

2Peter 3:5-10 The Final Cataclysm of the Day of the Lord: Peter's Twofold Answer to the Cynical Mockers

In verses 1-4, we are reminded that in the end times, the biblical promise of the 2nd Advent with its attendant cataclysmic judgments will be ridiculed because of the apparent unbroken continuity of uniform processes in earth history. This apparent lack of Divine intervention in modern history bolsters the cynics' appraisal of the future: They ignore God's interventions in the past and see no reason He will intervene in the future. Hence, they dismiss the prophesied events of the 2nd Advent as religious nonsense.

Peter's answer is twofold:

- 1) First: GOD DID INTERVENE CATACLYSMICALLY in the PAST, v.5-7; and
- 2) Second: GOD WILL AGAIN INTERVENE in the FUTURE, v. 7b-10.

I. 3: 5-7 ANSWER # 1 God Did Intervene in the Past: the Noahic Catastrophe

v 5a The Mockers Problem: _____ Ignorance (of Genesis 1-9)

Lit. "*For this* (what follows) *escapes them* _____ or *willingly*"

v 5b-6 The Historic Facts Ignored By The Mockers

v 5b Fiat creation via God's Word of a universal _____ order (Gen. 1:6-10)

v 6 The Noahic Catastrophe (that destroyed the cosmic order of Gen.1-5)

Lit. "*Through which things...*": What things? _____ & _____.

"the world (cosmic order) *that then was perished*...*"

*apoleto: "was rendered inoperative"

"by being cataclysmatized with water"*

*kataklustheis (Aorist Passive Participle of means from katakluzo/ κατακλυζω)

v 7a Current Cosmology (since Gen. 8,9) & Future Judgment

NOTE THE EMPHASIS IN V.7:

Lit. "*but the NOW heavens and earth...*" = THE _____ COSMOLOGY

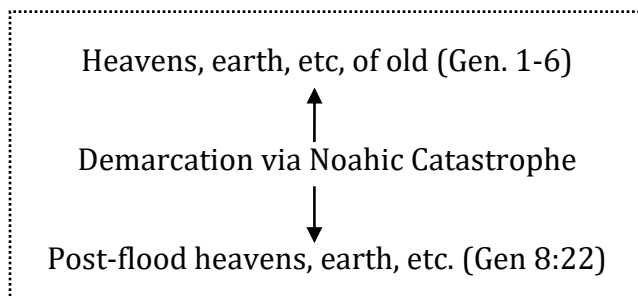
"BY THE SAME WORD..." = "BY _____ WORD..."

"ARE HAVING BEEN RESERVED FOR FIRE..."* (*a Perfect Passive Periphrastic verbal)

"being kept unto a day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly men."

THE TWO-FOLD EMPHASIS:

- 1) God did intervene in the past, and
- 2) He will again in the future. Moreover, His intervention via the Noahic catastrophe, THE GREAT FLOOD, is the _____ between:
 - a. the heavens and earth of old (the original cosmic order), and
 - b. the post-flood heavens and earth (current cosmological & atmospheric conditions). Uniform processes as we know them apparently date from the Flood (cmp. Gen. 8:22).



II. 3:7b –10 ANSWER #2 God Will Intervene in the Future: the Day of the Lord

- v 7b The future day of judgment is as _____ as God's Word.
- v 8 A day is not as critical to Him Who inhabits _____ as it is to us.
- v 9 The slowness of God in fulfilling the promise (2ndAdvent) is due to His _____ so that men would _____.
- v 10 The _____ of the _____ will come with all of its attendant judgments as prophesied in His word.
Joel 2:1-10; Amos 5:16-20; Zeph. 1:14-18; Zech. 4:1-7; 2Thess. 2:2-8.
- v 15 The believer knew these things via the Apostles teachings.

Summary and Application

DO YOU BELIEVE GOD'S PROMISE ABOUT END TIMES?

- 3:4 Mockers will question it (are you numbered with them?).
- 3:5 The original cosmology was ordered by His Word (do you question this?).
- 3:6 The original cosmology perished by his Word (The Noahic Flood: Do you doubt it?)
- 3:7 The present cosmology which dates from Noah's time is kept in store reserved for judgment by His Word (do you orient to it?).
- 3:9-13 By the word of His promise, the present cosmology will be removed and replaced by the New Heavens and the New Earth (do you look forward to it?).