

2 Peter 3

Chapter 3 of 3 · 18 Verses · Authorized King James Version

The Day of the Lord

¹ This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:

² That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:

³ Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,

⁴ And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

⁵ For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:

⁶ Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

⁷ But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

God's Patience and the New Heavens

⁸ But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

⁹ The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

Final Exhortation

14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;

16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

17 Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness.

18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Apostle — ἀπόστολος (Apostolos)

Apostle, sent one

The Greek **apostolos** (ἀπόστολος) means apostle or sent one—an authorized messenger. The twelve apostles were chosen by Christ and empowered as His witnesses, laying the foundation of the church (Ephesians 2:20).

Glory — δόξα (Doxa)

Glory, majesty, splendor

The Greek **doxa** (δόξα) means glory, splendor, or magnificence—the radiant manifestation of God's perfection. Christ revealed the Father's glory: 'we beheld his glory' (John 1:14).

God — Θεός (Theos)

God

The Greek **Theos** (Θεός) refers to deity, used both for the one true God and false gods. Context determines whether it denotes the Father specifically or the Godhead generally.

Grace — χάρις (Charis)

Grace, favor

The Greek **charis** (χάρις) denotes unmerited divine favor—God's kindness toward the undeserving. Salvation is 'by grace through faith' (Ephesians 2:8), not human merit.

Heaven — οὐρανός (Ouranos)

Heaven, sky

The Greek **ouranos** (οὐρανός) denotes heaven—God's throne and the believer's eternal home. Jesus taught His disciples to pray 'Our Father which art in heaven' (Matthew 6:9) and promised to prepare a place there (John 14:2).

Holy — ἅγιος (Hagios)

Holy, sacred, set apart

The Greek **hagios** (ἅγιος) denotes holiness—moral purity and separation unto God. Believers are called 'saints' (hagioi), those set apart for God through Christ's sanctifying work.

Judgment — κρίσις (Krisis)

Judgment, decision

The Greek **krisis** (κρίσις) denotes judgment—evaluation and sentence. All will stand before God's judgment seat (Romans 14:10), and Christ has been appointed Judge of the living and dead (Acts 10:42).

Lord — Κύριος (Kurios)

Lord, Master

The Greek **Kurios** (Κύριος) means 'lord' or 'master,' used both for human masters and divinely for God the Father and Jesus Christ. Its application to Jesus affirms His deity, as it translates YHWH in the Septuagint.

Repent — μετανοέω (Metanoeo)

To change one's mind, repent

The Greek **metanoeo** (μετανοέω) means to change one's mind or purpose—a complete transformation of thinking. John the Baptist and Jesus both began their ministries with 'Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand' (Matthew 3:2; 4:17).

Righteous — δίκαιος (Dikaios)

Righteous, just

The Greek **dikaïos** (δίκαιος) means righteous or just—conforming to God's standard. Christ's righteousness is imputed to believers through faith (Romans 4:5), making them legally righteous before God.

Word — λόγος (Logos)

Word, reason, message

The Greek **Logos** (Λόγος) means word, reason, or message—the rational principle underlying reality. John identifies Christ as the eternal Logos: 'In the beginning was the Word' (John 1:1).

Salvation — σωτηρία (Soteria)

Salvation, deliverance

The Greek **soteria** (σωτηρία) denotes salvation, deliverance, or preservation—rescue from sin's penalty and power. It encompasses justification, sanctification, and glorification.

CROSS REFERENCES

2 Peter 3:1 **Parallel theme:** 2 Timothy 1:6

2 Peter 3:2

Word: Luke 24:44; Acts 28:23; Jude 1:17. **Holy:** 2 Peter 2:21; Luke 1:70; Acts 3:21. **Prophecy:** Acts 3:18; 10:43; Ephesians 2:20; Revelation 19:10

2 Peter 3:3

Parallel theme: 2 Peter 1:20; 2:10; Proverbs 1:22; 3:34; 14:6; 2 Timothy 3:1; Jude 1:18.
Kingdom: 2 Corinthians 4:2; Jude 1:16

2 Peter 3:4 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 19:14; Ecclesiastes 1:9; 8:11; Jeremiah 17:15; Malachi 2:17; Matthew 24:48; Luke 12:45; 1 Thessalonians 2:19. **Creation:** Mark 13:19; Revelation 3:14

2 Peter 3:5 **Word:** Psalms 33:6; Hebrews 11:3. **References God:** Genesis 1:6; 1:9; Romans 1:28. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 24:2; 136:6

2 Peter 3:6 **Parallel theme:** 2 Peter 2:5; Luke 17:27

2 Peter 3:7 **Parallel theme:** 2 Peter 3:10; Isaiah 51:6; Matthew 25:41; 1 Timothy 6:9; Revelation 20:11; 21:1. **References God:** 2 Peter 3:12. **Word:** Matthew 24:35. **Judgment:** 2 Peter 2:9; Matthew 12:36

2 Peter 3:8 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 90:4

2 Peter 3:9

Parallel theme: Habakkuk 2:3; 1 Timothy 1:16; 2:4; Hebrews 10:37. **Repentance:** Romans 2:4; Revelation 2:21. **References Lord:** 2 Peter 3:15; Exodus 34:6; Psalms 86:15; Isaiah 30:18

2 Peter 3:10

Parallel theme: 2 Peter 3:7; 3:12; Isaiah 34:4; 51:6; Matthew 24:35; Mark 13:31; Revelation 3:3; 16:15; 21:1. **References Lord:** 1 Thessalonians 5:2

2 Peter 3:11 **Holy:** 1 Peter 1:15. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 14:31; 34:4; Philippians 1:27; 3:20; James 3:13. **References God:** 2 Peter 3:12; Psalms 50:23; 1 Timothy 6:11; 1 Peter 2:12

2 Peter 3:12

Parallel theme: 2 Peter 3:10; Isaiah 34:4; Micah 1:4; Philippians 1:6. **Kingdom:** Titus 2:13; Jude 1:21. **References God:** 2 Peter 3:7; Psalms 50:3

2 Peter 3:13 **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 65:17; 66:22; Revelation 21:1; 21:27

2 Peter 3:14 **Peace:** Luke 2:29; 1 Thessalonians 5:23. **Parallel theme:** Luke 12:43; 1 Corinthians 1:8; Philippians 1:10; 2:15; 1 Thessalonians 3:13; Hebrews 9:28; 1 John 3:3. **Love:** 1 Corinthians 15:58

2 Peter 3:15 **Parallel theme:** Luke 21:15; Romans 2:4; 1 Timothy 1:16; James 1:5; 3:17. **References Lord:** 2 Peter 3:9. **Salvation:** 1 Peter 3:20. **Love:** Acts 15:25

2 Peter 3:16

Word: Jeremiah 23:36; Matthew 15:6. **Parallel theme:** 2 Peter 2:14; Philippians 3:19; Hebrews 5:11; James 1:8

2 Peter 3:17 **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 1:17; Matthew 7:15; 16:6; Romans 16:18; 1 Corinthians 10:12; 2 Corinthians 11:3; Ephesians 4:14; Colossians 2:8; Hebrews 3:14. **Love:** 1 Corinthians 15:58

2 Peter 3:18

References Lord: Colossians 1:10. **References Christ:** Ephesians 4:15. **Parallel theme:** Colossians 3:10; 1 Peter 2:2. **References Jesus:** John 17:3; Philippians 3:8. **Glory:** 2 Peter 1:3; 2 Corinthians 4:6; Ephesians 1:17; 2 Timothy 4:18

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