

Series: 2 Peter

Sermon: The Scoffer's Error

Passage: 2 Peter 3:1-7 (ESV)

Illustration:

Need: As the return of Christ draws near, believers will experience more and more the mocking of those who reject Jesus as Savior and the revealed promises of Gods Word.

I. The Need for Stirring (3:1-2)

- As stated in 1:13, Peter sees the need to continually stir up even faithful (sincere) believers (beloved).
- Complacency unravels what urgency demands.
- Believers are stirred as they remember and refocus on the truth revealed in God's Word:
 - The Old Testament (predictions of the holy prophets)
 - The New Testament (the commandment of the Lord and Savior through apostles)

II. The Sound of Scoffers (3:3-4)

- "Scoffers are those who treats lightly that which ought to be taken seriously." Warren Wiersbe
- There are always those who reject God's love and grace and deny His revealed Word.
- Uniformitarians - unbroken continuity of cause & effect; everything that has been will continue to be.
- Materialism - the observable physical universe is all that exists.
- Antisupernaturalism - no supernatural beings ever have or will interrupt the course of human history.
- Atheism - there is no such thing as an active God.

III. Truth Over Intellect (3:5-7)

- **1 Cor. 1:20-21** - God chooses the foolish things to confound the wise of this world.
- Those who scoff overlook four important realities:
 - God spoke the heavens into existence by separation of the waters below and above.
 - God spoke the existence of dry land from out of the water.
 - God used the water to destroy the land and all its "unsaved" inhabitants.
 - God promises to use the fires of judgment to bring about His fulfilled purpose.

IV. Knowing this...

1. Remaining faithful to the Word won't insulate you from the scoffers of our day.
2. Don't expect to change many minds of those who deliberately scoff.
3. Let God's faithful and revealed promises fuel you in light of Jesus' return.