

Coming Judgment

II Peter 3:1-13

1. Intro

1. In Chp 2, Peter has said that just as false teachers arose within Israel, so they would arise within the church.
 1. He gives examples of God's judgment upon unrighteous people and says that false teachers will not get away without similar judgment.
 2. The condition that they are now in is worse than if they had not known about Jesus and His righteousness.
2. He then turns and reminds them again of the things the prophets have said and then gives us a glimpse of the future:
 1. People don't believe that Jesus is going to return
 2. He is coming, but His time is different than ours
 3. There will be significant changes to our environment when He does return.

2. Reminder

1. Reminder of what the prophets have written about (1-2)
 1. Does this in Chp 1:19
 2. What the prophets have written about is relevant to us.
 1. Coming judgment (Isa 13:4-12; Joel 2:1-32; Zeph 2:1-3) [Day of the Lord]
 1. Jesus came the first time for salvation. His second coming is unto judgment.
 2. Even Peter's writings are prophetic for us.

3. Disbelief

1. People don't believe that Jesus is going to return (3-4)
 1. xf I Tim 4:1
 2. Even Israel asked the question (Mal 2:17)
2. They forget that God intervened on occasion and changed a few things (5a)

4. Destruction

1. The world was once destroyed by a flood, it is going to be renovated by fire (5-7)
 1. God sent a rainbow as a sign that he would not flood the earth again.
 1. He never said that the earth would not come under future judgment.
 2. Waits to be redeemed (Rom 8:19-22)
 2. It is being kept for judgment (7)
 1. Great changes will take place (10)
 2. Jesus coming brings judgment not only upon people, but the created world as well.
 3. New heaven and earth (Rev 21:1)

5. God's Time

1. God sees time differently than we do (8-9) (Ps 90:4)
 1. This passage helps us understand God's timetable a little better.
 2. Creates in six days and rest on the seventh.
 3. Rules for one day (thousand years) (Rev 20:4)
 1. Human history is six days (six thousand years)
 1. Two days this side of the cross
 2. Four days before the cross
 1. Abraham 2000 BC
 2. Flood – 2500 BC
 3. Adam – 4000 BC
2. If we can see a relationship between days and years, it may help us understand scripture better.

6. Be Alert

1. Our conduct in light of coming destruction (11)
 1. Lord will come as a thief in the night (10)
 1. We should not be caught unaware (I Thes 5:1-6)

7. Conclusion

1. We are going to have to deal with unbelief in Jesus' coming
 1. Remember the prophets (written word)
2. God is giving grace to us every day
 1. A time will come for righteous rule
3. For some the unexpected will happen and our world will be changed