

Giving Reasons for Your Living Hope 1

Peter 3:13-18, Key Scripture vs. 15

Always **be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.**

Scripture: 1 Peter 3:13-18

Facing death without confident living hope

Admiral Rickover on his death bed --

"How the hell are you supposed to know what God wants you to do with your life? eh? Maybe I blew it completely." ...

"You're going to have to answer that kind of question yourself, Rockwell. And maybe sooner than you think. I'll guarantee it will come sooner, whenever it comes. What about it? How am I supposed to know?"

Providing a Reason for the Living Hope within Us

Component: Become **a zealot for good that those outside the faith can see**
1Pet. 3:13, Acts 10:38 Jesus of Nazareth went around **doing good** ...

Seeing this Major theme, Zealot for doing good 1 Peter --2:12; 2:15; 2:20

...knowing it should be a major theme of our lives 3:10,11,16, 17; 4:19 Quote by John Wesley: Do all the good you can ...

When we are harmed while doing good, an opportunity arises from your visible hope **Second Component: Overcoming FEAR**

"Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened." ... but what does that mean?

A fear belong to God: 1 Ptr. 2:17

A concrete fear for early Christians faced: Pliny to the Emperor Trajan AD 111-113

I interrogated these as to whether they were Christians; those who confessed I interrogated a second and a third time, threatening them with punishment; those who persisted I ordered executed.

Your "Apologetic" for your Living Hope (in the Resurr'n Ro, 10:9; 1 Ptr. 1:3

Apologetic Witnesses to the Truth

The Apostles' Witness-- a witnessed truth they were willing to die for

The signs of the Apostles bore witness
Heb. 2:3-4; 2 Cor. 12:12

Their changed lives--

Birth of the NT church-- in Jerusalem!

Reliable Ancient Records: manuscripts: codices, papyri, quotes in the Church Fathers,

Overcoming the Denial of God's existence via Evolution, or... belief in an eternal universe

There is a God! And God fits the Biblical description! Romans 1:19-20

DNA and the demise of the atheism of some atheists

Einstein's regrettable error--the witness of the universe, the message of the stars

The manner or demeanor of your Apologetic

Set apart Christ as Lord in your heart
With gentleness --

With Respect-- they are made in God's image

With a clear conscience -- confession to God and forgiveness

With good behavior --

Being **prepared to give an answer**

Write out and rehearse your testimony

Find out the objections of those you wish to share with and prepare for them

Always be Ready!