

## THE ERROR OF THE NAY-SAYERS

(2 Peter 3:5-7)

- I. Their Misrepresentation of the PAST (2 Pet. 3:5-6)
  - A. Their CLAIM (3:4)
    1. They DERIDE the notion that CHRIST will RETURN
    2. They INSIST that “All continues JUST AS IT WAS from the beginning”
    3. They MOCK the idea that God is ACTIVELY DIRECTING the cosmos
  - B. Their FALLACY (3:5a)
    1. It is DELUSIONAL
    2. It is INTENTIONAL (cf. Rom. 1:18-22)
  - C. They deny the RECORD of CREATION (3:5b; cf. Gen. 1:1-10)
    1. God SPOKE the HEAVENS into existence (Gen. 1:1; cf. John 1:1-3)
    2. God SPOKE the ATMOSPHERE into existence to separate the WATERS above from the WATERS below (Gen. 1:6-8)
    3. God COMMANDED the DRY LAND to arise from the WATER (Gen. 1:9-10)

- D. They suppress the EVIDENCE of the FLOOD (3:6)
  - 1. God FLOODED the entire WORLD (cf. Gen. 6:5-7, 11-13)
  - 2. God DESTROYED the OLD world system
  
- II. Their Misperception of the PRESENT (2 Pet. 3:7a)
  - A. The CURRENT world system is MAINTAINED by God's WORD
  - B. The heavens and earth are being RESERVED for JUDGMENT (cf. Rom. 2:5; 1 Pet. 1:4; 2 Pet. 2:4, 9, 17)
  
- III. Their Misconception of the FUTURE (2 Pet. 3:7b)
  - A. The world will be DESTROYED by FIRE (cf. 3:10)
  - B. This will be God's JUDGMENT upon UNGODLY humanity
    - 1. Includes PUNISHMENT for WICKEDNESS
    - 2. Emphasizes REBUTAL for GODLESSNESS