

Session 1 – Introduction to Apologetics

1 Peter 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." 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;

I. What is Apologetics? (1 Peter 3:15)

A. Priority

1. Sanctify – regard as sacred.
2. Establish God as the priority.
3. If God is important to us we will put in the time required to be prepared.

B. Prepared

1. Always – unceasingly, continually
2. Ready – completely prepared for immediate action.
3. The goal of apologetics is no matter where you are, or who you are with, you are prepared to share what you believe and why you believe it.

C. Reply

1. Defense – (From the Greek “Apologia”) A rational narrative of why you believe what you believe.
2. A defense to the world.
3. A defense to yourself.

II. The Attitude of Apologetics.

A. Meekness and Fear

1. Meekness – acting in a manner that is gentle and mild.
2. Fear – respect for someone.
3. There must be complete respect toward those to whom you are presenting your defense.
4. What you say, and the way you say it, will draw others to Jesus or push them away from Jesus.

B. Confidence (1 Peter 3:14)

1. Afraid – anxious or apprehensive.
2. Do not allow fear to paralyze you!
3. Your confidence is in God not yourself.