

The Day of the Lord Will Come ~ Part 1

3 Kefa 1:1-7

In my last post, we continued to unpack **Kefa's** denunciation of **False Prophets and Teachers ~ Part 2** in **2 Kefa 2:12-22**. In this post, we move on to the last chapter of **Kefa's** letter to the saints to learn that **The Day of the Lord Will Come** in **3 Kefa 1:1-7**.

In this chapter, **Kefa** describes the coming of the **Day of the Lord**, the destruction of the world with fire, and the hope of a new heaven and earth.

¹ Dear friends, I am writing you now this second letter; and in both letters, I am trying to arouse you to wholesome thinking by means of reminders; ² so that you will keep in mind the predictions of the holy prophets and the command given by the Lord and Deliverer through your emissaries.

First Kefa is obviously the first letter. **Predictions of the holy prophets**, either those of the **Tanakh** or recent Brit Hadashah prophets (Acts 11:27). The rest of the chapter suggests the latter, even though at 1:19, "the prophetic Word" refers to the **Tanakh**. Kefa regards **the command given by the Lord and Deliverer through your emissaries** as having as much authority over **Believers'** lives as **the predictions of the holy prophets**, as is also clear from v. 15.

Your emissaries reference those who founded the church **Kefa** addresses, and perhaps more particularly some of the other 11 emissaries and **Sha'ul**. (Mark 3:13-19; Acts 1:12-14; 9:1-19; compare 2 Pet 3:14-16).

³ First, understand this: during the Last Days, scoffers will come, following their own desires ⁴ and asking, "Where is this promised 'coming' of his? For our fathers have died, and everything goes on just as it has since the beginning of creation."

The last days to which **Kefa** is referring to things happening in his day. This phrase describes the time between **Yeshua's** ascension to heaven (shortly after His resurrection) and the time when **Yeshua** will return again (see Acts 2:17; Heb 1:2). **Scoffers** refer to people disputing the truth of **Yeshua's** return (His second coming); this may be a reference to the **false teachers**. **Following according to their own desires** includes the **false teachers** and their followers who acted like they had a form of godliness, but they lacked the transformative power of **Yeshua** in their lives; their decision to repeatedly choose and condone sin showed that they did not understand **Yeshua**.

Where is this promised 'coming' of his? The **scoffers** point to the fact that **Yeshua** has not yet returned as evidence for their understanding of the world. In the **scoffers'** view, God is not going to intervene and judge.

⁵ But, wanting so much to be right about this, they overlook the fact that it was by God's Word that long ago there were heavens, and there was land which arose out of water and existed between the waters,

There was land which arose out of water, refers to Gen 1:9-10, where dry land emerges from the waters, which in the ancient worldview, now surround the land (with water above the sky, below the land, and beside the land). This description reflects common cosmological beliefs in the ancient world. ¹

⁶ and that by means of these things the world of that time was flooded with water and destroyed. ⁷ It is by that same Word that the present heavens and earth, having been preserved,

¹ Faithlife Study Bible.

are being kept for fire until the Day of Judgment, when ungodly people will be destroyed. ~ 2 Kefa 3:1-7 (CJB)

Kefa uses the example of **God** sending the flood in response to humanity's great wickedness to show that things have indeed changed since creation, contrary to the scoffers' beliefs. By the same word that created the world and brought the flood, **God** will intervene in human history again by destroying the present heavens and earth with fire and bringing a **Day of Judgment** and destruction of the ungodly. So, don't scoff, saying, "*I don't see God.*" Those who do so have forgotten what He has done. When God is ready to invade your situation, He can reorganize reality and bring the solution to your problem.

In my next post, we will complete our study of **The Day of the Lord Will Come ~ Part 2** in **2 Kefa 3:8-13.**