

**Series: Resident Aliens: A Study of 1 Peter**  
**Lesson: 1 Peter 3:18-22: The Example of Christ**  
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1. Jesus did more good than any other, and yet people killed him. We can expect the same.
2. Jesus was blessed because of this.
  - a. He was made alive in the Spirit.
  - b. He was resurrected.
  - c. We can expect the same.
3. Noah was righteous in an unrighteous world... We experience the same.
4. The righteous were saved and the unrighteous were destroyed... We (and they) can expect the same.
5. Christ suffered unjustly for us. When we suffer unjustly we must do it with a view toward others, because Jesus has shown that good conquers evil.
6. The key phrase that describes what Christians are all about is “good conscience”. Good thought produces good action. (see 2:19; 3:16, 21)
7. This discussion about conscience is sandwiched between two military metaphors:
  - a. We need to prepare (gird the loins of) our minds for action (1:13).
  - b. We need to arm ourselves with the same though or mind (4:1).

**Travel Tip #10:**

Peter states in 4:6 that the good news was preached to the dead. Some strange ideas and even doctrines have been developed from a misunderstanding of this verse. One common view, combining this verse with 3:19, states that Jesus went to Hades after his death and preached the gospel to the people of Noah’s day. Peter does not even suggest this. First, the two words for “preaching” in these verses are quite different. Second, 3:19 speaks of spirits, not people (indeed, they cannot by definition be people, dead or alive), and 4:6-7 speaks of people not spirits.

Peter takes advantage of the phrase “the living and the dead” in 4:5 to provide more assurance to his persecuted readers. Death does not separate God’s people from God. Even if killed for doing good (“being judged according to men”), we will be made alive (“according to God”) in the Spirit. This verse just applies the story of Jesus to all believers who have suffered or will suffer unjustly: “He was put to death in the body but made alive in the spirit” (3:18).