earth is kept until a future judgment
- B. Time, from God's perspective, is inconsequential
(1 day like 1,000 years, a 1,000 years like 1 day)
- C. God is not slow, but patient . . . not willing that any should perish
But that all should come to repentance

III. Sudden Coming and Future Judgment . . . Living in Anticipation

- A. The Lord will come by surprise, in a time when people do not expect Him
 - 1. Judgment will fall upon the unrepentant
 - 2. The very elements will melt with intense heat
- B. Living in anticipation
 - 1. We are looking for a new heaven and a new earth
 - 2. Where righteousness dwells
- C. Since we look forward to this glorious appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ
 - 1. Be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless, and blameless
 - 2. Regard the patience (slowness) of His coming as salvation
 - 3. Do not be carried away by unprincipled men and fall from your own
Steadfastness
 - 4. Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

*Rev. Paul R. Martin
Pastor, Alliance Bible Church
McHenry, Illinois*