

The background is a complex mosaic of teal-colored rectangles of various sizes and orientations, some overlapping, creating a textured, brick-like appearance. The rectangles are separated by thin black lines.

BUILDING A DEFENSE

1 Peter 3:15

DEFINING APOLOGETICS

- We are talking about making a defense (1 Pet. 3:15; Acts 22:1; 25:16; 1 Cor. 9:3; 2 Cor. 7:11; Phil. 1:7, 16; 2 Tim. 4:16).
- This is not an apology, though the words are connected.
- This defense is personal.
- It is a matter of presenting arguments and evidence.

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THE NEED FOR APOLOGETICS

- Jesus used the internal evidences of scripture to make the case for Himself (Lk. 24:25-27).
- Jesus appealed to “external” evidences to prove His case (Jn. 14:11).
- There are frequent appeals to the nature of creation (Acts 14:17; Rom. 1:20).
- Paul appealed to witnesses of his day (1 Cor. 15:3-8).
- Additionally, there are appeals to self-evident, observable logic (Matt. 12:24-29).

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THE APPROACH OF THE APOLOGIST

- There is a war here that we are engaging in (2 Cor. 10:3-5).
- But we engage differently than the world does (1 Pet. 3:15).
- This involves a willingness to listen and answer respectfully (Col. 4:6).
- Again, remember that this is in response. We are mostly answering charges here, not making them.

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