

THE FIRST EPISTLE OF PETER

TO THE CHURCH OF THE DISPERSION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

1-PETER CHAPTER 3:13-17

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX968

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“On Your Mark. Get Set. Be Ready. – Part 2”

The Ministry of The Grace of God Toward All Those Who Are Anchored in Christ.

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Lordship, Holiness, Sanctification, Maturity, Judgment

Introduction to the Text: 1 Peter 3:13-17

Congregational Reading

1 Peter 3:13-17

And who is he who will **harm** you if you **become followers** of what is **good**?

14 But even if you should **suffer** for **righteousness**' sake, you are **blessed**.

“And do not be **afraid** of their **threats**, nor be **troubled**.”

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**;

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

17 For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for **doing good** than for doing evil.

On Your Mark. Get Set. Be Ready.

1.) Be ready to not be surprised

vs. 13-15a

1a.) When you are attacked for the faith

vs. 13

And who is he who will **harm** you
if you **become followers** of what is **good**?

1b.) When you are rejected for His name

vs. 14a

1c.) When you are threatened for doing good

vs. 14b-15a

:14b “And **do not** be **afraid** of their **threats**, **nor be troubled.**”

15a But (in response to the threats) (do) sanctify
the Lord God **in your hearts**,

On Your Mark. Get Set. Be Ready

2.) Be ready to win the argument

vs. 15

: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**;

Verse 15a

15a But (in response to the threats) (do)
sanctify the Lord God **in your hearts**,

sanctify grk: hagiozo; to designate as being separated or apart from other things, to consecrate something or someone as be hollowed or reserved for a particular and unique cause.

(simply put – to fear the thought of displeasing the Lord is to hate the idea of offending the heart of God)

On Your Mark. Get Set. Be Ready

To Win The Argument

2a.) You will need to validate your claim

vs. 15b

:15b ...and **always be ready**

Always Be Ready

to answer when a situation presents itself.
(the Christian is to preside over the issues of the day)

Always Be Ready

to challenge conventional wisdom about an issue.
(the Christian is to provoke thinking and challenges)

Always Be Ready

to interject a second opinion on the matter at hand.
(the Christian is to enlighten the debate with clarity)

Always Be Ready

to leave the debate where it lands.
(the Christian is to present reasonable argumentation – that's it)

**This is impossible unless you have a first-hand
faith of your own.**

Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

Dear Christian friend listen to me carefully:

Unless you're able to defend what you claim to believe, you will be wholly inadequate to not only defend your faith but you will never be able to witness to another individual unless you know what it is that you believe.

You can't give anything away that you don't own.

You cannot get the measles unless you come in contact with someone who has the measles.

"who got you sick? – where'd you get that nasty cough?"

To always be ready is to be well invested in.
It means that you immerse yourself in the things of God.

What are the Symptoms of Someone Dying?

What are the Symptoms of a Dying Soul?

What are the Symptoms of a Dying Church?

Today a vast majority of people are lying in a spiritual morgue with the cause of death written on a card tied around their big toe,
CAUSE OF DEATH: Unbelief, Apathy, Spiritual Neglect –

Observable Fact:

Apathy within the “Professing” Church is growing rapidly.

Referencing The Parable of the Sower,
The Seed and the Soil - Human Heart

Luke 21:34

“Be careful, because your hearts could be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness and the anxieties of this life, and **that day** will close in on you unexpectedly like a trap.

2 Peter 3:4-5

Scoffers will be saying, “Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation.” **5** For this they willfully forget:

Observable Fact:

“Christian” ministry is departing from the Authority of Scripture.

2 Peter 2:1

But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies,

2 Peter 3:3

Knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts,

Jude 1:17-18

But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: **18** how they told you **that there would be mockers in the last time**

Observable Fact:

The Catching up and away of the “True” of Jesus Christ is Near

1Thessalonians 4:13-18

But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. **:14** For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in

Jesus. :15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive *and* remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. :16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. :17 Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. :18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

1Thessalonians 1:10a

“..wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from **the wrath to come**.

Philippians 3:20-21

For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also **eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, :21 who will transform our vile body** that it may be conformed to His glorious body,

Galatians 5:5

For we through the Spirit eagerly **wait for the hope of righteousness** by faith.

John 16:33

These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

John 14:1-3

“Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. :2 In My Father’s house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. :3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also.

On Your Mark. Get Set. Be Ready

To Win The Argument

2b.) You will need to provide evidence

vs. 15b

:15b ...**ready** to give a **defense**

defense grk: apologia. to give a speech in defense of: to defend. to provide a vindication (answer) for your argument.

The ancient Greeks put a high value on any thought or an idea that could be well defended. In Greek (apologia) argumentation, it is a “worthy-thing” for you to encounter someone that has a better argument than you do.

That wasn't offensive to anyone. No one got their feelings hurt, No one's snowflake melted – (apologia) argumentation was celebrated as you would have learned something new that was proven to be reasonable logical and practical – but what was above all it could be proven.
(It is impossible to defend your feelings against reality)

In Acts 17 this was the entire premise of Paul's apologia presentation in Athens Greece.

Paul acknowledged all of their religious arguments and the gods that represented their beliefs – My apologia is Better than yours!

Today in the 21st-century feelings and emotions have become our God.

We live and speak and decide all based upon feelings and emotions.

It's been tragically noted that:
*“People will not remember what you said,
they will, however, remember how you made them feel.”*

2 Peter 1:19a

And so we have the prophetic word confirmed,

Acts 1:1-3

The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, 2 until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, 3 to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

What does “sanctifying in the heart” look like?

1Thessalonians 5:1-9

But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. 2 For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. 3 For when they say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. 4 But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. 5 You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. 6 Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. 8 But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of **faith** and **love**, and as a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him.

2 Timothy 1:12

For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless **I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and I am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed** to Him (my soul) until (against) that Day.

And this is the “how” and the “why” of Paul’s ministry effectiveness

Matthew 6:33

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Romans 12:1-2

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you **present** your bodies a living sacrifice, **holy**, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And **do not be conformed** to this world, but **be transformed** by the renewing of your mind, that **you may prove** what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

On Your Mark. Get Set. Be Ready

To Win The Argument

2c.) You will need to exhibit it’s power

vs. 15b

:15b to everyone who asks you a **reason** for the **hope** that is in you, with **meekness** and **fear**;

When Paul was in Caesarea Maritime, Israel

Acts 26:27-28

King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you do believe.” :28
Then Agrippa said to Paul, “You almost persuade me to become a Christian.”

The Hope

Where does an effective witness for Christ come from?

Awakening / Condemnation / Crisis / Repentance / Salvation
Joy / Assurance / Passion / Conviction / Decision

The Christ / The Cross / The Call

End of Study

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