2 Peter 3:1-7 – "This is now the second letter that I am writing to you, beloved. In both of them I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, 2 that you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles, 3 knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. 4 They will say.

"Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation."

5 For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, 6 and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished. 7 But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

2 Peter 3:3-4



"Eschaton" –

- ésxatos (from esxaton, "end, last") last, final (the furthest, extreme-end).
- esxatos ("future things"), the root of "eschatology" is "the study of last things." This includes future Bible prophecy, the end-times, and life after death ("the after-life").



Points:

1. Different Ages:

- a. Paradise,
- b. World after fall, before Flood
- c. World after Flood, before Babel
- d. World after Babel (after fall, after Flood)

2. Changes would include:

- a. Entrance of death (decay, decline, deterioration) in all areas:
 - i. physical,
 - ii. mental.
 - iii. material,
 - iv. systems (ecology, botanical),
 - v. relationship (man to man, animal to man, living creatures to environment)
- b. Flood would have created mountains, deeper seas, continents and more
- c. Eden and its rivers with their water source would have physically been removed or extremely altered

3. Legends vs Written Account by Eyewitnesses (see point 6 below)

- a. Not everyone mentioned in the genealogies were:
 - i. believers,
 - ii. followers of God with a correct worldview that aligned with
 - 1. YHWH,
 - 2. the Word (commands) of God (morality, values, godliness)
 - 3. Reality and Truth
- b. Each person and generation moved either:
 - i. further from God and Eden
 - 1. into man's views
 - 2. false realities
 - 3. evil spiritual influences
 - ii. closer to God
 - 1. aligned with his plan for mankind
 - 2. pursuing God's purpose for history
- c. Each generation would have remembered hearing the deteriorating memory of the Garden of Eden and the Fall
 - i. The memories and the story account would have been explained in a form that made sense to that generation
 - ii. New details would be added.
 - iii. Updated gods would be included.
 - iv. Cause and effect would be logically explained to the scientific, philosophical and religious commitments of each generation.
- d. We would expect the accounts of Creation, the Garden of Eden, the Flood, the Tower of Babel to be saturated with
 - i. poly-theistic worldviews
 - ii. explanation that included contemporary technology
 - iii. modified to justify current political powers, cultural views and morals
- 4. Education, Academics, Religions that do not embrace these realities are going to get further and further from Truth, Reality, Productivity, Life, Morality.

- a. Today in the Western world we are witnessing the collapse of the institutions of high education and the whole western educational system.
- b. This academic decay can only have a multiplying effect as future educators, professors and leaders are themselves originally trained and educated in a corrupt system. Their production (advances?) in their roles as educators will only drift further and further from Truth and Reality
- c. We are at a place know where we do not want acceptance or accreditation from the western educational system, the colleges, the universities or anything that has been influenced by modern western academia.

5. The Flood

- a. There are 200+ documented Flood traditions from ancient cultures around the globe. (Some research estimates that number could be as many as 80,000 ancient Flood accounts.)
 - i. 88% have a chosen family
 - ii. 70% have the chosen family surviving on a boat
 - iii. 95% say the Flood destroyed humanity
 - iv. 95% say this Flood was global (amazing how the ancient cultures with their tribal divisions could imagine and record anything involving all the people of the whole world.)
- b. 70 languages describe a cataclysmic Flood. Of those accounts:
 - i. 80% mention a large vessel that saved the human race from extinction.
 - ii. Many of these accounts (including the North American Indians' accounts) mention:
 - 1. A great boat
 - 2. Saved human seed
 - 3. Saved animal seed
 - 4. Total destruction by water
 - 5. Landing on a mountain
- c. Western scholarship and academia say the Genesis account was produced by Moses retelling the great Mesopotamian Flood Myths with a Jewish slant around 1440 BC at best, or 500 BC in Babylon during the Jewish captivity by scribes who were making Jewish history up.
 - i. This is a view from preconceived ideas based on an anti-supernaturalistic position
 - ii. These atheistic, naturalist scholars:
 - 1. would rather believe:
 - a. far-fetched, poly-theistic myths
 - b. that include details that could not have been known by any eyewitnesses
 - c. using terms that are culturally relevant to the people who wrote the myths
 - 2. rather reject:
 - a. the straightforward and simple account of Noah's written document
 - b. that includes:
 - i. dates,
 - ii. measurements,

- iii. eye witness accounts
- iv. has not changed since they were written down.
- iii. Which is more likely to have been the original account that is followed by the artificial updated legend that includes fictional additions:
 - Original account #1: a floating barge
 Later updated legend with added details #1: a ship that sailed that was guided by a captain using a steering wheel
 - 2. Original account #2: a ship that sailed that was guided by a captain using a steering wheel

Later updated legend with added details #2: a floating barge

6. Generations between faithful believers recorded in the Bible often drifted quickly from the Truth

- a. Adam to Noah
 - i. Cain (Gen. 4) to Enoch (4:17-18) to Lamech (4:19)
 - ii. Gen 4:26 began to call upon the name of the Lord which seems to indicate that Adam and Seth began public worship of the Lord.
 - iii. Genesis 6 corruption on whole earth by
- b. Noah to Terah
 - i. Noah curses his grandson Canaan because of Noah's son Ham (Gen 9:18-27)
 - ii. Terah was an idol worshipper (nine generations after Noah)
 "And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel,
 'Long ago, your fathers lived beyond the Euphrates, Terah, the father of Abraham
 and of Nahor; and they served other gods." Joshua 24:2
- c. Abraham-Isaac-Jacob-Joseph to Moses
 - i. Genesis 31:30 Laban the brother of Rebecca (Isaac's wife) and the father of Rachel (Jacob's wife) had idols or "gods" that were stolen by Rachel when Jacob fled back to the Promised Land:
 - "And now you have gone away because you longed greatly for your father's house, but why did you steal my gods?"
 - ii. Genesis 35:2 Jacob told his sons, the fathers of the twelve tribes of Israel to put away their idols:
 - "So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, "Put away the foreign gods that are among you and purify yourselves and change your garments."
 - iii. Hebrews in Egypt between Joseph and Moses turned to idols and made the golden calf once they left.
- d. Joshua to the Judges
 - i. Joshua
 - 1. Joshua 24:14-15 "Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."
 - 2. Judges

- a. 2:1-5 "Now the <u>angel of the Lord</u> went up from Gilgal to Bochim. And he said, "I brought you up from Egypt and brought you into the land that I swore to give to your fathers. I said, 'I will never break my covenant with you, and you shall make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land; <u>you shall break down their altars.</u>' But you have not obeyed my voice. What is this you have done? So now I say, I will not drive them out before you, but they shall become thorns in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare to you." As soon as the angel of the Lord spoke these words to all the people of Israel, the people lifted up their voices and wept. And they called the name of that place Bochim. ["weepers"] And they sacrificed there to the Lord."
- b. 2:11-13 "And the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and served the Baals. And they abandoned the Lord, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt. They went after other gods, from among the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed down to them. And they provoked the Lord to anger. They abandoned the Lord and served the Baals and the Ashtaroth."
- e. Samuel Saul David Solomon
- f. Jeroboam in Northern Israel
- g. Rehoboam in Judah