

**2 Peter 2:10–3:18**

**Memory Verse:** *But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (2 Pet. 3:18a NIV).*

**Background Helps:**

2 Peter 3 teaches the certainty of Christ's Second Coming in the face of the skepticism that will prevail in the last days. Notice that Peter bases the certainty of this great future event on the fact that God has dramatically intervened in history in the past:

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|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Past events:   | Creation (v. 5)<br>Judgment by flood (v. 6)             |
| Future events: | Judgment by fire (vv. 7, 10-12)<br>New creation (v. 13) |



Can you see why modern skeptics favor the theory of evolution over creation and also dismiss the flood as a myth? To accept these great events of the past means that a Creator and Judge exists to whom all people will one day have to give an account. Many are not ready to bow the knee to him!

This lesson provides an opportunity to give teaching on creation vs. evolution and/or on Noah's flood. Notice the reference to the modern geological concept of uniformitarianism in verse 4. Do some background reading on these subjects!

**Lesson Helps:**

1. With children, review the stories of the creation and flood from the book of Genesis.
2. With teens and college age, you could hold a debate: Creation vs. Evolution. Or, Noah's flood: local or universal? Contact and prepare your students well in advance.
3. Be sure to make practical application of these truths, as Peter does:
  - a. The seeming delay in our Lord's return is because of God's patience and his desire that all repent (vv. 8-9, 15). Have you repented? Are you ready for Christ's Second Coming?
  - b. Christians also should prepare for the day of his coming by their holy conduct and godliness (vv. 11-12, 14).

**Assignment:**

-  Read 1 John 1–2.
-  Memorize 1 John 1:7.