

Hopeful Exiles

1 Peter



The Christian's Response to Suffering

1 Peter 3:8-17 (ESV)



8 Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. 9 Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing. 10 For "Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit; 11 let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it. 12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."



13 Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? 14 But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, 15 but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, 16 having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. 17 For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. – 1 Peter 3:8-17 (ESV)



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Does this verse describe you?



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“For Peter the privilege of living rightly because of Christ and suffering for it is nothing less than a blessing, a sign of God’s favor and evidence of one’s salvation.”

– Karen H. Jobes, Baker Exegetical
Commentary on 1 Peter



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always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who
asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it
with gentleness and respect,*

**Is your hope in Christ and Christ
alone to save you?**



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always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who
asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it
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1. Start with your heart.



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1. Start with your heart.
2. **Everyone is an apologist.**



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1. Start with your heart.
2. Everyone is an apologist.
3. **We are never done learning.**



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4. **The Gospel is for anyone.**



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3. We are never done learning.
4. The Gospel is for anyone.
5. **How we defend the faith matters.**



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3 Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

– Romans 5:3-5 (ESV)



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