

1 Peter Series

Lesson #083

March 9, 2017

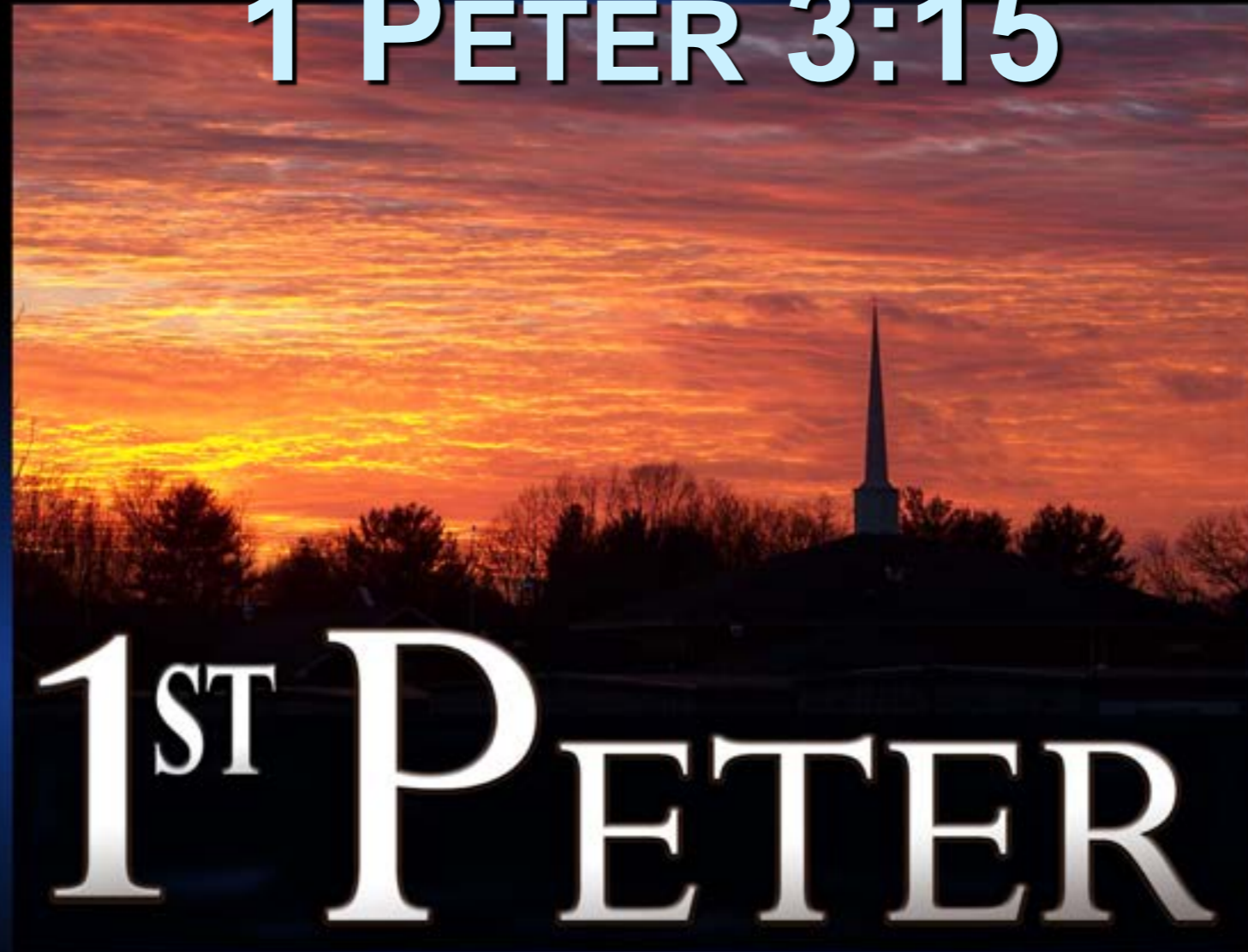
Dean Bible Ministries

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THE GOODNESS OF GOD; GIVING AN ANSWER—PART 1

1 PETER 3:15



LIVING IN LIGHT OF ETERNITY

1 Pet. 3:13, “And who is he who will harm you if you become followers of what is good?”

1 Pet. 3:14, “But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you are blessed. ‘And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled.’”

1 Pet. 3:15, “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

1 Pet. 3:16, “having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed.

1 Pet. 3:17, “For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.”

1 Pet. 3:13, “And who is he who will harm you IF³ you become followers of what is good?”

1 Pet. 3:14, “But even if¹ you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you are blessed. ‘*And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled.*’

1 Pet. 3:15, “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

1 Pet. 3:16, “having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed.

1 Pet. 3:17, “For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.”

Though severe persecution occurs, it is not the norm. The norm is that people do not attack because you do good.

1 Pet. 3:13, “And who is he who will harm you IF³ you become followers of what is good?”

κακόω *kakoō*
fut act part
masc sing nom
to do evil,
harm, bad in
the sense of
misfortune or
suffering

ἀγαθός *agathos*
gen neut sing
good; good of
intrinsic value

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**ἀγαθός *agathos*
gen neut sing
good; good of
intrinsic value**

**ζηλωτής *zēlōtēs* nom
masc plur zealot; jealous;
passionate Cr T**

**μιμητής, *mimetes* one who
follows another's example
imitator, follower (MajText)**

1 Pet. 3:14, “But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you are blessed. *‘And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled.’ ”*

1 Pet. 3:14, “But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you are blessed. ‘And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled.’ ”

πάσχω *paschō*
pres act opt 2 plur to
suffer, endure
persecution or hostility

μακάριος *makarios*
nom masc plur
blessed, happy,
privileged

1 Pet. 3:15, “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;”

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**ἁγιάζω *hagiazō*
aor act impera 2
plur
to sanctify; set
apart, to honor**

**ἀπολογία *apologia*
acc fem sing
defense, a well
thought out,
reasoned
explanation**

1 Pet. 3:16, “[in order to] having a good conscience, [with the result] that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed.”

καταλαλέω *katalaleō*
pres mid indic 2 plur
to speak evil of,
“when they speak
evil against you, or
defame you”

ἐπηρεάζω *epēreazō*
pres act part masc
plur nom
to mistreat, abuse

ἀναστροφή
anastrophē
dat fem sing
way of life, lifestyle

1 Pet. 3:17, “For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.”

1 Pet. 3:17, “For it is better, if¹ it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.”

πάσχω *paschō*

pres act inf

**to suffer, endure
persecution or
hostility**

ἀγαθοποιέω

agathopoieō

**pres act part masc
plur acc to do good**

κακοποιέω

kakopoieō

**pres act part masc
plur acc
to do evil, harm**

1 Pet. 3:15–16,

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed.”

Introduction to Apologetics

- 1. What is *Apologetics*?**
- 2. Why should we learn about apologetics?**
- 3. Why do some people object to apologetics?**
- 4. The Bible doesn't use apologetics, why should we?**
- 5. What is the difference between Apologetics and Christian Evidences?**
- 6. On what basis do we defend, support, argue, that Christianity is the one and only TRUTH?**

1. What is *Apologetics*?

OED (Oxford English Dictionary)

1 a regretful acknowledgement of an offence or failure.

3 a justification or defence.

In common usage, most people only think of the first meaning, which is not the biblical nor the historical meaning.

The OED's third meaning is the meaning related to the biblical teaching on apologetics.

1. What is *Apologetics*?

ἀπολογία apologia

- ① a speech of defense, *defense, reply*
- ② the act of making a defense, *defense; as in court, or an eager activity to defend oneself, 2 Cor. 7:11*
- ③ claim of extenuating circumstance,

excuse,

BAGD

“17× the noun or verb appears in the New Testament with the sense of either vindication or defense in every use.

(Boa, Faith has its Reasons)

Acts 19:33, “And they drew Alexander out of the multitude, the Jews putting him forward. And Alexander motioned with his hand, and wanted to make his defense to the people.”

Acts 24:10, “Then Paul, after the governor had nodded to him to speak, answered: ‘Inasmuch as I know that you have been for many years a judge of this nation, I do the more cheerfully answer for myself,’ ”

“The New Testament, then, does not use the words *apologia*, and *apologeomai* in the technical sense of the modern word *apologetics*. The idea of offering a reasoned defense of the faith is evident in three of these texts (Phil. 1:7, 17; 1 Pet. 3:15).”

Apologetics has nothing to do with saying one is sorry or guilty over some action.

“Christian apologetics is the discipline wherein an intelligent effort is made to defend before an unbelieving world the truth claim of the Christian faith, specifically its claim of exclusive true knowledge of the living and true God, in a manner consistent with the teaching of Scripture.”

~Robert Reymond, *The Justification of Knowledge*

“*Apologia* describes a carefully reasoned defense in response to a line of questioning or wrongful accusation by recognized authorities. The word may also refer to a more informal defense outside of the courtroom against personal questioning or accusation (1 Cor. 9:3; 2 Cor. 7:11; 1 Pet. 3:15). The intent of an *apologia* is to win over the person being addressed, to change his mind about what is true.”

~Clough, *Theology and Apologetics*

From this we see that the definition [of apologetics] involves the knowledge of facts and determination of truth. Over the centuries the meaning of knowledge, facts, and truth have been intensely debated. Underlying this discussion are assumptions about a specific view of reality. How one person understands reality is directly related to his worldview. This includes an understanding of the ultimate nature of reality, how we know anything and how we validate or justify that knowledge, how that knowledge affects our understanding of truth, which in turn impacts ethics and the determination of right and wrong, or even if right and wrong exists.

THE ANCIENT CHURCH

A.D. 100–600

AGE
OF THE
APOSTOLIC
FATHERS

AGE
OF THE
APOLOGISTS

AGE
OF THE
THEOLOGIANs

A.D.
100

A.D.
150

A.D.
300

A.D.
600

Apologetics involves communication



Christian
Missionary

What is their
common ground?
language?
culture?
religion? (what
do they each
mean by “god”)?
truth?
values?
reason?
experience?



Pagan aborigines

Apologetics involves communication

What must the missionary do to communicate with the aborigine?
language?
culture?
religion? (what do they each mean by “god”)?
truth?
values?
reason?
experience?



Christian
Missionary



Pagan aborigines

Apologetics involves communication



Do they mean the
same thing by:
god?
truth?
life?
creation?
right and wrong?



Christian
Missionary
Divine viewpoint

Pagan aborigines
Human viewpoint

Apologetics involves communication



Do they mean the
same thing by:
god?
truth?
life?
creation?
right and wrong?



Christian
Missionary
Divine viewpoint

Your post-modern
sister, friend,
co-worker
Human viewpoint

Genuine communication involves making clear what one person thinks to another person.

As such, the person who is communicating from a divine viewpoint should make sure that in his communication of his culture's beliefs that he does not compromise his own divine viewpoint standards.

So in a more technical sense, “giving an answer” assumes giving an understandable explanation that communicates truly to the person who comes from a different framework.