

## II Peter 3:15-18

### I. Introduction:

A. There was a time when God had not revealed so much about His reasoning (**Deuteronomy 29:29**).

1. Over time, He revealed more through His prophets (**Amos 3:7**).
2. Then He opened the floodgates of knowledge (**Romans 16:25-26**).
3. Now, He has revealed all we need to know (**II Peter 1:3-4**), including why Jesus has not yet returned.

B. With all the revelation we have now, there still has to be the right approach to understand it (**I Corinthians 2:14-16**).

1. Think about what Paul wrote to the Ephesians (**Ephesians 4:17-19**).
2. Also, think about how learning is a continual process (**Proverbs 9:9**).

### II. Body: II Peter 3:15-18

A. The world still stands, as we have previously talked about in the context we are studying, because God is longsuffering (**II Peter 3:9**).

1. This being the second letter Peter wrote to the same audience (**II Peter 3:1-2**), we know some of them were certainly taught by Paul (**I Peter 1:1**).
2. Paul had written to churches in Asia about things relative the coming salvation (**Ephesians 1:1-12** and **Colossians 1:1-14**).
3. Paul had also taught people in Galatia (**I Corinthians 16:1-2** and **Galatians 1:1-2**).
4. The wisdom given to Paul (**I Corinthians 2:1-13**).

B. Some things are difficult to understand (i.e. **I Thessalonians 4:13-18** which was clarified more in the second letter; **II Thessalonians 2:1-5**).

1. Understanding is not impossible (**Luke 1:1-4** and **I John 5:13**).
2. The Scriptures show us information about the unlearned [ignorant] (**Jeremiah 10:11-14**, **Romans 10:1-3**, **II Corinthians 2:11**, and **II Timothy 2:23**).
3. The Scriptures also show us information about the unstable (**James 1:8**; cf. **II Peter 2:14**).
4. The unlearned and unstable twist those things that are hard to understand for them (**Acts 21:27-29**; cf. **Acts 26:19-23**).
5. The unlearned and unstable twist other Scriptures too (**Exodus 23:12**, **Matthew 12:9-14**, and **Mark 2:23-28**).
6. To their own destruction (**Galatians 1:6-9**).

C. Those Peter addressed already knew the things he is writing (**II Peter 1:12-13**).

1. Beware not to be led astray with the error of the wicked (**Proverbs 19:27** and **Colossians 2:6-8**), which he already covered to a large degree (**II Peter 2:1-22**).

2. Saints have to be careful not to lose our relationship with God through erring in doctrine (**II John 1:8-9**).

3. Handle the word aright (**II Timothy 2:14-18**).

D. Grow (**II Thessalonians 1:3**, **I Peter 2:1-2**, and **II Peter 1:3-11**)!

1. Grow in grace; understanding what grace teaches (**Titus 2:11-14**).

2. Grow in the knowledge of our Savior (**Colossians 1:9-10**; cf. **Proverbs 12:1** and **Proverbs 15:14**).

3. Most often, we see that we are to glorify our Father (**Philippians 4:20**). Herein Peter writes, through inspiration, a statement about Jesus and the glory to "him." One does not err in glorifying Christ (**John 5:23**).

4. In general, grow in understanding (**I Corinthians 14:20** and **Hebrews 5:9-14**).

III. Conclusion: Remember these things (**Psalms 103:17-18**).