

Catching Hell & Trusting Jesus

**All scriptures use the English Standard Version (ESV)
unless otherwise indicated**

- There are moments when following Jesus does not make life easier.

1 Peter

- Written by Peter
- Written to Christians who feel out of place in the world
- Called to live with hope, holiness, and courage

1 Peter 3:8-12 8 Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. 9 Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing. 10 For “Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit; 11 let him turn

away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it. 12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

- Quotes Psalm 34
- The church needs the power of Christ.

What does this look like?

- Unity of mind – Jesus is Lord, the gospel is central, and the family of God matters
- Sympathy – Understanding and care
- Brotherly love – remember the bond in Christ
- Tender Heart – not cold/stubborn/hard to the things of God
- Humble Mind – I can be wrong but I’ll hear you out

1 Peter 3:13-17 ¹³ Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵ but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ having a good conscience, so that, when you

are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

- You will experience suffering for what you believe.
- There will be those who don't understand or care and ridicule you.
- We are not to be motivated by fear that they will cancel/shame us.
- Reverence Christ as Lord
- Lean into the things that increase your love and affection for Jesus
- Do you have an answer prepared already for why you believe?
- Think about your testimony in advance
- Answer with gentleness and respect

1 Peter 3:18-20 ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was

being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water.

- **Substitutionary atonement** – the doctrine that Jesus Christ died on the cross as a substitute in the place of sinners, bearing the punishment due to humanity to satisfy God's justice and reconcile humanity with God.

1 Peter 3:21-22 ²¹ Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

- The Ark carried Noah safely through the waters.
- Baptism does the same in Christ.
- We are not saved by water itself.
- We are saved by baptism in that it represents inward faith and our appeal to God for the forgiveness of sins.
- It is a visual representation that we are clothed with Christ, an in union with him, sharing victory over sin.