

# first peter

## part 94

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Remember the saying we used as children when a “snoopy” friend would ask us about our behavior? It would go like this... “Why are you doing that? It’s none of your business” was the answer.

Unfortunately, that “stay out of my life” mentality carries over into the adult life in many professing believers, and we all struggle with the temptation to not let others hold us accountable for the things we do and the decisions we make.

But the Scriptures are clear. As believers, we must have logical, reasonable answers for our daily decisions and choices. If indeed the Holy Scriptures are our guide for living, we must answer in light of the principles found there. We cannot tell anyone “it is none of your business!”

# THE ASSUMPTION

## I Peter 3:15

- In this context, it is assumed that others will be continually **asking** about our lifestyle.
- The term “asks” should be translated every **time** someone asks.
- Our Christian life should be so different than those of our society that **people** will ask for our **reasons** for being different.
- True salvation was never designed to be **hidden** or seclusive.
- Our actions are to be **observed** by all so some will inquire about our changed life.

# THE ANSWER

## I Peter 3:15

- The answer to those who ask should be a **logical**, reasonable answer.
- How logical? It should be an organized, well **thought** out statement.
- This statement is an “**accounting**” of our life choices and decisions.
- This statement should be carefully **planned** and logically **organized**.
- It should **include** the “Non-negotiables” of the Faith.

# A LOGICAL, REASONABLE ANSWER

## I Peter 3:15

Your defense when asked for an accounting should include a brief statement about your convictions in these areas:

- 1) The Word of God = The Bible, inspired by God, is without **error** and is our **sole** authority for faith and practice.
- 2) The Person of God = God exists in three persons who **share** the same essence.
  - God the **Father** who is God.
  - God the **Son** who is God.
  - God the **Holy Spirit** who is God.
- 3) The Condition of Mankind = Mankind was made by God, but through **sin** is **lost** by nature. Mankind is destined for eternal punishment without **salvation**.
- 4) The Nature of Sin = All humans are **born** with the sin nature and will only sin in God's sight unless they are saved by Jesus Christ.
- 5) The Plan of Salvation = The only way to heaven is faith in the finished **work** of Jesus Christ (the Gospel). There is no other **way**, under heaven, by which any human can be saved.
- 6) The Christian life = When a person is truly transformed by the miracle of **salvation**, there will be a desire to grow spiritually. Rebellion toward God can **retard** this desire to grow.

- 7) The Nature of the Church = The Body of Christ or the church, is made up of only true believers. A growing believer will **submit** to part of the Body of Christ by being faithfully accountable to a **Bible** based local church.
- 8) Coming Events = A firm conviction about the **rapture** of the church, the Day of the Lord (which includes the tribulation and the millennial period) and the Second **Coming** of Jesus Christ.

## FINAL THOUGHTS

- Has your salvation so transformed your **life** that you are being asked to account for your lifestyle?
- Is Jesus Christ really the “Master” of your life **choices**?

## PERSONAL APPLICATION

- 1) Make a “statement” about your non-negotiable convictions.
- 2) Do others see credibility in your Christian witness?
- 3) Are you ready with a logical, reasonable answer for your lifestyle? Is your answer based upon the Scriptures?