



Dr. John Dickson
1 Peter 3:8-18

1. When facing cultural opposition or feeling like Christianity is 'losing,' which of the four temptations (catastrophizing, compromising, retreating, or attacking) do you find yourself most susceptible to, and why?
2. What does it practically mean to 'revere Christ as Lord' in your heart when you're in a room where you feel outnumbered, intimidated, or afraid to speak about your faith?
3. How can Christians maintain the balance between cheerful confidence in speaking about Jesus and cheerful humility in losing well when faced with opposition or rejection?
4. Peter instructs believers to respond with 'gentleness and respect' even to those who slander them. What makes this so difficult in our current cultural climate, and how can we cultivate this posture?
5. Telemachus lost his life interrupting the gladiatorial games, yet his death ended an 800-year tradition of violence. What 'losses' in your life might God be using for wins you cannot yet see?
6. The apostles said to 'always answer everyone' even during fiery trials. How does this command challenge our tendency to be selective about when and with whom we share our faith?
7. How does understanding that Jesus himself modeled suffering followed by glory change the way you view your own hardships and disappointments as a Christian?
8. What would it look like in your specific context to 'repay evil with blessing' and to consider yourself 'blessed' when you suffer for doing what is right?