



March 15, 2026 | Matt Magee

Series: Fully Equipped: Pursuing Christian Maturity (2 Peter)

Sermon Title: The Scoffer's Myth and the Coming Judgment

Main Scripture: 2 Peter 3:1-7

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CHURCH BODY HIGHLIGHTS

1. [Past Newsletters](#) - Be sure to check this week's newsletter . . . there's a lot here. Also, **would you take a few minutes to pray for the featured missionary each week?**
2. **Mandatory safety training for most people** (Elders, Deacons, Greeters, Ministry leaders, Safety Team, Coffee Servers and Kids/Youth Ministry Workers). Click "Safety Training" on the homepage of the app to sign up for April 19 at 11:45 a.m. or April 25 at 8:00 a.m. (or here on a browser - <https://ogc.churchcenter.com/people/forms/1165667>)

1. Introduction: Lulled to Sleep

- Pastor Matt compared our spiritual lives to driving on a road trip where the consistent, steady sound of the concrete lines can eventually lull you to sleep if you aren't intentional.
- **Discussion:** What are the "steady sounds" or daily routines in **your life** that tempt you to forget that this world is not our ultimate home? How do you actively fight against being spiritually lulled to sleep?

2. The Sincere Mind vs. The Scoffer's Motive (vv. 1-3)

- **Read:** 2 Peter 3:1-3.
- **The Sincere Mind:** Peter says he is writing to violently awaken ("stir up") those who are of sincere mind—genuine believers. "Sincere" means "judged by sunlight," like a piece of pottery held up to the sun to prove it has no hidden wax filling the cracks.
 - **Discuss:** Why do we often need "remembered truth" (v. 2) more than we need "new truth" in our walk with Christ?
- **The Scoffer's Motive:** Peter warns that scoffers will aggressively ridicule the Christian hope. However, their motive isn't deep scientific research; they scoff because they are "following their own sinful desires" (3b).
 - **Discuss:** Pastor Matt quoted John MacArthur, saying, "Their theology is the child of their morality." How does a desire to live in sin (sin of commission and/omission) require a person to get rid of the idea of a coming Judge?

3. The Myth of Stability (v. 4)

- **Read:** 2 Peter 3:4.
- **The Argument:** The scoffers use the philosophy of "Uniformitarianism," (all together now: uni-formi-tarian-ism 😊) arguing that everything continues exactly as it has from the beginning of creation. They view nature as a closed system with no interruptions (like a machine, or clock, that "a god" created, spun up, and let go - the heresy of Deism).
- **The Danger:** Like a man living in a house that has never burned down, so he wrongly assumes "fire isn't real."
 - **Discuss:** How do we sometimes make the fatal mistake of confusing "stability" (the sun rising every day) with eternal "safety"?

4. Willful Amnesia & The God of Catastrophe (vv. 5-6)

- **Read:** 2 Peter 3:5-6.
- **Peter's Rebuttal:** Peter says the scoffers "deliberately overlook" (v. 5) the truth, implying a highly intentional suppression of the facts because the truth terrifies them.
- **Biblical Evidence:** God has violently interrupted the world before. He interrupted nothingness to speak creation into existence (Gen. 6), and He unlocked the deep to bring the cataclysmic flood (Gen. 6).
 - **Discuss:** If God started the world with **a word**, and judged the world with **a word**, why is it foolish to believe He won't intervene again?

5. The Dam & The Coming Fire (v. 7)

- **Read:** 2 Peter 3:7.
- **The Coming Judgment:** The only reason the world hasn't ended yet is that God's Word is holding it together. The present earth is "stored up" (hoarded) for fire.
- **Metaphor of a Dam:** Think of God's Word as a concrete dam holding back a massive river. The villager below thinks everything is stable, but the pressure is building.
 - **Discuss:** How does understanding that God is patiently "waiting" rather than being "absent" change the way we view the delay of Christ's return?

6. Application: Busy with the King's Business

- **The Call:** Instead of trying to map out the end times, we are called to live today busy with the King's business.
- **Action Step:** Which of these areas do you need to focus on this week: sharing God's grace with a lost neighbor, being disciplined by a mature believer, or discipling someone else yourself?

Prayer

- Take several minutes to praise God for who He is (the power of His Word, reminders for our instruction, love to attend to what we truly need, etc.).
- Ask the Lord to awaken your "sincere mind" to the reality of His return.
- Ask for the courage to not be intimidated by the Scoffers in our culture.
- Ask God to use you to "stir up" another believer to love and righteous deeds this week.