

**"SCOFFERS IN OUR TIME"****Introduction**

1. The difference between I and II Peter
2. False teaching is very bad for the soul
3. Those who deny Christianity are often scoffers

**1. WE ARE TO EXPECT SCOFFERS IN OUR TIME**

- 1) What is a scoffer? (What are "the last days"?)
  - (i) one who rejects what God says:  
**OBSERVE**: "holy prophets...us the apostles"
  - (ii) one whose view of life is unscriptural:
    - they scoff at the Second Coming (v.4)
    - they are deniers of biblical history (v.4)
    - they are "willingly ignorant" (v.5)
- 2) Why are there such scoffers?
  - (i) they do not love God's ways ("lusts": v.3)
  - (ii) they are opposed to God as Lord of all  
**DOCTRINE**: Man would abolish God if he could  
**APPLICATION**: Expect Atheists to arise  
**ILLUSTRATION**: Dr. Bonar + the grasshoppers!  
Kepler the astronomer + his model

**2. SCOFFERS ARE SAID TO BE "WILLINGLY IGNORANT"**

- 1) Ignorance: "I do not know".  
Willing ignorance: "I do not want to know"
- 2) Why are people so?
  - (i) Pride: to believe in God is humbling:  
**ILLUSTRATION**: Pharaoh / Dagon / Belshazzar...
  - (ii) Moral law: they do not want it
  - (iii) death and judgement: too solemn for them
  - (iv) Sin: they do not want to admit it

(v) Salvation: they harden their hearts

- 3) What are they willingly ignorant of?
  - (i) creation by God's word: v.5
  - (ii) flood: God's judgement in Noah's day: v.6
  - (iii) the biblical truth of final judgement: v.7f  
**OBSERVE**: The most cause of the scoffer's error is his choice of a false basis of belief: Bible v. Human Wisdom  
**APPLICATION**: We must make our choice  
**ILLUSTRATION**: The atheist who nearly drowned

**3. HOW DOES THE BIBLE REASSURE US AGAINST IT?**

- 1) Because we are sinful we are all tempted
- 2) But God's word reminds us of great facts:
  - (i) creation is out of nothing (Gen. 1)
  - (ii) it is now "kept in store..." (v.7)
  - (iii) the coming judgement is certain (v.7)
  - (iv) only God's patience keeps it back (v.9)
  - (v) God's time-scale is above ours (v.8)
  - (vi) God is patient that men may be saved (v.9)
  - (vii) The Judgement will come at last (v.10)  
**OBSERVE**: There will be no scoffers then!

**CONCLUSION**

1. Make sure you are ready
2. Faith in Christ is essential
3. God is willing to save us.

**PSALM****24: 1 – 6****14: 1 – 4****119: 113 – 117**