A top-down view of a group of people sitting around a dark wooden table. Several open books are spread across the table, and people's hands are visible, some pointing at text in the books. The scene is dimly lit, with a warm, brownish tint. The text "Giving An Answer" is overlaid in a large, white, serif font in the center of the image.

# Giving An Answer

*1 Peter 3:13-17*



# Introduction

- Remember when persecuted... ***1 Pet 3:13-17***
  - If you suffer for righteousness' sake, you are blessed.
  - Do not be afraid of their threats.
  - Sanctify the Lord God in your hearts.
  - Always be ready to give a defense for the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.
  - Maintain a good conscience so that when people revile you, they will be ashamed.



# Introduction

- For this lesson, let's focus on verse 15.
  - “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an **answer** to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:”  
***1 Pet 3:15, KJV***



# Introduction

- In this lesson, let's consider what it means to...
  - give an answer and
  - what type of answer it should be.

A top-down view of a group of people sitting around a dark wooden table. Several hands are visible, holding open books. The scene is dimly lit, with warm light coming from above. The text is overlaid in the center in a white, italicized serif font.

*What Does It  
Mean to Give an  
Answer?*



# What Does It Mean to Give an Answer?

- Definition of the word “answer.”
  - The KJV uses the word “answer” when translating the Greek word, *apologia*.
    - This word is defined as a “verbal defense, a speech in defense.” (Vine’s Complete Expository Dictionary)
    - Strong’s defines the word as “1. verbal defense, a speech in defense, 2. a reasoned statement or argument.”



# What Does It Mean to Give an Answer?

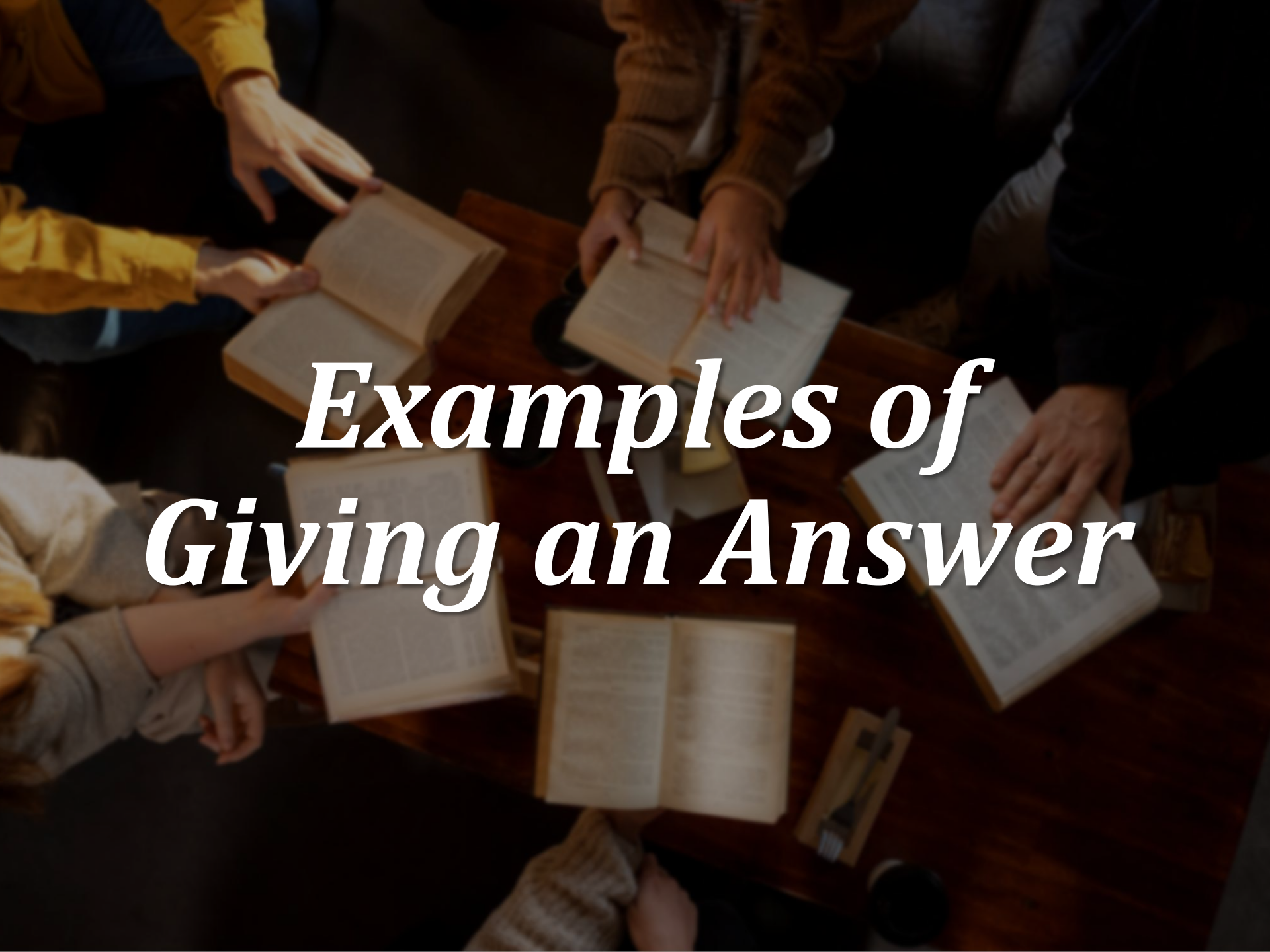
- Definition of the word “answer.”
  - Translators mostly use either the word “answer” or the word “defense.”
    - “answer” (ASV, KJV, NIV, NET)
    - “defense” (NKJV, NASB, ESV, CSB)

A background image showing several hands reaching towards a table, suggesting a collaborative or discussion environment. The image is dark and slightly blurred, focusing attention on the text.

# What Does It Mean to Give an Answer?

- Definition of the word “answer.”
  - Either way, we should always be ready to give a defense or an answer for the reason of the hope that lies within us.





# *Examples of Giving an Answer*



# Examples of Giving an Answer

- ***Acts 2:38-40***

- Who: Peter and the apostles
- Question: “What shall we do?”
- Answer: A simple answer supported by “many other words.”
- Lesson: **Take the time** to answer the question. Some answers require “many other words.”



# Examples of Giving an Answer

- ***Acts 4:7-12, 19-20***

- Who: Peter and John
- Question: By what power or by what name have you done this?
- Answer: Peter and John preached Jesus and His resurrection. They also spoke of the chief cornerstone and salvation being in Jesus' name alone.
- Lesson: **Take the opportunity** to answer.



# Examples of Giving an Answer

- ***Acts 5:28-32***

- Who: The apostles
- Question: “Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name?”
- Answer: “We ought to obey God rather than men.” They preached Jesus’ resurrection and Him being exalted to God’s right hand.
- Lesson: **Don’t be afraid** to give a defense.



# Examples of Giving an Answer

- ***Acts 8:29-35***

- Who: Philip
- Question: Does the prophet say this of himself or of some other man?
- Answer: Beginning with Isaiah 53, Philip preached Jesus to the man from Ethiopia.
- Lesson: **Give a Bible answer** to a Bible question.



# Examples of Giving an Answer

- ***Acts 16:30-33***

- Who: Paul
- Question: What must I do to be saved?
- Answer: “Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house.”
- Lesson: **Godly behavior** could cause someone to ask a Bible question.



A top-down view of a group of people sitting around a dark wooden table, each with an open book. The scene is dimly lit, with warm light coming from above. The people are wearing various casual clothing like sweaters and jackets. The text "Answers to Avoid" is overlaid in the center in a white, italicized serif font.

# *Answers to Avoid*



# Answers to Avoid

- **Insufficient answers.**
  - “My preacher said...”
  - “My teacher said...”
  - “My church teaches...”
  - “My family believes...”
  - “Well, I just feel...”
  - “Well, I just believe...”




# Answers to Avoid

- Insufficient answers.
- **Overwhelming answers.**

A background image showing the hands of several people gathered around a table, suggesting a collaborative meeting or discussion. The image is dark and slightly blurred, with a focus on the hands and forearms of the participants.

# Answers to Avoid

- Insufficient answers.
- Overwhelming answers.
- **Answers that expect an immediate agreement.**

A top-down view of a group of people sitting around a dark wooden table, each with an open book. Their hands are visible, turning pages or resting on the text. The scene is dimly lit, with warm light highlighting the books and hands. The text "Beneficial Answers" is overlaid in the center in a white, italicized serif font.

# *Beneficial Answers*





# Beneficial Answers

- **Answers that come from the Bible.**  
Sometimes this requires “many other words.” *cf. Acts 2:36-40*





# Beneficial Answers

- *Answers that come from the Bible. Sometimes this requires “many other words.” cf. Acts 2:36-40*
- **Answers grounded in conviction and persuasion.**



# Beneficial Answers

- *Answers that come from the Bible. Sometimes this requires “many other words.” cf. Acts 2:36-40*
- *Answers grounded in conviction and persuasion.*
- **Answers wrapped in an attitude of love, patience, and long suffering.**



# Conclusion

- Things to Remember...
  - **Take the time** to answer the question. Some answers require “many other words.”
  - **Take the opportunity** to answer the question.
  - **Don’t be afraid** to answer the question.
  - **Give a Bible answer** to a Bible question.
  - **Godly behavior** could cause someone to ask a Bible question.