

**Standing in the True Grace of God***Peter's Life, Letters and Lord***2 Peter 3:1–7****Read 2 Peter 3:1–7.**

1. In this chapter Peter moves from condemning the scoffers to exhorting the believers.
  - a. What phrase does he use when addressing the believers? (vv. 1, 8, 14, 17)
  - b. What comes to mind when you think of being addressed in this way?
2. Peter again returns to reminding the believers of the truth. Why do you think this is so important to him? (vv. 1–3; 1:12–15; 2:1)
3. In contrast to what the false teachers have been promoting (2:18–19), Peter wants to stimulate his readers to “wholesome thinking” (v. 1).
  - a. What is “wholesome thinking”? (Consider Phil. 4:8.)
  - b. How do you think Peter’s letters might stimulate such thinking?
4. In verse 2, Peter instructs believers to recall God’s revelation given in both the Old and New Testaments.
  - a. How can you put this instruction into practice?
  - b. If someone asked, how would you describe the benefits of reading and meditating on God’s word?
  - c. Give an example of when you have experienced these benefits.

5. For a second time in this letter Peter uses the emphatic phrase “you must understand” (1:20; 3:3).
  - a. In this chapter, what does he say is vitally important to understand? (v. 3)
  - b. What characterizes scoffers? (v. 3; Acts 20:29–30; Jude 17-19;  Isa. 28:14–22)
  - c. Carefully read over verses 3–4. What is the point of the scoffers’ teaching?
  - d. Why do you think it was so important for Peter’s readers to be aware of scoffers and their message?
6. How might the scoffers’ teaching be discouraging to the believers?
7. What two examples does Peter use to refute the false teachings of the scoffers? (vv. 5–6)

What do these examples reveal about God?

How might this be encouraging to the believers as they await Christ’s return?

8. This section concludes on a somber note. Contrast the end that scoffers face with the hope Peter offers to those who follow Christ. (v. 7; 1:11)

Take a moment to thank God for rescuing you from certain destruction.

\*The  symbol indicates verses for further study.