

## 2 Peter 3

These are the leaders notes from the Kielder Bible Study Group for the meeting that was held on 03<sup>rd</sup> April 2012

So we come to the end of our study on Peter, If we can recall – last time was all about the power of God to Judge and save – this time it is all about – The promise of God to come

### 2 Peter 3 1-2

Peter says this is his second letter to them – does this mean his letter of 1 Peter, another unknown letter, or the letter of Jude. 2 Peter is thought to have come from this. Does not really matter we don't know the key thing is what he is encouraging his readers to remember and understand - The main points of his letter so far which is – A That they will be fruitful and productive – not dry springs.

### 2 Peter 3 3-7

Peter raises some questions for us to think about concerning Jesus' second coming. Q What are our thoughts on this?

### 2 Peter 3 8-10

God does not see time in the same way that we do. He sees it in relation to eternity

Having just encouraged his readers to know the scriptures, Peter goes on to quote Psalm 90 here. I think it would be good to read it through.

God is patient and his timing is not the same as ours. I was recently reading about John Wimber – He became the head of the vineyard churches in the 1980's. Before that in May 1977 God prompted him to start preaching about healing. He did so for 10 months before anyone was healed. I can just imagine the doubts he must have felt – am I doing the right thing, but God did answer and an amazing revival occurred

If we remember last time we mentioned other small groups of praying Christians who God then did wondrous things – the Alpha course, Welsh revival, March for Jesus 24-7 prayer rooms.

We like things to be in the here and now – God does not always work that way.

### 2 Peter 3 11- 13

Peter here then moves on to consider the end of the world. Isaiah 65 v17 -18

17 *“See, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind.*

18 *But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create, for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy.*

Q How does the transitory nature of the universe effect our values and priorities. ?

2 Peter 3 14-16

Q What is Peter saying here A- If you don't like what I am says then check with Paul's Letters – you will find that he is saying the same

The concordance has suggested that Paul's letter to the Romans, which was a circulatory letter was partially written to the same people that Peter was writing to.

If we remember the concordance suggested that 2 Peter was written using material from Jude's Letter building on the themes raised in that letter.

2 Peter 3 17-18

Peter even ends the letter with a final warning

So can we summarise the letter

1. Our lifestyle should match what scripture asks us to do
2. Not all religious teachers are of God (it is our responsibility to test what is being said with what we know)
3. We are to reject scoffers, who reject the teaching of scripture
4. We are to aim to live Holy lives while we wait for Jesus to return. 3 v14

We need to set our hearts and minds on Gods way.