

Make A Defense For The Hope That Is In You

1 Pet. 3:15

Make A Defense For The Hope That Is In You

1Pe 3:15 but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;

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Introduction

- Clearly, Peter commands us to be ready to defend the hope that is in us to all who ask us to do so
- This defense must be based only on the gospel in which we believe and by which we stand even in the midst of suffering and persecution
- Our hope is in Christ who died for our sins, was raised from the dead on the third day and has ascended to the right hand of God₃

Introduction

- He rules over all, provides forgiveness of sins, access to God, His gospel that changes us and hope of eternal life
- Because of this hope in Jesus, we are willing to live for Him, rejoicing in trials
- This command is given to all Christians, not to only elders, preachers and evangelists

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Introduction

- How do we prepare to defend this hope?
- On what is this hope based?
- What character must we have as we defend this hope within us?
- Defending our hope in Christ might be challenging even under normal conditions but in trials and persecutions even facing death, it might seem impossible

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Sanctify Christ As Lord In Your Hearts

1Pe 3:15 but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;

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Sanctify Christ As Lord In Your Hearts

- The reality is, although most do not recognize it, Jesus is now Lord of all ruling at God's right hand
- As Christians, we must willingly and continually honor Jesus as Lord in our hearts by living a holy life, set apart to do His will, not conforming to the world
- This includes defending the hope that is in us at every opportunity

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Sanctify Christ As Lord In Your Hearts

- If we are not sanctifying Jesus as Lord and living a holy life before Him and others, then we will probably never be asked to give an account for the hope within us
- Or, if we try to give an account of this hope, because of our worldly lives, no one will believe the gospel we try to teach them

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Sanctify Christ As Lord In Your Hearts

Act 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ--this Jesus whom you crucified."

Act 2:37 Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

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Sanctify Christ As Lord In Your Hearts

Act 2:38 Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Act 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

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Sanctify Christ As Lord In Your Hearts

Luk 6:46 "Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"

Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Col 3:17 Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

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Sanctify Christ As Lord In Your Hearts

Rom 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.

Rom 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

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Sanctify Christ As Lord In Your Hearts

1Pe 1:13 Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

1Pe 1:14 As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance,

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Sanctify Christ As Lord In Your Hearts

1Pe 1:15 but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior;

1Pe 1:16 because it is written, "YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."

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Defense Based On Faith and Hope In God Through Christ From The Scriptures

Defense defined as

G627 apologia

Thayer Definition:

- 1) verbal defence, speech in defence
- 2) a reasoned statement or argument

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Defense Based On Faith and Hope In God Through Christ From The Scriptures

- As Christians, we must be ready with a reasoned argument for why we have hope in Christ, why we are living this way in spite of all trials including persecution
- This hope is not based on emotions and empty traditions, but on the Scriptures, inspired (God-breathed) writings, filled with evidence such as miracles, fulfilled prophecies and eyewitness testimony proving Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God

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Defense Based On Faith and Hope In God Through Christ From The Scriptures

- Faith then is a reasonable belief and trust in God based on evidence presented in the Scriptures
- We did not see Jesus die and raised from the dead but we believe others did
- Their eye-witness accounts are confirmed by fulfilled prophecies, things written hundreds of years earlier, many fulfilled by Jesus' enemies

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Contrast Bible Evidence Based Faith With One of Webster's Definitions

- 2a(1): belief and trust in and loyalty to God
(2): belief in the traditional doctrines of a religion
- b(1): firm belief in something for which there is no proof
clinging to the *faith* that her missing son would one day return
- (2): complete trust

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Defense Based On Faith and Hope In God
Through Christ From The Scriptures

Act 17:1 Now when they had traveled through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews.

Act 17:2 And according to Paul's custom, he went to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures,

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Defense Based On Faith and Hope In God
Through Christ From The Scriptures

Act 17:3 explaining and giving evidence that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you is the Christ."

Act 17:4 And some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, along with a large number of the God-fearing Greeks and a number of the leading women.

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Defense Based On Faith and Hope In God
Through Christ From The Scriptures

Act 17:11 Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so.

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Defense Based On Faith and Hope In God
Through Christ From The Scriptures

Heb 11:1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Heb 11:2 For by it the men of old gained approval.

Heb 11:3 By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible.

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Defense Based On Faith and Hope In God
Through Christ From The Scriptures

Heb 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

Rom 10:17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

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Defense Based On Faith and Hope In God
Through Christ From The Scriptures

Joh 20:30 Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;

Joh 20:31 but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.

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Defense Based On Faith and Hope In God
Through Christ From The Scriptures

1Co 15:1 Now I make known to you,
brethren, the gospel which I preached to
you, which also you received, in which also
you stand,

1Co 15:2 by which also you are saved, if
you hold fast the word which I preached to
you, unless you believed in vain.

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Defense Based On Faith and Hope In God
Through Christ From The Scriptures

1Co 15:3 For I delivered to you as of first
importance what I also received, that Christ
died for our sins according to the Scriptures,
1Co 15:4 and that He was buried, and that
He was raised on the third day according to
the Scriptures,

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Defense Based On Faith and Hope In God
Through Christ From The Scriptures

1Co 15:5 and that He appeared to Cephas,
then to the twelve.

1Co 15:6 After that He appeared to more
than five hundred brethren at one time, most
of whom remain until now, but some have
fallen asleep;

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Defense Based On Faith and Hope In God
Through Christ From The Scriptures

1Co 15:7 then He appeared to James, then
to all the apostles;

1Co 15:8 and last of all, as to one untimely
born, He appeared to me also.

1Co 15:16 For if the dead are not raised,
not even Christ has been raised;

1Co 15:17 and if Christ has not been
raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in
your sins.

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Defense Based On Faith and Hope In God
Through Christ From The Scriptures

1Co 15:18 Then those also who have fallen
asleep in Christ have perished.

1Co 15:19 If we have hoped in Christ in this
life only, we are of all men most to be pitied.

1Co 15:20 But now Christ has been raised
from the dead, the first fruits of those who
are asleep.

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Make A Defense For The Hope
That Is In You

1. Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts
2. Defense based on faith and hope in God
through Christ from the Scriptures

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be Born Again To A Living Hope

- We must be born again by the gospel to have a living hope in the risen Christ who has died for our sins and now has opened the way for us to heaven
- We are born again, become a new child of God, when we obey the gospel to become a Christian

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be Born Again To A Living Hope

- When we believe in Jesus, we must repent (change our minds) of our sins, confess Jesus as the Son of God (equal with the Father and Holy Spirit in nature and Lord of heaven and earth), and be baptized (immersed in water) in Jesus' name (authority) for the forgiveness of our past sins

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be Born Again To A Living Hope

- When we are baptized into Jesus' death, God raises us up by faith to a new life, born again by His powerful grace through Jesus' blood
- We are not born again in any other way such as the sinner's prayer or so-called Holy Spirit baptism

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be Born Again To A Living Hope

1Pe 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
1Pe 1:4 to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be Born Again To A Living Hope

1Pe 1:5 who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
1Pe 1:17 If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay on earth;

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be Born Again To A Living Hope

1Pe 1:18 knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers,
1Pe 1:19 but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.
1Pe 1:20 For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

1Pe 1:21 who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

1Pe 1:22 Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart,

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

1Pe 1:23 for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God.

1Pe 1:24 For, "ALL FLESH IS LIKE GRASS, AND ALL ITS GLORY LIKE THE FLOWER OF GRASS. THE GRASS WITHERS, AND THE FLOWER FALLS OFF,

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

1Pe 1:25 BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD ENDURES FOREVER." And this is the word which was preached to you.

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

Joh 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name,

Joh 1:13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

Joh 3:3 Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Joh 3:4 Nicodemus *said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?"

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

Joh 3:5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

Joh 18:36 Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm."

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

Mar 16:15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.

Mar 16:16 "He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

Act 2:1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.

Act 2:2 And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

Act 2:3 And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them.

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

Act 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

Act 2:5 Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven.

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

Act 2:6 And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and were bewildered because each one of them was hearing them speak in his own language.

Act 2:21 'AND IT SHALL BE THAT EVERYONE WHO CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.'

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

Act 2:22 "Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know--

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

Act 2:23 this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death.

Act 2:24 "But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power.

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

Act 2:29 "Brethren, I may confidently say to you regarding the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.

Act 2:30 "And so, because he was a prophet and knew that GOD HAD SWORN TO HIM WITH AN OATH TO SEAT one OF HIS DESCENDANTS ON HIS THRONE,

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

Act 2:31 he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that HE WAS NEITHER ABANDONED TO HADES, NOR DID His flesh SUFFER DECAY.

Act 2:32 "This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses.

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

Act 2:33 "Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear.

Act 2:34 "For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says: 'THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND,

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

Act 2:35 UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET."

Act 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ--this Jesus whom you crucified."

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

Act 2:37 Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

Act 2:38 Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

Act 8:35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him.

Act 8:36 As they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch *said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?"

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

Act 8:37 [And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."]

Act 8:38 And he ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch, and he baptized him.

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

Act 8:39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; and the eunuch no longer saw him, but went on his way rejoicing.

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

1Pe 3:21 Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you--not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience--through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

Act 22:16 'Now why do you delay? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name.'

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

Rom 6:3 Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?

Rom 6:4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us
To Be Born Again To A Living
Hope

Col 2:11 and in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ;

Col 2:12 having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

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Defense of How God Has Caused Us To Be
Born Again To A Living Hope

Gal 3:26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

Gal 3:27 For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

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Make A Defense For The Hope That Is In You

1. Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts
2. Defense based on faith and hope in God through Christ from the Scriptures
3. Defense of how God has caused us to be born again to a living hope

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Defend With Gentleness and Reverence Even In Trials And Persecutions

- The last thing we may think of or think about doing when suffering, especially persecution for our faith, is to defend it before others
- And, to defend it in a gentle and reverent way or with meekness and fear
- To be meek or gentle means to be under God's control accepting His dealings with us as good

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Defend With Gentleness and Reverence Even In Trials And Persecutions

- We must fear God above all and seek to please Him without compromise
- Satan's goal is to persecute us to such a level we renounce our faith and submit to the world, to evil
- Being willing to be faithful and defend the hope within us based on the gospel while suffering, possibly to death, brings glory to God and an eternal blessing to us
- We imitate Jesus our perfect example

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Defend With Gentleness and Reverence Even In Trials And Persecutions

1Pe 3:13 Who is there to harm you if you prove zealous for what is good?

1Pe 3:14 But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed. AND DO NOT FEAR THEIR INTIMIDATION, AND DO NOT BE TROUBLED,

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Defend With Gentleness and Reverence Even In Trials And Persecutions

1Pe 3:15 but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;

1Pe 3:16 and keep a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ will be put to shame.

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Defend With Gentleness and Reverence Even In Trials And Persecutions

1Pe 3:17 For it is better, if God should will it so, that you suffer for doing what is right rather than for doing what is wrong.

1Pe 3:18 For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit;

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Defend With Gentleness and Reverence
Even In Trials And Persecutions

Mat 5:5 "Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.

Mat 10:28 "Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

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Defend With Gentleness and Reverence
Even In Trials And Persecutions

1Pe 1:6 In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials,
1Pe 1:7 so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

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Defend With Gentleness and Reverence
Even In Trials And Persecutions

1Pe 1:8 and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,

1Pe 1:9 obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

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Defend With Gentleness and Reverence
Even In Trials And Persecutions

1Pe 2:21 For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps,

1Pe 2:22 WHO COMMITTED NO SIN,
NOR WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH;

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Defend With Gentleness and Reverence
Even In Trials And Persecutions

1Pe 2:23 and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously;

1Pe 2:24 and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.

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Defend With Gentleness and Reverence
Even In Trials And Persecutions

1Pe 4:12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you;

1Pe 4:13 but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation.

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Defend With Gentleness and Reverence
Even In Trials And Persecutions

1Pe 4:14 If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

1Pe 4:15 Make sure that none of you suffers as a murderer, or thief, or evildoer, or a troublesome meddler;

1Pe 4:16 but if anyone suffers as a Christian, he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify God in this name.

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Defend With Gentleness and Reverence
Even In Trials And Persecutions

1Pe 4:17 For it is time for judgment to begin with the household of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?

1Pe 4:18 AND IF IT IS WITH DIFFICULTY THAT THE RIGHTEOUS IS SAVED, WHAT WILL BECOME OF THE GODLESS MAN AND THE SINNER?

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Defend With Gentleness and Reverence
Even In Trials And Persecutions

1Pe 4:19 Therefore, those also who suffer according to the will of God shall entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right.

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Defend Growing In Grace and Knowledge
Looking Forward To Eternal Life

- God, by His Word, daily grace and mercy through Jesus' blood and working all things to our good, enables us to patiently serve Him in hope of eternal life
- Let us then live the gospel of hope before others so that when they ask us to defend it, we will gladly do so appealing to them to become Christians that they might be forgiven of their sins and have hope of the eternal inheritance

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Defend Growing In Grace and Knowledge
Looking Forward To Eternal Life

Rom 8:23 And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.

Rom 8:24 For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopes for what he already sees?

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Defend Growing In Grace and Knowledge
Looking Forward To Eternal Life

Rom 8:25 But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.

Rom 8:26 In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words;

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Defend Growing In Grace and Knowledge
Looking Forward To Eternal Life

Rom 8:27 and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Rom 8:28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

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Defend Growing In Grace and Knowledge
Looking Forward To Eternal Life

Rom 8:29 For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;

Rom 8:35 Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

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Defend Growing In Grace and Knowledge
Looking Forward To Eternal Life

Rom 8:36 Just as it is written, "FOR YOUR SAKE WE ARE BEING PUT TO DEATH ALL DAY LONG; WE WERE CONSIDERED AS SHEEP TO BE SLAUGHTERED."

Rom 8:37 But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us.

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Defend Growing In Grace and Knowledge
Looking Forward To Eternal Life

Rom 8:38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,

Rom 8:39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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Defend Growing In Grace and Knowledge
Looking Forward To Eternal Life

1Jn 3:1 See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.

1Jn 3:2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.

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Defend Growing In Grace and Knowledge
Looking Forward To Eternal Life

1Jn 3:3 And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

1Jn 1:7 but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

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Defend Growing In Grace and Knowledge
Looking Forward To Eternal Life

1Jn 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.

1Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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Defend Growing In Grace and Knowledge
Looking Forward To Eternal Life

2Pe 3:18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

1Pe 5:6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time,

1Pe 5:7 casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.

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Defend Growing In Grace and Knowledge
Looking Forward To Eternal Life

1Pe 5:8 Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

1Pe 5:9 But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world.

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Defend Growing In Grace and Knowledge
Looking Forward To Eternal Life

1Pe 5:10 After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.

1Pe 5:11 To Him be dominion forever and ever. Amen.

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Defend Growing In Grace and Knowledge
Looking Forward To Eternal Life

Act 26:26 "For the king knows about these matters, and I speak to him also with confidence, since I am persuaded that none of these things escape his notice; for this has not been done in a corner.

Act 26:27 "King Agrippa, do you believe the Prophets? I know that you do."

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Defend Growing In Grace and Knowledge
Looking Forward To Eternal Life

Act 26:28 Agrippa replied to Paul, "In a short time you will persuade me to become a Christian."

Act 26:29 And Paul said, "I would wish to God, that whether in a short or long time, not only you, but also all who hear me this day, might become such as I am, except for these chains."

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Make A Defense For The Hope That Is In You

1. Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts
2. Defense based on faith and hope in God through Christ from the Scriptures
3. Defense of how God has caused us to be born again to a living hope
4. Defend with gentleness and reverence even in trials and persecutions
5. Defend growing in grace and knowledge looking forward to eternal life