

Living in Exile: Apologetics about Salvation in Christ

1 Peter 3:18-22

Intro – Being a Christian in America is different today than 80 years ago...

BI: Christ purposefully suffered to bring us in [victory](#) to GOD.

I. If you suffer for Christ, know Christ suffered [purposefully](#) for you –

¹ Peter 3:14 But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened.” ¹⁵ 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. 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. 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...

II. After Christ suffered, He proclaimed [victory](#) in the spirit realm –

¹ Peter 3:18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. ¹⁹ After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits ... ²² who has gone into heaven and is at God’s right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

III. Noah’s rescue from the flood [symbolizes](#) your salvation in Christ –

¹ Peter 3:19 After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits— ²⁰ to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, ²¹ and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at God’s right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

Application in Community

Welcome: At Grace Church, we seek to create a place of belonging for the purpose of helping people journey together to know God through Jesus Christ. If you would like to get connected, stop by the Information Center or contact Tiea Hanson via email tieah@gracechurchseattle.org or give us a call at 206.937.8400.

Application Questions:

[Q1] In your view, has the social climate in Seattle changed in the past decade? If so, share your views on what has changed.

Review – 1 Pet. 3:15 it says, “Always be prepared to give an answer...” for reason *why* you are a Christian [this is the concept of apologetics]. Last week, we talked about how this should be done with the right tone (gentleness & respect, displaying love in community, 1 Peter 3:8).

This week – let us focus on the content of the Gospel.

[Q.] What is Peter saying about why Jesus suffered in 1 Peter 3:18?

[Q.] What did Jesus do after He was “made alive in the spirit” (3:19-22)?

[Q.] What is this passage saying about baptism (3:20b-21)?

[How does it correspond to the flood waters of the story of Noah’s Ark? And how does baptism “save” you? Or does it save you? What is Peter saying? And why is baptism important according to this passage? If you do not know the reference to Noah’s Ark, read Genesis ch. 6-9, or have someone in your group summarize the story]

Scan here for Bulletin details...

