

Doctrinal Stability

1 Peter 3:15 – “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.”

Introduction:

God’s desire is for each child of God to know Him and serve Him (*Philippians 3:10*). Peter knew that in an insecure and hurtful world, there was a greater God who we can know and be assured of. Every Christian should know God and know who our enemy is. Peter knew that a doctrinal defense brings a general **stability**. If you don’t know what you believe you will fall for anything.

There are 8 battlefronts that spiritual terrorists always attack.

Deity of Christ – The biblical witness is clear and convincing that Jesus Christ is the eternal Creator God.

Original Sin – Sin is a word that describes any thought, word, deed, or state of being that fails to meet God’s standard of holiness and perfection.

Canon – The 39 books of the Hebrew Scriptures along with the 27 books of the Greek New Testament are divine rather than merely human in origin and constitute the entire Christian canon.

Trinity – The essential biblical truths that 1) there is only one God; 2) The Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God; and 3) Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are eternally distinct.

Resurrection – The immutable fact of Jesus’ bodily resurrection from the dead is the cornerstone of Christian faith.

Incarnation – The clear testimony of Scripture is that, in the incarnation, Jesus Christ was fully God and fully man.

New Creation – All who believe in the resurrection of Jesus Christ and confess Him as Lord are “made new.”

Eschatology – Christ will return to earth a second time.

Peter gives us 3 powerful steps to being doctrinally strong.

1. **Humbly realize who God is** – 1 Peter 5:6-7 “Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.”

-Who is God?

-Who is Jesus Christ?

-Who is the Holy Spirit?

2. **Honestly resist the Enemy’s attack** – 1 Peter 5:8 “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”

A. Realize Who is Tempting You.

Satan is the mastermind behind all of your temptations. *Ephesians 6:10-12*