

2 Peter

God's Promise Is Not Slack (2 Peter 3:1-9) (1/2)

Read: God's Promise Is Not Slack (3:1-9)

1 Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in both of which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder), 2 that you 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 Savior, 3 knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to 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 creation." 5 For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, 6 by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. 7 But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

8 But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

Explain: God's Promise Is Not Slack (3:1-9)

Bible study is asking and answering questions about the text. Let's ask some.

Are there any literary/structural observations?

What are the most repeated words in 2 Peter?

Their/them/themselves/they (42), you/your (28), he/his/him (22), our/us/we (21), _____ (21), Lord (15), I/me/my (12), day (9), Jesus (9), _____/knowing/known/knows (9), Christ (8), God (7), knowledge (7), righteous/righteousness (7), beloved (6), destruction/destructive (6), holy (6), own (6)

What are the most repeated words in this text?

_____/days (4), come/_____ (3), Lord (3), one (3), their/they (3), water (3), word/words (3), you/your (3), all (2), beloved (2), earth (2), forget (2), heavens (2), his (2), I (2), now (2), perish/perished (2), promise (2), slack/slackness (2), thousand (2), us (2), years (2)

What do the words mean?

1 Beloved [*agapetos*; beloved: (dearly, well) beloved, dear], **I now write** [present active indicative; to “grave,” especially to write; figuratively, to describe: describe, write(-ing, -ten)] **to you this second** [(ordinal) second (in time, place, or rank; also adverb): afterward, again, second(-arily, time)] **epistle** [*epistole*; a written _____: “epistle,” letter] **(in both of which I stir up** [present active indicative; to _____ fully; i.e., arouse (literally or figuratively): arise, awake, raise, stir up] **your pure** [judged by _____, i.e., tested as genuine (figuratively): pure, sincere] **minds** [deep thought, properly, the faculty (mind or its disposition), by implication, its exercise: imagination, mind, understanding] **by way of reminder** [a reminding or (reflexively) recollection: remembrance]), **2 that you may be mindful** [*mnaomai*; aorist passive infinitive; to bear in mind, i.e., recollect; by implication, to reward or punish: be mindful, _____, come (have) in remembrance] **of the words** [perfect passive participle; an utterance (individually, collectively or specially); by implication, a matter or topic (especially of narration, command or dispute); with a negative naught whatever: evil, nothing, saying, word] **which were spoken before** [*prolego*; to say already, predict: foretell, say (speak, tell) before] **by the holy** [*hagios*; sacred (physically, pure, morally blameless or religious, ceremonially, consecrated): (most) holy (one, thing), saint] **prophets** [a foreteller (“prophet”); by analogy, an inspired speaker; by extension, a poet: prophet], **and of the commandment** [injunction, i.e., an authoritative prescription: commandment, precept] **of us, the apostles** [a delegate; specially, an ambassador of the Gospel; officially a commissioner of Christ (“apostle”) (with miraculous powers): apostle, messenger, he that is sent] **of the Lord** [*kyrios*; supreme in authority, i.e., (as noun) controller; by implication, Master (as a respectful title): God, Lord, master, Sir] **and Savior** [*soter*; a deliverer, i.e., God or Christ: savior], **3 knowing** [present active participle (_____ knowing); to “know” (absolutely) in a great variety of applications and with many implications (as follow, with others not thus clearly expressed): allow, be aware (of), feel, (have) know(-ledge), perceived, be resolved, can speak, be sure, understand] **this first** [*proton*; firstly (in time, place, order, or importance): before, at the beginning, chiefly (at, at the) first (of all)]: **that scoffers** [a derider, i.e., (by implication) a _____ teacher: mocker, scoffer] **will come** [future middle deponent _____; to come or go (in a great variety of applications, literally and figuratively): accompany, appear, bring, come, enter, fall out, go, grow, pass, resort, be set] **in the last** [*eschatos*; farthest, final (of place or time): ends of, last, latter end, lowest, uttermost] **days** [day, i.e., (literally) the time space between dawn and dark, or the whole 24 hours; figuratively, a period (always defined more or less clearly by the context): age, alway, (mid-)day (by day, (-ly)), for ever, judgment, (day) time, while, years; used earlier in **2 Peter** and in **3:3, 7, 8**

(twice), **10, 12, 18**, **walking** [present middle or passive deponent participle (_____ walking); to traverse, i.e., travel (literally or figuratively; especially to remove (figuratively, die), live, etc.); depart, go (away, forth, one's way, up), (make a, take a) journey, walk] **according to their own** [pertaining to self, i.e., one's own; by implication, private or separate: when they were alone, apart, aside, due, his (own, proper, several), home, (her, our, thine, your) own (business), private(-ly), proper, severally, their (own)] **lusts** [a longing (especially for what is forbidden): concupiscence, desire, lust (after)], **4 and saying** [*lego*; present active participle (_____ saying); properly, to "lay" forth, i.e., (figuratively) relate (in words (usually of systematic or set discourse)); by implication, to mean: ask, bid, boast, call, describe, give out, name, put forth, say(-ing, on), shew, speak, tell, utter], **"Where** [as adverb of place; at (by implication, to) what locality: where, whither] **is** [present indicative; he (she or it) is; also (with neuter plural) they are: are, be(-long), call, come, consists, follow, (that) is (to say), make, means, profit, remains, wrestle] **the promise** [an announcement (for information, assent or pledge; especially a divine assurance of good): message, promise] **of His coming** [*parousia*; a being near, i.e., advent (often, return; specially, of Christ to punish Jerusalem, or finally the wicked); (by implication) physically, aspect: coming, presence]? **For since the fathers** [*pater*; a "father" (literally or figuratively, near or more remote): father, parent] **fell asleep** [aorist passive indicative; to put to sleep, i.e., (passively or reflexively) to slumber; figuratively, to decease: (be a-, fall a-, fall on) sleep, be dead], **all things continue** [not translated in the NKJV; in this way (referring to what precedes or follows): after that, after (in) this manner, as, even (so), for all that, like(-wise), no more, on this fashion(-wise), so (in like manner), thus, what] [to stay constantly (in being or relation): continue, remain] **as they were from** ["off," i.e., away (from something near), in various senses (of place, time, or relation; literal or figurative): after, ago, at, because of, before, by (the space of), for(-th), from, in, (out) of, off, (up-)on(-ce), since, with] **the beginning** [*arche*; (properly abstract) a commencement, or (concretely) chief (in various applications of order, time, place, or rank): beginning, corner, (at the, the) first (estate), magistrate, power, principality, principle, rule] **of creation** [original formation (properly, the act; by implication, the thing, literally or figuratively): building, creation, creature, ordinance]." **5 For this they willfully** [present active participle (_____ willfully); to determine (as an active option from subjective impulse), i.e., _____ or prefer (literally or figuratively); by implication, to wish, i.e., be inclined to (sometimes adverbially, gladly); impersonally for the future tense, to be about to; by Hebraism, to delight in: desire, be disposed (forward), intend, list, love, mean, please, have rather, (be) will (have, -ling, -ling(-ly))] **forget** [present _____ indicative; to lie hid (literally or figuratively); often used adverbially,

unwittingly: be hid, be ignorant of, unawares]: **that by the word** [*logos*; something _____ (including the thought); by implication, a topic (subject of discourse), also reasoning (the mental faculty) or motive; by extension, a computation; specially, (with the article in John) the Divine Expression (i.e., Christ): account, cause, communication, doctrine, fame, intent, matter, mouth, preaching, question, reason, reckon, remove, say(-ing), shew, speech, talk, thing, none of these things move me, tidings, treatise, utterance, word, work] **of God** [*theos*; a deity, especially the supreme Divinity; figuratively, a magistrate; by Hebraism, very: God, god(-ly, -ward)] **the heavens** [the sky; by extension, heaven (as the abode of God); by implication, happiness, power, eternity; specially, the Gospel (Christianity): air, heaven(-ly), sky] **were** [imperfect indicative; I (thou, etc.) was (wast or were): agree, be, hold, use, was(-t), were] **of old** [long ago, for a long while: of a long time, of old], **and the earth** [soil; by extension a region, or the solid part or the whole of the terrene globe (including the occupants in each application): country, earth(-ly), ground, land, world] **standing out** [perfect active participle; to set together, i.e., (by implication) to introduce (favorably), or (figuratively) to exhibit; intransitively, to stand near, or (figuratively) to constitute: approve, commend, consist, make, stand (with)] **of water** [water (as if rainy) literally or figuratively: water] **and in the water, 6 by which the world** [*kosmos*; orderly arrangement, i.e., decoration; by implication, the world (in a wide or narrow sense, including its inhabitants, literally or figuratively (morally)): adorning, world] **that then existed** [the when, i.e., at the time that (of the past or future, also in consecution): that time, then] **perished** [*apollymi*; second aorist middle indicative; to destroy fully (reflexively, to perish, or lose), literally or figuratively: destroy, die, lose, mar, perish], **being flooded** [*kataklyzo*; aorist passive participle; to dash (wash) _____, i.e., (by implication) to deluge: overflow] **with water. 7 But the heavens** [the sky; by extension, heaven (as the abode of God); by implication, happiness, power, eternity; specially, the Gospel (Christianity): air, heaven(-ly), sky] **and the earth** [soil; by extension a region, or the solid part or the whole of the terrene globe (including the occupants in each application): country, earth(-ly), ground, land, world] **which are now** ["now" (as adverb of date, a transition or emphasis); also as noun or adjective present or immediate: henceforth, hereafter, of late, soon, present, this (time)] **preserved** [perfect passive participle; to amass or reserve (literally or figuratively): lay up (treasure), (keep) in store, (heap) treasure (together, up)] **by the same word** [*logos*], **are** [present indicative; they are: agree, are, be, dure, were] **reserved** [present passive participle (_____ reserved); to _____ (from loss or injury, properly, by keeping the eye upon), i.e., to note (a prophecy; figuratively, to fulfil a command); by implication, to detain (in custody; figuratively, to maintain); by extension, to withhold (for personal ends; figuratively, to keep unmarried); hold fast, keep(-er),

(pre-, re-)serve, watch] **for fire** [*pyr*; “fire” (literally or figuratively, specially, lightning): fiery, fire] **until the day** [same word used in **3:3, 7, 8** (twice), **10, 12, 18**] **of judgment** [_____ (subjectively or objectively, for or against); by extension, a tribunal; by implication, justice (especially, divine law): accusation, condemnation, damnation, judgment] **and perdition** [*apoleia*; ruin or loss (physical, spiritual or eternal): damnable(-nation), _____, die, perdition, pernicious ways, waste] **of ungodly** [irreverent, i.e., (by extension) impious or wicked: ungodly (man)] **men** [man-faced, i.e., a human being: certain, man].

8 But, beloved [*agapetos*; beloved: (dearly, well) beloved, dear], **do not** [a primary particle of qualified negation; (adverb) not, (conjunction) lest; also (as an interrogative implying a negative answer) whether: any but (that), God forbid, lack, lest, neither, never, no, none, nor, (can-)not, nothing, that not, un(-taken), without] **forget** [present active _____; to lie hid (literally or figuratively); often used adverbially, unwittingly: be hid, be ignorant of, unawares] **this one** [a primary numeral; one: a(-n, -ny, certain), abundantly, man, one (another), only, other, some] **thing, that with the Lord** [*kyrios*] **one** [one or first: a (certain), agree, first, one] **day** [same word used in **3:3, 7, 8** (twice), **10, 12, 18**] **is** ____ [Jim’s note: not just “is” but “is as”] **a thousand** [a thousand] **years** [year], **and a thousand** [a thousand] **years** [year] ____ [Jen Wilkin: Many of us have been told, “Oh, we are supposed to read the Bible _____” . . . what we are actually called to do is read the Bible _____³; compare **Revelation 20**] **one** [one or first: a (certain), agree, first, one] **day** [same word used in **3:3, 7, 8** (twice), **10, 12, 18**]. **9 The Lord** [*kyrios*] **is not** [a primary particle of qualified negation; (adverb) not, (conjunction) lest; also (as an interrogative implying a negative answer) whether: any but (that), God forbid, lack, lest, neither, never, no, none, nor, (can-)not, nothing, that not, un(-taken), without] **slack** [present active indicative; to _____: be slack, tarry] **concerning His promise** [an announcement (for information, assent or pledge; especially a divine assurance of good): message, promise], **as some count** [present middle or passive deponent indicative; to lead, i.e., command (with official authority); figuratively, to deem, i.e., consider: account, (be) chief, count, esteem, governor, judge, have the rule over, suppose, think] **slackness** [_____]: slackness], **but is longsuffering** [present active indicative; to be long-spirited, i.e., (objectively) forbearing or (subjectively) _____: bear (suffer) long, be longsuffering, have (long) patience, be patient, patiently endure] **toward us, not** [a primary particle of qualified negation; (adverb) not, (conjunction) lest; also (as an interrogative implying a negative answer) whether: any but (that), God forbid, lack,

³ Wilkin, Jen, and JT English and Kyle Worley hosts. “Blood, Names and Numbers.” *Knowing Faith*, Overcast app, 27 September 2018.

lest, neither, never, no, none, nor, (can-)not, nothing, that not, un(-taken), without] **willing** [present middle or passive deponent participle (_____ willing); to “will,” i.e., (reflexively) be willing: be disposed, minded, intend, list, (be, of own) will (-ing)] **that any should perish** [*apollymi*; second aorist middle indicative; to destroy fully (reflexively, to perish, or lose), literally or figuratively: destroy, die, lose, mar, perish] **but that all should come** [aorist active infinitive; to be in (give) space, i.e., (intransitively) to pass, _____, or (transitively) to hold, admit (literally or figuratively): come, contain, go, have place, (can, be room to) _____] **to repentance** [*metanoia*; (subjectively) compunction (for guilt, including reformation); by implication, reversal (of (another's) decision): repentance].

Apply (What is the point?)

1. Comfort in the _____ about the _____ comes from the _____
2. _____ false teachers teach _____ heresies
3. The day of the Lord _____ coming

Personalize (What do we do with that?)

1. Look back at the _____ words
2. _____
3. _____ and _____

Next week: God's Promise Is Not Slack (3:1-9) (2/2)

Homework

1. Ask the Holy Spirit for help
2. Read next week's text (multiple times in multiple ways) (**2 Peter 3:1-9**)
3. Talk to someone about the text ([fb.com/OurSundaySchool](https://www.facebook.com/OurSundaySchool) or in person)
4. Share ([fb.com/OurSundaySchool](https://www.facebook.com/OurSundaySchool)) insights and questions by Thursday
5. Invite a member or non-member