

# *“DO NOT FEAR WHAT THEY FEAR”*

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1 Peter 3:8-17 (p. 1890)

August 5, 2018

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

1 Peter 3:15

## **Responding to suffering**

*Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another,  
be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble.*

1 Peter 3:8

## **Lessons from Hezekiah and Josiah**

*“Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened.”  
But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared . . . .*

1 Peter 3:15a

## **Gentleness and Respect**

*Always be prepared to give an answer . . . but do this  
with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience,  
so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior  
in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.*

1 Peter 3:15b-16

## **Answers that bless**

*It is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good  
than for doing evil. For Christ died for sins, once for all,  
the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.*

1 Peter 3:17-18

1) Start your story with CHRIST

2) Build an ARK

## For further study of 1 Peter 4

Bob Deffenbaugh's sermons on 1 Peter at <https://bible.org/series/glory-suffering-studies-1-peter>. His sermon on this text is at <https://bible.org/seriespage/new-slant-suffering-1-peter-313-46>

Immanuel Christian's "How Shall We Live" at <https://bible.org/seriespage/52-1-peter-how-shall-we-then-live-pagan-culture>

Gordon Smith's lecture at <https://www.regentaudio.com/products/catechesis-for-a-secular-age-the-wisdom-of-1-peter>

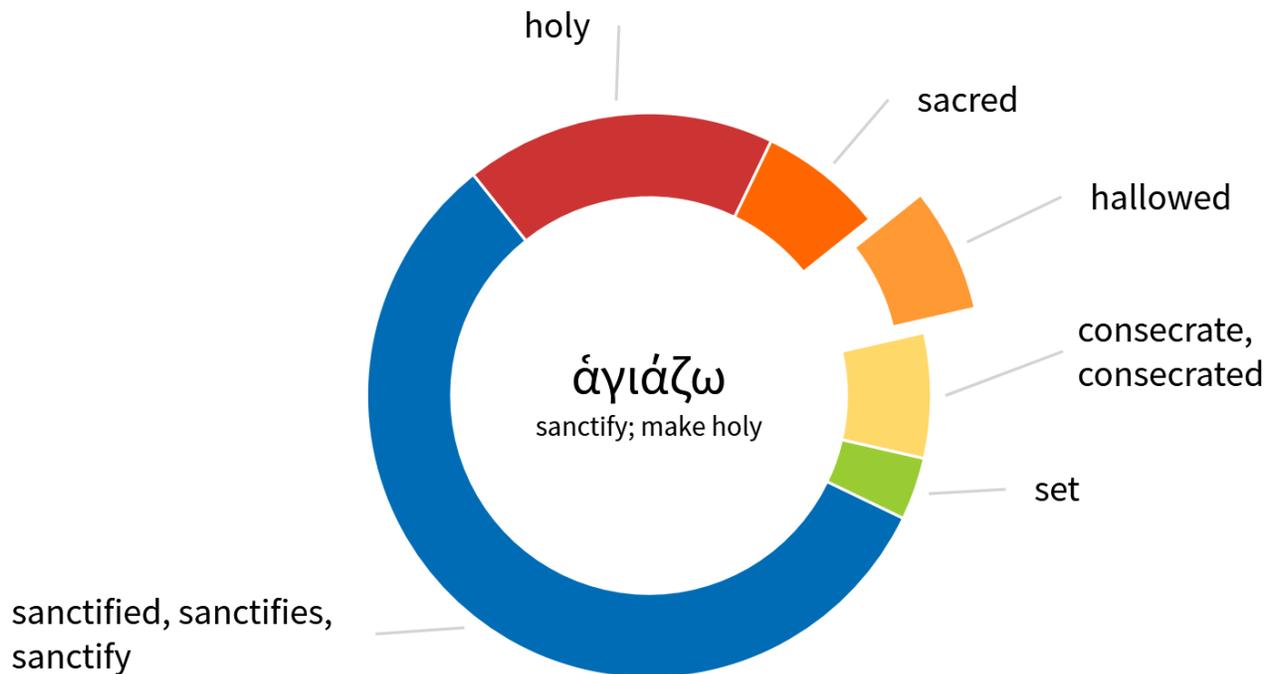
Alexander Maclaren's introduction to 1 Peter at <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/mac/1-peter-1.html> and notes at <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/mac/1-peter-1.html>

Bob Utely's commentary at <http://www.freebiblecommentary.org/pdf/VOL02.pdf>

Kistemaker and Hendriksen's *Exposition of the Epistles of Peter and the Epistle of Jude*. Baker's New Testament Commentary.

John Piper's sermons on First Peter 4 at <https://www.desiringgod.org/scripture/1-peter/4/messages>

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**Mt 6:9** Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, **hallowed** be your name.

**Lk 11:2** And he said to them, "When you pray, say: "Father, **hallowed** be your name. Your kingdom come.

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate -- we can not consecrate -- we can not hallow -- this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

Abraham Lincoln  
November 19, 186

<sup>13</sup> Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? <sup>14</sup> But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, <sup>15</sup> but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, <sup>16</sup> having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup> For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

<sup>11</sup> The LORD spoke to me with his strong hand upon me, warning me not to follow the way of this people. He said:

<sup>12</sup> "Do not call conspiracy  
everything that these people call conspiracy;  
do not fear what they fear,  
and do not dread it.

<sup>13</sup> The LORD Almighty is the one you are to regard as holy,  
he is the one you are to fear,  
he is the one you are to dread,

<sup>14</sup> and he will be a sanctuary;  
but for both houses of Israel he will be  
a stone that causes men to stumble  
and a rock that makes them fall.  
And for the people of Jerusalem he will be  
a trap and a snare.

<sup>15</sup> Many of them will stumble;  
they will fall and be broken,  
they will be snared and captured."

<sup>16</sup> Bind up the testimony  
and seal up the law among my disciples.

<sup>17</sup> I will wait for the LORD,  
who is hiding his face from the house of Jacob.  
I will put my trust in him.