**THE VALUE OF KNOWING THE TRUTH**

Deepening Your Christian Life - Part 1

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**1 Peter 3:15 (NIV)**   
But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,

Growing Christians are always learning, probing, and pursuing an ever-increasing knowledge of Scripture as well as an ever-enlarging knowledge of the Lord Himself.

**KNOWING THE TRUTH**

1. **Ignorance Is Not Bliss**

1 Peter 3:13-16

Cults are the unpaid debt of the church

* The Command

**1 Peter 3:15 (NASB)**   
...**always *being* ready to make a defense** to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you...

Under any circumstances, the believers were to be ready to testify, explaining *the reason for the hope* that they had..

* The Danger

Hosea 4:1-6

Amos 8:11-13

**REASONS FOR KNOWLEDGE OF THE SCRIPTURE**

* **It Gives Substance To My Faith**
* **It Stabilizes Me During Times Of Testing**
* **It Enables Me To Handle The Bible Correctly**
* **It Equips Me To Detect And Confront Error**
* **It Makes Me Confident In My Walk**
* **It Filters Out My Fears And Superstitions**

1. **Sound Doctrine Is Invaluable**

1 Timothy 4:1-6

**1 Timothy 4:1 (NASB)**   
But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons,

* The Warning

*But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith*,

* The Reasons

*paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons,*

* The Answer

**1 Timothy 4:6 (NASB)**   
In pointing out these things to the brethren, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, *constantly* nourished on the words of the faith and of the **sound doctrine** which you have been following.