

# ***THE SECOND LETTER OF PETER***

**Read 2 Peter chapter three in a modern translation or read it in the King James Version (below) Discuss the general content of the chapter.**

## **THE SECOND EPISTLE OF PETER CHAPTER 3 King James Version**

2PE 3:1 ¶ 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.

[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. [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 stedfastness. [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.

**Instruction for the Group:** Read and discuss each verse and translation along with the “Additional Information” in each box provided.

**2 Peter Chapter 3  
Verses 1-2**

**2PE 3:1 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: (King James Version).**

[1] My friends, this is my second letter to you, and in both of them I have tried to awaken a true understanding in you by giving you a reminder; [2] recalling to you what was said in the past by the holy prophets and the commandments of the Lord and Savior which you were given by the apostles. **(Jerusalem Bible).**

[1] This is the second letter I have written to you dear friends of mine, and in both of them I have tried to stimulate you, as men with minds uncontaminated by error, by reminding you of what you really know already. [2] This means recalling the words spoken of old by the holy prophets as well as the commands of our Lord and Saviour given to you through his messengers. **(Phillips Modern English).**

[1] This is now my second letter to you, my friends. In both of them I have been recalling to you what you already know, to rouse you to honest thought. [2] Remember the predictions made by God’s own prophets, and the commands given by the Lord and Saviour through your apostles. **(New English Bible).**

1 This is my second letter to you, dear friends, and in both of them I have tried to stimulate your wholesome thinking and refresh your memory. <sup>2</sup> I want you to remember and understand what the holy prophets said long ago and what our Lord and Savior commanded through your apostles. **(New Living Translation).**

**2 Peter Chapter 3**  
**Verses 3-4**

**[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. (King James Version).**

[3] First of all, here is what you must understand. In the last days people will make fun of the truth. They will laugh at it. They will follow their own evil longings. [4] They will say, "Where is this 'return' he promised? Everything goes on in the same way it has since our people of long ago died. In fact, it has continued that way since God first created everything." **(New International Reader's Version).**

<sup>3</sup> It is most important for you to understand what will happen in the last days. People will laugh at you. They will live doing the evil things they want to do. <sup>4</sup> They will say, "Jesus promised to come again. Where is he? Our fathers have died, but the world continues the way it has been since it was made." **(New Century Version).**

<sup>3</sup> First, I want to remind you that in the last days there will be scoffers who will laugh at the truth and do every evil thing they desire. <sup>4</sup> This will be their argument: "Jesus promised to come back, did he? Then where is he? Why, as far back as anyone can remember, everything has remained exactly the same since the world was first created." **(New Living Translation).**

**Additional Information:** **Scoff**, To mock at or treat with derision (to laugh at). Probably of Scandinavian origin; akin to Danish *skof*, jest, teasing. (American Heritage Dictionary).

**2 Peter Chapter 3**  
**Verses 5-6**

**[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: (King James Version).**

[5] But they deliberately forget that the heavens came into existence long ago by the word of God, and the land was formed out from water and surrounded by water, [6] and that the world of that time perished beneath the deluge of the flood. **(The New Translation).**

<sup>5</sup> They deliberately forget that God made the heavens by the word of his command, and he brought the earth up from the water and surrounded it with water. <sup>6</sup> Then he used the water to destroy the world with a mighty flood. **(New Living Translation).**

## 2 Peter Chapter 3 Verse 7

**[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. (King James Version).**

[7] But by the same word, the present sky and earth are destined for fire, and are only being reserved until Judgment day so that all sinners may be destroyed. **(Jerusalem Bible).**

[7] But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men. **(New American Standard Bible).**

<sup>7</sup> And God has also commanded that the heavens and the earth will be consumed by fire on the day of judgment, when ungodly people will perish. **(New Living Translation).**

<sup>7</sup> But God has commanded the present heavens and earth to remain until the day of judgment. Then they will be set on fire, and ungodly people will be destroyed. **(Contemporary English Version).**

<sup>7</sup> And God has commanded that the earth and the heavens be stored away for a great bonfire at the judgment day, when all ungodly men will perish. **(Living Bible).**

**Additional Information: per-di-tion** (per-dīsh'en) *noun* 1. a. Loss of the soul; eternal damnation. b. Hell: "*Him the Almighty Power/Hurl'd headlong . . . /To bottomless perdition, there to dwell*" (John Milton). 2. Archaic. Utter ruin. *The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language.*

## 2 Peter Chapter 3 Verses 8-9

**[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. (King James Version).**

[8] But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. [9] The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. **(New English Bible).**

[8] Dear friends, here is one thing you must not forget. With the Lord a day is like a thousand years. And a thousand years are like a day. [9] The Lord is not slow to keep his promise. He is not slow in the way some people understand it. He is patient with you. He doesn't want anyone to be destroyed. Instead, he wants all people to turn away from their sins. **(New International Reader's Version).**

<sup>8</sup> But you must not forget, dear friends, that a day is like a thousand years to the Lord, and a thousand years is like a day. <sup>9</sup> The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise to return, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to perish, so he is giving more time for everyone to repent. **(New Living Translation).**

<sup>8</sup> Dear friends, don't forget that for the Lord one day is the same as a thousand years, and a thousand years is the same as one day. <sup>9</sup> The Lord isn't slow about keeping his promises, as some people think he is. In fact, God is patient, because he wants everyone to turn from sin and no one to be lost. **(Contemporary English Version).**

<sup>8</sup> But don't forget this, dear friends, that a day or a thousand years from now is like tomorrow to the Lord. <sup>9</sup> He isn't really being slow about his promised return, even though it sometimes seems that way. But he is waiting, for the good reason that he is not willing that any should perish, and he is giving more time for sinners to repent. **(Living Bible).**

**Additional Information:** The Greek word for "**slackness**" is *bradutes* and means "tardiness or slowness." The word "**longsuffering**" means "patiently enduring." The Greek word for "**us ward**" is *hemas*, and means "us, we or our." "**Perish**" is the Greek word *apollumi*, and means "to destroy fully." It is translate in the KJV as "destroy, die, lose, mar, or perish." (Strong's Lexicon).

"**Repentance**" is the change of one's mind or purpose. In the New Testament it involves a change for the better, an amendment. This change of mind involves both a turning from sin and a turning to God.

**2 Peter Chapter 3**  
**Verse 10**

**[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. (King James Version).**

[10] But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and the works that are upon it will be burned up. **(Revised Standard Version).**

[10] The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burned up. **(Jerusalem Bible).**

<sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The skies will disappear with a loud noise. Everything in them will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be burned up. **(New Century Version).**

<sup>10</sup>The day of the Lord is surely coming, as unexpectedly as a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a terrible noise, and the heavenly bodies will disappear in fire, and the earth and everything on it will be burned up. **(Living Bible).**

**Additional Information:** The expressions **that day**, the **last day**, the **Day of the Lord**, the **day of judgment** all refer to the same thing (Lexical Aids, Compiled by Spiros Zodhiates, Th.D.).

**"As a thief"** means suddenly and without advance warning (Helps for Translators, p.162, Robert G. Bratcher).

**"Elements"** mean the heavenly bodies such as the sun, moon and stars (Helps for Translators, p.162, Robert G. Bratcher).

**2 Peter Chapter 3**  
**Verse 11**

**[11] Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, (King James Version).**

[11] Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives. **(New International Version).**

[11] Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, [it is clear] what sort of people you should be in holy conduct and godliness. **(Holman Christian Standard Bible).**

[11] So, since all these things will be destroyed in this way, what sort of people should you be? Surely, you should live godly lives completely dedicated to God. **(The New Translation).**

[11] Since all these things will be destroyed in this way, think how necessary it is for you to continue living in a holy and godly way, **(God's Word to the Nations).**

<sup>11</sup> In that way everything will be destroyed. So what kind of people should you be? You should live holy lives and serve God, **(New Century Version).**

<sup>11</sup> Everything will be destroyed. So you should serve and honor God by the way you live. **(Contemporary English Version).**

**Additional Information:** **"Dissolved"** is the Greek word *luo* and means to "loosen" (literally or figuratively):--break (up), destroy, dissolve, (un-)loose, melt, put off.

**"Conversation"** is a word meaning behavior and lifestyle. **"Godliness"** means having great reverence for God (American Heritage Dictionary).

## 2 Peter Chapter 3 Verses 12-13

**[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. (King James Version).**

[12] as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat.

[13] But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness. **(New International Version).**

[12] who live expecting and working for the coming of the day of God. This day will mean that the heavens will disintegrate in fire and the burning elements will melt, [13] but our hopes are set on new heavens and a new earth which he has promised us, in which justice will make its home. **(Phillips Modern English).**

[12] as you wait for and earnestly desire the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be on fire and be dissolved, and the elements will melt with the heat. [13] But based on His promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness will dwell. **(Holman Christian Standard Bible).**

[12] while waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God? Because of this day, the heavens will be burned up and dissolve, and the celestial bodies will melt away in a blaze! [13] But, according to his promise, we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness truly resides. **(NET Bible).**

**Additional Information:** “**The Day of God**” appears to be the same as the “**the Day of the Lord**” in verse 10.

“**Dissolved**” is the Greek word *luo* and means to “loosen” (literally or figuratively):--break (up), destroy, dissolve, (un-)loose, melt, put off.

“**Elements**” mean the heavenly bodies such as the sun, moon and stars (Helps for Translators, p.162, Robert G. Bratcher).

“**According to his promise,**” i.e. “because he promised it.” (Ibid. p. 164).

The promise of the “**new heavens and a new earth**” seems to be God’s promise of the future kingdom. This promise would include references such as: Isaiah 65:17,19,25; 11:6-9; 66:22; Dan.2:44; 7:13-14, 18, 27; Rev. 21:1; Matthew 6:10; 25:31-46.

The phrase “**wherein dwelleth righteousness**” has the idea of an act that is permanent, making a home in, to house permanently or to reside (Strong’s Lexicon).

**2 Peter Chapter 3**  
**Verse 14**

**[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. (King James Version).**

[14] So, my dear friends, since this is what you have to look forward to, do your very best to be found living at your best, in purity and peace. **(The Message).**

[14] Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace. **(English Standard Version).**

[14] And so, dear friends, as you anticipate these things make every effort to be found pure and faultless before God, and living in peace. **(The New Translation).**

<sup>14</sup> And so, dear friends, while you are waiting for these things to happen, make every effort to live a pure and blameless life. And be at peace with God. **(New Living Translation).**

<sup>14</sup> My friends, while you are waiting, you should make certain that the Lord finds you pure, spotless, and living at peace. **(Contemporary English Version).**

**Additional Information:** The Christian life is not for slackers, but for those that are diligent as they wait for the Day of the Lord and Jesus coming.



## 2 Peter Chapter 3 Verses 15-16

**[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. (King James Version).**

[15] Interpret our Master's patient restraint for what it is: salvation. Our good brother Paul, who was given much wisdom in these matters, refers to this in all his letters, [16] and has written you essentially the same thing. Some things Paul writes are difficult to understand. Irresponsible people who don't know what they are talking about twist them every which way. They do it to the rest of the Scriptures, too, destroying themselves as they do. **(The Message Bible).**

<sup>15</sup> And remember, the Lord is waiting so that people have time to be saved. This is just as our beloved brother Paul wrote to you with the wisdom God gave him—<sup>16</sup> speaking of these things in all of his letters. Some of his comments are hard to understand, and those who are ignorant and unstable have twisted his letters around to mean something quite different from what he meant, just as they do the other parts of Scripture—and the result is disaster for them. **(New Living Translation).**

<sup>15</sup> Don't forget that the Lord is patient because he wants people to be saved. This is also what our dear friend Paul said when he wrote you with the wisdom that God had given him. <sup>16</sup> Paul talks about these same things in all his letters, but part of what he says is hard to understand. Some ignorant and unsteady people even destroy themselves by twisting what he said. They do the same thing with other Scriptures too. **(Contemporary English Version).**

**Additional Information:** The "longsuffering" of the Lord is His forbearance or patience. The word "longsuffering" means "patiently enduring."

"Salvation" in this verse is used of the future deliverance of believers at the Parousia of Christ for His saints, a salvation which is the object of their confident hope, e.g., Rom. 13:11; 1 Thess. 5:8, and v. 9, where "salvation" is assured to them, as being deliverance from the wrath of God destined to be executed upon the ungodly at the end of this age (see 1 Thess. 1:10); 2 Thess. 2:13; Heb. 1:14; 9:28; 1 Pet. 1:5; 2 Pet. 3:15. (Vine's Lexicon).

"Paul hath written in all his epistles of these things." See Romans 2:4-11; 3:25; 9:22.

"Unlearned" is the Greek word *amathes* and means ignorant. It is translated unlearned in 2 Peter 2:16.

"Unstable" means **1.a.** Tending strongly to change. **b.** Not constant; fluctuating. **2. a.** Fickle. **b.** Lacking control of one's emotions; characterized by unpredictable behavior. **3.** Not firmly placed. (American Heritage Dictionary).

"Wrest" (*streblou*) means to twist or pervert the Scriptures.

The word "destruction" used in 2 Peter 3:16 is *apoleia* { **ap-o'-li-a** } and means ruin or loss (physical, spiritual or eternal). It is translated perdition 8 times, destruction 5 times, waste 2 times, damnable 1 time, to die 1 time, perish 1 time, and pernicious 1 time in the New Testament King James Version. (See Strong's Lexicon, number 684 in Greek).

## 2 Peter Chapter 3 Verses 17-18

**[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 stedfastness.**

**[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. (King James Version).**

[17] Therefore, dear friends, since you already know this, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from your secure position. [18] But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen. **(New International Version).**

[17] You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. [18] But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen. **(English Standard Version).**

[17] You therefore, beloved, since you are forewarned, beware that you are not carried away with the error of the lawless and lose your own stability. [18] But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen. **(New Revised Standard Version).**

**Additional Information:** “**Beware**” is the Greek word *phulasso* and means to watch, i.e. be on guard (literally of figuratively); by implication, to preserve, obey, avoid. It is translated in the KJV as *beward, keep (self), observe, save.* (Strong’s Lexicon). *Phulasso* indicates safe custody and often implies assault from without (Vine’s Lexicon).

“**Error**” is the Greek word *plane*. Literally, *plane* means a wandering whereby those who are led astray roam hither and thither and is always used of mental straying, wrong opinion, error in morals or religion (Vine’s Lexicon).

“**Wicked**” is the Greek word *athesmos* and means lawless (Strong’s Lexicon).

The phrase “**fall from**” is the Greek word *ekipto* and means to drop away, or to be driven out of one’s course (Strong’s Lexicon).

“**Own**” means “of or belonging to oneself. That which belongs to one” (American Heritage Dictionary).

“**Stedfastness**” is the Greek word *sterigmos* meaning “stability” (Strong’s Lexicon).

The Greek word for “**grace**” is *charis* (search for 5485 in KJV) from 5463; graciousness, of manner or act; **especially the divine influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life**; including gratitude): It is translated as acceptable, benefit, favour, gift, grace(-ious), joy, liberality, pleasure, thank(-s, -worthy).

“**Knowledge**” (*gnosis*) means primarily “seeking to know, an enquiry, investigation” and denotes, in the N.T. “knowledge,” especially of spiritual truth (Vine’s Lexicon).

The Greek word for “**Lord**” is *kurios* and means supreme in authority, i.e. (as noun) controller; by implication, Master. (Strong’s Lexicon).

The word “**Saviour**” is *soter* and means a deliverer (Strong’s Lexicon)

“**Jesus**” means *Jehovah is Salvation.*”

For the meaning of “**Christ**” see Luke 23:2.

The word “**glory**” is translated *dignity, glory(-ious), honour, praise, worship* in the KJV.

**Instructions for the Leader:** Go to “Questions & Answers” section of this program (2 Peter chapter 3).

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS (2 Peter chapter 3)

***Instructions for Group Leader:*** Do not let the group read the following questions and answers. The leader of your group should ask the group the following questions and encourage the group to discover the answers by going to the appropriate Scriptures. Discuss and answer the questions correctly using the Scripture.

1. **Read 2 Peter 3:1-2.** Peter wrote two letters so that he might remind the believers of:  
a. the words spoken by the prophets and their predictions. b. the observance of the Sabbath. c. the commands given by our Lord and Savior.
  
2. **Read 2 Peter 3:3.** Don't be surprised! In the last days there will be: a. a bad economy. b. lots of religious denominations to choose from. c. scoffers, those that mock and laugh at the truth.
  
3. **Read 2 Peter 3:3.** What will scoffers do in the last days? Live according to their own evil sinful desires.
  
4. **Read 2 Peter 3:4.** What will scoffers say in the last days? "Where is the promise of Jesus return? All things remain the same from the beginning of creation."
  
5. **Read 2 Peter 3:5-6.** What are the scoffers willingly ignorant of? That God created the heavens and the earth and brought judgment upon the wicked by destroying them in a flood.
  
6. **Read 2 Peter 3:7.** What will happen to the ungodly on the Day of Judgment? They will be utterly ruined, they will perish.
  
7. **Read 2 Peter 3:8-9.** The Lord isn't really being slow about His promise to return, rather He is operating in: a. His longsuffering and patience. b. His foreknowledge about the future.
  
8. **Read 2 Peter 3:9.** Why is the Lord being patient and longsuffering? Because He doesn't want people to perish. He wants all to come to repentance and live.
  
9. What is repentance? **See Acts 26:18-20; 1 Thessalonians 1:9.** Repentance is to change one's mind and purpose. It is from sin and towards God. Through this act the forgiveness of sins is offered (Acts 24:47).
  
10. **Read 2 Peter 3:10.** The Day of the Lord (meaning salvation for some and judgment for others), will come suddenly and without advance warning. It will come like: a. a visit from mother on Christmas day. b. a thief in the night. c. a credit card bill that is not yours.

11. **Read 2 Peter 3:10.** The Day of the Lord will be accompanied by: a. a terrible noise. b. fire. c. all of the above.

12. **Read 2 Peter 3:11.** In light of the judgment that is coming against this world, how should we behave and live? A life of repentance that involves us living in holy behavior and godliness (great reverence for God).

13. **Read 2 Peter 3:12.** We should be looking for and expecting: a. everything to remain the same. b. the coming of the Day of God (Lord).

14. **Read 2 Peter 3:13.** Because God has promised, we should be looking forward to: a. a lot of money. b. tax relief next year. c. the new heavens and new earth, God's promise of the future kingdom.

15. **Read 2 Peter 3:13.** One characteristic of the new heavens and earth will be that: a. the grass doesn't need to be cut any more. b. the fishing is good. c. that true righteousness and justice dwells there.

16. **Read 2 Peter 3:14.** Since we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, make every effort (be diligent) to: a. be found pure (that is, without spot). b. live a blameless life. c. be at peace.

17. **Read 2 Peter 3:15.** What does the Lord's longsuffering and patience mean? Salvation, that is, God is giving men an opportunity to repent and be saved. See Revelation 2:20-21.

18. Paul in his letters state that the Lord is waiting (longsuffering) and is patient so that people have time to be saved. **Read 2 Peter 3:15-16a; Romans 2:4-7** and comment.

19. **Read 2 Peter 3:16.** Unstable and ignorant people twist and pervert Paul's teachings as they do the other Scriptures. In so doing they bring on themselves: a. good times. b. spiritual and eternal ruin and loss (destruction). c. a new translation of the Bible.

20. **Read 2 Peter 3:17.** Seeing that you know the end (destruction) of the wicked, you should be on guard and beware lest you: a. be led away with the error of the wicked. b. fall from your own steadfastness. c. take things lightly because you said the sinners prayer.

21. **Read 2 Peter 3:17-18.** What final instructions did Peter give the believers? 1. Be on guard not to be led away with the error of the wicked. 2. Beware lest you fall from your own secure position. 3. Grow in the grace, God's divine influence upon your heart that reflects in your life. 4. Grow in knowledge of Jesus as Lord (Master), Saviour (deliver), and Christ (as your king).

22. **Read 2 Peter 3:18.** To Jesus the Christ belongs: a. glory. b. honor. c. praise.  
d. worship both now and forever. Amen.

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DKM  
10065 Sun Ridge Circle  
Rogers, AR 72756 U.S.A.

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