

Diligence.8

Lives of godliness

Review

- False teachers are promoting willful sinning by scoffing at the return of Christ in judgment.
- Peter is combating willful sinning by refuting the false teachers.
- Last week: 1) Nothing changes so nothing will change 2) The “intrusion” of God in history.

2 Peter 3:8-18 (ESV)

Combating willful sinning and refuting false teachers are Peter's goals in this letter in general and in the third chapter in particular.

The Scoffers' (False Teachers) Arguments

2 Peter 3:3-4

- The continuity of history
- The absence of Christ

Paul's Response

- The discontinuity of history
- God's timing and our perspective

The Scoffers' 2nd Argument: The Absence of Christ

“He has not come therefore he must not be coming”

2 Peter 3:4

God's timing and our perspective

Peter points to the tension of our imminent expectation of Christ's return and God's delay

2 Peter 3:8-10

How can we battle willful sin and combat false teaching?

This is Peter's focus:

- 2 Peter 3:11, 14

What is willful sin?

- Intentional, premeditated, purposeful, obstinate, deliberate, celebrated, promoted

A. Diligently Anticipate Scoffers

Diligently anticipate scoffers (false teachers) who promote willful sin

B. Diligently Repent

2 Peter 3: 8 [The end is certain and unpredictable]

C. Diligently Remember the Lord's/Apostles' Instructions

2 Peter 3:2, 15-16

Two End-times Approaches

1. Realize God's Perspective Is Not Our Perspective
2. Anticipate Renewal of All Things and Righteousness in All Things