

## **Scoffers are front and center** **2 Peter 3:1-7**

**Introduction:** Do you remember the first time someone scoffed at your decision to follow Christ? This scoffing and ridicule probably cut pretty deep and hurt.

In this passage we are told that we will experience ridicule and scoffing for holding to the return of Christ.

### **Remember what you know (vv.1-2).**

*This is now the second letter that I am writing to you, beloved. In both of them I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, 2 that you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles,*

*as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,*  
*Luke 1:70 (ESV)*

*whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.*  
*Acts 3:21 (ESV)*

### **Scoffers are here (vv.3-4).**

*knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. 4 They will say, Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation.*

*Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, What does this babbling wish to say? Others*

*said, He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection.* (Acts 17.18 esv)

*But you must remember, beloved, the predictions of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. 18They said to you, In the last time there will be scoffers, following their own ungodly passions. 19 It is these who cause divisions, worldly people, devoid of the Spirit.*  
*(Jude 1.17-19 esv)*

### **Scoffers are intentionally ignorant (vv.5-7).**

*For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, 6 and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished. 7But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.*

*By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.*  
*Hebrews 11.3 esv*

*But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. 37 For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. 38 For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, 39 and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.* (Matthew 24.36-39 esv)

**Conclusion:** Remember that scoffers are already here. So in light of this fact, what is one thing I need to work on?