

IT'S ALL ABOUT HOPE

Say What? – Part 1 of 3

"13 Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? 14 But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened." 1 Peter 3:13-14 (NIV)

"But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have." 1 Peter 3:15 (NIV)

Key Observation #1: Peter is NOT saying:

- Be ready to share your Christian WORLDVIEW in a convincing way.
- Be ready to defend the BIBLE.
- Be ready to give a defense for your CHURCH.

Key Truth: We are to be prepared to defend our HOPE.

Key Observation #2: You should have a single statement that gives the answer to this question: Why have you CHOSEN TO FOLLOW Jesus?

"...In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." 1 Peter 1:3b(NIV)

"Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God." 1 Peter 1:21(NIV)

"15 But do this with gentleness and respect, 16 keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander." 1 Peter 3:15b-16 (NIV)

"17 For it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. 18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God..." 1 Peter 3:17-18 (NIV)

"And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith." 1 Corinthians 15:14

Statement: I BELIEVE that Jesus died for my sin and rose from the dead.