

## THREE WORLDS

### Intro.

- I. When Adam and Eve were formed, they were “new”, and came into a “new” world—both MATERIALLY and MORALLY. Gen.1:31
  - A. The universe aged (became old) through the centuries, and sin came into the world that hurt the first and later occupants.
  - B. Later, the new world became old both materially and morally, as sin became a way of life for the world's inhabitants.
  - C. In the NT, the apostle Peter describes *three worlds*—the OLD world, the PRESENT world, and the NEW world—the one yet to come.
- II. Now let's give attention to these THREE WORLDS.

### Discussion

#### I. 1<sup>st</sup>, Peter speaks of the OLD WORLD. 2Pe.3:5,6

- A. This world began with a miracle, when God “spoke” words, all the universe came into existence, with ever part of it designed perfectly to display the wisdom of the Designer—God Himself. Gen.1:1-4, 5f, 14-16; Ps.33:6-9; He.11:3
  1. Vegetable, animal and human life was also formed, right down to the color of fish and feathers of the various birds.
  2. Then, the moral world began to be corrupted with SIN.
    - a. Adam and Eve disobeyed God—opening the floodgates of sin into the world.
    - b. Later, all mankind became corrupt, except one family, which was used by God to preserve human creation. Gen.6:1-5,8,11-14
    - c. God sent the world-destroying flood to destroy the world of sin and rebellion. Gen.7:1, 15f, 21-24
    - d. God put a rainbow in the cloud as a promise to never again use this method of destruction. Gen.9:11-13
- B. **THIS** would be the PRE-FLOOD era, in that OLD world to which Peter refers.

#### II. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Peter speaks of the PRESENT WORLD. 2Pe.3:7

- A. Peter does not use the word “present” in this passage. but uses the word “now”, which would describe that *present time*—which continues TODAY.
- B. There are several things we observe about this “present world”.
  1. We observe that Satan is largely in control of the moral world. Ep.6:12; Lk.22:53; 2Co.4:4
  2. We see that is much EVIL and SIN in this present world. Jn.7:7; Gal.1:4; 1Jn.5:19
  3. We learn that Satan uses the good things of man to lure him into sin. Ro.12:2; Js.4:4; 1Jn.2:15-17; 2Ti.4:10
  4. We also learn that there is much suffering and tribulation in this “present” world. Jn.16:33; Ro.8:18; 2Ti.3:12

5. Finally, we learn that this “present” world (both materially and morally) will be brought to an abrupt END, when the Lord's patience runs out. Mt.24:3, 35; 28:20; 1Co.10:11; 1Jn.2:17;2Pe.3:7,10-12

C. Illus. GOD'S IMMENSE UNIVERSE. On Sept. 5, 1977, America launched a space satellite named “Voyager One”, in an effort to learn more about the great universe in which we live, as it would explore some of the outer planets. As of May 30, 2013, it had been in orbit for 35 years, 8 months and 25 days—traveling at a rate of 38,120 miles an hour, having already traveled over 12 million miles. Multiply the total miles by the speed and we come to such a large number that most calculators cannot even calculate.

Yet, Voyager One is prepared to continue traveling into the distant future. At its present rate, it would take almost 24,000 more years to reach the closest star to the earth. At its present rate, it would take another 18,000 years to complete ONE LIGHT YEAR—with light traveling at a speed of 186,000 miles per second.

All this is enough to boggle the mind. Yet, the universe continues on and on. Trying to measure the size of the universe GOD created is about as hard as trying to figure out how OLD God is—who is eternal, and has always existed. Yet, this awesome HUGE universe will someday come to an END, and shall be no more.

### III.3<sup>Rd</sup>, Peter speaks of the NEW WORLD. 2Pe.3:13

A. This is alluded to many times in the NT. Mt.12:32; Lk.18:30; 1Jn.2:17

B. This coming “new” world is described in language that we are familiar with—a NEW heaven and EARTH, which is language to describe what is generally referred to as “heaven”—a new dwelling place.

1. Only righteousness will be there. 2Pe.3:13; Rev.21:27

2. It will be a place adorned with the glory of God. Rev.21:1-5A,20-25; 22:3

#### Concl.

I. Are you prepared for the New World?

II. Only those who have been truly born again and remain faithful to the end will inherit this new world. Ep.3:21

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