

## II Peter 3:8-9

### I. Introduction:

A. As we have learned in the context, the scoffers were questioning the return of the Lord through their own lusts and willful ignorance (**II Peter 3:3-7**).

1. If those scoffers were able to influence the saints, it only takes a little leaven to leaven the whole lump (**Galatians 5:7-9**).

2. If the scoffers could bring in just a little doubt, they'd accomplish having the saints fail (**Romans 14:23, I Timothy 2:8, and James 1:8; 4:8**).

B. For saints, they [we] look forward to Christ returning (**I Peter 1:3-9**).

1. That hope is an anchor of the soul for saints (**Hebrews 6:18-19**).

2. Without that hope, we'd be in sorrow as those who don't have that hope (**I Thessalonians 4:13**).

3. So, the Spirit of God moved Peter to write the things we will examine to reassure the saints that Jesus is coming, just not on man's timeline.

### II. Body: II Peter 3:8-9

A. The inspired answer to the scoffers starts with a simple point. Don't be ignorant of the fact that God's view of time is different than man's view of time (**Psalms 90:1-4**).

1. Peter is writing to these "beloved" saints for the second time (**II Peter 3:1-2**).

2. To not be ignorant is as something "hid", "hidden", or "unawares" as translated in other verses (**Mark 7:24, Luke 8:47, Acts 26:26, and Hebrews 13:2**). See: Strong's # 2990

3. God is from everlasting (**Psalms 93:1-2**), so what is one thousand years to our eternal God?

B. In light of God's timeline, He is not slack [delaying] on His promise (**I Timothy 6:14-16**).

1. Trust in God's promise of eternal life, He is not a liar (**Titus 1:1-3**).

2. The right understanding is necessary here as it is in all spiritual things (**Ephesians 5:14-17**).

C. To help the saints understand why Jesus has not yet come, the Lord has Peter give the reason. The Lord is being longsuffering (**II Peter 3:15; cf. I Peter 3:18-20**).

1. Think about what was written to the hypocrites in Rome about the longsuffering of God (**Romans 2:1-7**).

2. Look at Paul as one who serves as a beneficiary of God being longsuffering (**I Timothy 1:12-16**).

D. God is not willing that any should perish (**I Timothy 2:3-4**).

1. Jesus died, was buried, was risen, and has ascended into Heaven to bring salvation to all (**Acts 10:34-43, Titus 2:11-14, and I John 4:14**).

2. Therefore, the Gospel of salvation is for everyone (**Mark 16:15-16**, **Luke 24:44-47**, **Romans 10:12-17**, and **Colossians 1:5-6**).
3. The Gospel message is that man can repent, be converted, and be saved in the end (**Acts 3:19**).

III. Conclusion: Our Next Study: **II Peter 3:10-14**