

The Message Notes

Message: *In Defense of the Faith*

Messenger: Pastor Keith (PK)

Text: I Peter 3:14-15

Date: February 27, 2022



1 Peter 3:14. But even if you suffer for doing what is right, God will reward you for it. So don't worry or be afraid of their threats. **15.** Instead, you must **worship Christ as Lord** of your life. And if someone asks about your **hope** as a believer, **always be ready to explain it.** (NLT)

Objective: We want to know the answers to questions that are frequently asked about our faith, so we can share the hope we have in Christ.

Introduction: Just because we cannot answer every question about our faith does make our faith and hope in Christ **invalid** or **illogical**.

Centrality of Christ: John 5:39, 2 Peter 1:20-21

Context:

- Peter** is writing to Christians who are suffering for their belief in Christ and who are **worried** and **fearful**, **v.14**. But even if you **suffer** for doing **what is right**, God will **reward** you for it.

- Peter said the way we stand up to **persecution** for our faith is **worship** to Christ as **Lord** of our lives and be **ready to explain our faith**, **v.15**. Instead, you must **worship Christ as Lord** of your life. And if someone asks about your **hope** as a believer, **always be ready to explain it**.

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. Who created God? The Scriptures begin the creation story with God preexisting and is acting (creating the world).

Genesis 1:1. In the beginning God **created** the heavens and the earth. (NLT)
(created – bara – nothing preexisted)

- God is **monotheism**
- God is self-existent
- God is transcendent

Question: Can you tell me why something exists, instead of nothing exist?

2. Why do you believe God exists?

- a) _____ design of the universe. **Psalms 19:1.** The **heavens proclaim the glory** of God. The **skies display his craftsmanship.**
2. Day after day they **continue to speak**; night after night they make him **known.** (NLT) Ref: Romans 1:20, Genesis 1:1-5

- b) _____ details of my Body. **Genesis 2:7.** And the Lord God **formed** man of the **dust of the ground (physical)** and **breathed** into his nostrils the **breath of life (metaphysical)**; and man **became** a living **being.** Ref: Genesis 2:7, Ecclesiastes 12:7, Psalms 139:14

- c) _____ of Christ - **John 1.1** In the beginning the **Word** already existed. The **Word** was with God, and the **Word was God.**
14a. So, the **Word became human** and made his **home among us.** (NLT) Ref: Colossians 1:15, John 14:9

- d) _____ of my faith - **2 Corinthians 5:7.** for we **walk by faith, not by sight.** (ESV) Ref: Hebrews 11:6, John 20:29

Answer: I believe God exists by the **intelligent** design of the universe, **intricate** design of my body, the **incarnation** of Jesus Christ, and the **impact** of my faith that diligently seek Him.”

Question: Do you assess life **subjectively** or **objectively**?

3. Why are we considered sinners? Ref: Romans 5:12, Psalms 51:5, Romans 6:23

Answer: I am a **sinner, condemned to death** by **Adam's sin**, which spread to each human being. The judgment of **sin** is **death**, eternal torture, and separation from God. Sinners need a Savior.

Question: Why do humans break man made laws?

4. Why are we considered lost? **Luke 19:10.** “For the Son of Man has come to **seek** and to **save** those who are **lost.**” (NLT)

- a) Where did you come from?
- b) What is the meaning of life?
- c) What happens after death?

Answer: I am lost because I cannot answer the question where I come from beyond my **birth date**. I do not know the **meaning** of life. I do not know what happens **after death**.