What Holds the World Together?
2 Pet. 1:1-18

Introduction:
A. We live in the Atomic Age — July 16, 1945 — Alamogordo, N.M.
   1. Most or all of our lives lived under its threat.
   2. World has come close to nuclear war at times.
   3. Makes one wonder how the world has held together.
B. We also live in the Agnostic Age — Doubt God’s control over world (cf. vv. 4,5)
C. Peter tells us of two influences that holds the world together?

Discussion:
I. The Word Of God (vv. 5-7).
   A. By it the world was created (v. 5; Gen. 1; Ps. 33:9).
   B. By it the world was flooded (v. 6; Gen. 6).
   C. By it the world is kept in store (v. 7).
      1. World has not escaped His control.
      2. World’s destiny is not in hands of men.
      3. World’s destiny is not left to chance.
   D. By it we are saved. (Jas. 1:21,22; Rom. 1:16).

II. The Longsuffering of God (vv. 9-15).
   A. To give us more opportunity to “come to repentance” and be saved (v. 9,15).
      1. Involves hearing the gospel (Rom. 10:17)
      2. Involves obeying all the terms of salvation
         a. Faith and baptism (Mark 16:15-16).
         b. Confessing Christ (Rom. 10:10)
   B. To give us more opportunity to become fit for heaven (v. 13).
      1. Heaven is for righteous and godly people (vs. 11-14).
      2. Heaven is for those who grow in grace and knowledge (v. 18).
   C. To give us opportunity for now — not forever.
      1. The Lord will come as a thief in the night (v. 10).
      2. The universe will perish (vv. 10-12).
      3. The unprepared will perish (vv. 7,9, 17).

Conclusion:
A. The Lord is still holding the world together — for now.
B. The Lord has not promised to keep on holding it together.