



First Century Defenders

Introduction:

1. In talking about “Defending the Faith” it is good to look at the first century defenders.
2. When we look at the first century defenders they will give us encouragement as well as provide an example to follow when dealing with those who are trying to destroy the faith.

I. The Apostle Peter

- A. (2 Peter 2)
- B. Peter and John were arrested (Acts 4)
 1. They were arrested because of preaching Christ and the resurrection (Acts 4:2).
 2. There is not salvation in any other name ...(Acts 4:12)
- C. “We obey God rather than men” (Acts 5:29-32).
- D. Peter writes the things of his second letter to remind them (2 Peter 1:11-15; 3:1).
- E. Peter finishes his second letter by urging the brethren to be steadfast (2 Peter 3:14-18).

II. The Apostle John

- A. (2 John 9-11)
 1. John writes of those who do not abide in the doctrine of Christ and also those who do not bring the doctrine of Christ.
- B. John does not want us to be deceived (1 John 3:7).
- C. John was one who stood with Peter addressing the Sanhedrin(Acts 4).

III. The Apostle Paul

- A. Paul warned the brethren about false teachers:
 1. (Acts 20:29,30; 2 Timothy 4:1-4)
- B. Paul was a man who was not ashamed (Romans 1:16).
 1. Paul boldly proclaimed God to the philosophers (Acts 17:16-34).
- C. Paul gave a defense before the Jewish mob (Acts 21:26-22:22).

Conclusion:

1. Defending the faith is a great task, it is a worthy and noble task.
2. As we are walking in truth we will be ready to defend and ready to give answer to the hope that is within us (1 Peter 3:15).
3. As we can see through the Scriptures, Defending the Faith is an urgent need!