

^{2:12} Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

^{3:8} Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. ⁹ Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

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10 For,
"Whoever would love life and see good days must keep their tongue from evil and their lips from deceitful speech.
11 They must turn from evil and do good; they must seek peace and pursue it.
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^{3:15} But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

¹⁵ But in your hearts <u>revere</u> Christ as Lord.

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.



What is apologetics?

- The English word "apologetics" comes from the Greek word 'apologia' which means "to give a reason or defense".
- 1 Peter 3:15: 'Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.'
- So, the Apostle Peter wrote that ALL Christians need to be ready to give an defence of their Christian hope to everyone who asks them, adding importantly, that it should be done with gentleness and respect (1Pet 3:15).



... why is apologetics needed?

2. In a post-Christian culture thoroughly saturated with humanistic and naturalistic philosophies, the seeker and sceptic alike are unlikely to accept a position that starts with 'the Bible says'.

Apologetics is a means of engaging the non-Christian at his point of understanding in order to facilitate the eventual sharing of the message of the gospel.

Question: What is the greatest defect among American Christians?

Response: "They have an inadequate view of suffering." – Helmut Thielicke

But do this with gentleness and respect ¹⁶ keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

2 Timothy 2:24 And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. ²⁵ Opponents must be gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth,