

The Answer

1 Peter 3.15. “Always ready to give an answer.” *Apologia*. Giving a defense and giving an answer are synonymous in this biblical charge. Our hope in Christ will cause people to question us. The Christian hope is a precious thing to us. We have untold joy, peace and purpose in our lives as saints. We believe in the message we’ve been given. For this joy, peace and purpose—the answers that we give and more importantly the answers that we live make all the difference.

I. Eternity In Our Hearts

A. Ecclesiastes 3.11

1. We have “eternity written in our hearts.”
2. We are not eternal beings but we crave eternal things...purpose, peace, joy.

B. 1 Peter 3.15

1. “Being always ready to give an answer...” For what?
2. Our Hope in Christ. The answer to the eternity question.

II. What is My Purpose?

A. Some Potential Purposes

1. Money. Ecclesiastes 5.10. “He who loves money will not be satisfied...”
2. Goodness. Judges 17.6. “In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”
3. Pleasure. Galatians 2.19. “Their end is destruction...their god is their belly.”

B. True Purpose

1. We won’t satisfy infinity with finite things.
2. Ephesians 2.10 “We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works.”

III. Where is Peace?

A. “Home” is Where the Heart Is

1. We can take our security in physical things or...
2. We can build on eternal things. Matthew 7.24. “...who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.”

B. Jesus, Ultimate Peace

1. Think about the strength and peace necessary to endure what He endured.
2. Luke 23:34 "Forgive them Father, they know not what they do."

IV. Where can I find Joy?

A. Joy in Brokenness

1. Ever feel like you are totally broken? God still wants you.
2. 2 Peter 3.9. “...not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.”

B. Joy in Suffering

1. Romans 5.3-5 “Suffering produces...hope.” Our suffering strengthens us.

C. Joy in Surrender

1. 1 John 5.4. In all game but one, submission means losing. Here, surrender leads to victory. “Overcoming the world,” means turning elsewhere.
2. Everyone has faith. Everyone surrenders. To what have you surrendered your faith?

As Christians, we may not have every single answer to every single question. We do know this though. People need the Lord, even if they don’t know it. Every day they yearn for peace, joy and purpose. Are you ready to give them the answer?