

Lesson Notes:

## **7 Reasons for My Faith**

**1 Peter 3:15** commands us to be prepared to give reasons for our faith. As Christianity is attacked by more and more non-believer's we need to be prepared to contend for our faith. Following are 7 Reasons for Our Faith:

### **Scriptural Principles**

#### **1) The Holy Spirit has spoken to my heart.**

**Romans 5:3-5** – The Holy Spirit has given me this hope.

**Romans 10:14-17** – This illustrates the importance of sharing our faith with others. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God.

#### **2) His Wonderful Promise**

**John 3:14-18; John 14:1-3** - Christ paid the price for my Sin and he prepares a place for us. In **John 3** and **John 14** we are told that God loves us so much that he is willing to give up his son so that we may have eternal life and that Christ prepares a place for us in heaven.

#### **3) Christ is the Only Way**

**John 14:6.** – In **John 14:6** Christ tells us that he is the Way, the Truth and the Life and that no one comes to his father except through him. No other religion offers atonement for our sins. God tells us in the Bible that atonement must be made for man's sin. Christ's wonderful sacrifice on the cross is that atonement. No other religion offers human kind the hope of this salvation.

#### **4) He is the Risen Savior and resurrected many after his own death and resurrection.**

**Matthew 28:1-10; 1 Corinthians 15:14** – Without Christ's resurrection we have no hope. Christ's resurrection shows us his power over death which brings hope to all of humanity.

#### **5) He appeared to many and ascended into Heaven**

**John 20:24 -31; Luke 24:50-53** – The fact that we have so many eye witness testimonies to Christ's resurrection proves his victory over death.

**6) Lives of the Disciples** - They go from hiding out (**John 20**) after Christ's death to spreading the Holy Gospel with no regard or concern for their own lives. People don't die for things they don't believe in. Look at the disciples. Except for John, they were

afraid to be present at Christ's crucifixion for fear that the Jewish leaders would turn their wrath upon them. They were in hiding for fear for their own lives. After Christ's appearance they had no concern for their own lives or their own comforts. They went from hiding in fear to fearlessly spreading the "good news". Eventually all (except John), were martyred for their faith and refusing to stop preaching the gospel. What else but Christ's miraculous resurrection would lead to such a transformation in their lives?

**7) Christ's fulfillment of Messianic Prophecy** – Christ fulfilled 17 the old testament prophecies concerning the messiah. Below are just 5 of the 17 prophecies that Christ fulfilled regarding the truths of the messiah:

- a) The Christ was to die by crucifixion - Psalm 22:14-17 (Old Testament prophecy); Matthew 27:31 (Christ's fulfillment).**
- b) The messiah was to be given sour wine – Isaiah 69:21 (Old Testament prophecy); Matthew 27:34 (Christ's fulfillment).**
- c) Others were to throw dice for his garments Psalm 22:18 (Old Testament prophecy); Matthew 27:35 (Christ's fulfillment).**
- d) The Messiah was to be a sin offering – Isaiah 53:5-12 (Old Testament prophecy); John 1:29 (Christ's fulfillment).**
- e) The Messiah was to rise from the dead – Psalm 16:10-11 (Old Testament prophecy); Matthew 28:1-10 (Christ's fulfillment).**