

Discussion Notes for 1 Peter 3v8-22

- Why do you think Peter felt that encouraging the believers to live in harmony was an important topic when they were experiencing such difficult persecutions?
- All of the things Peter encourages for believers to have harmony in the Body of Christ, which do you think is the most difficult and why?
- In **verse 9** what does Peter tell us is part of our calling in Christ?
- Why is it sometimes best to remain silent when people are expressing their negative opinions about Christians or our beliefs?
- **Verses 10-12** contain conditions and promises. What are the conditions and what are the promises?
- What does it mean to “**suffer for righteousness’ sake**”? (**v14**)
- What is the promise contained in that same verse?
- According to **verse 15** when should we be prepared to give a defense of our hope?
- What are some practical ways we can convey hope to unbelievers so they will notice?
- Other than speaking with gentleness and respect, what are some other good things to keep in mind when sharing our faith?
- According to **verse 17** it is possible for suffering to be the Lord’s will in our lives. Why do you think that truth is so repugnant to some Christians?
- In **verses 18 through 22** Peter says some things that are challenging to understand. What are some important guidelines for those times when we encounter challenging passages?
- **Verse 21** says that baptism saves you not by removing physical dirt from the body but by signifying “**an appeal to God for a good conscience.**” Why is that statement important for clarification?
- What are the implications for people who believe that water baptism is the means for our salvation?