Series: Living Hope
Passage: 1 Peter 3:13-22
Sunday: September 17, 2023

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1 Peter 3:13-22(ESV)

[13] Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? [14] But even if you should suffer for
righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, [15] but in your hearts honor
Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the
hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, [16] having a good conscience, so that, when you are
slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. [17] For it is better to suffer for
doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.
[18] For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God,
being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, [19] in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in
prison, [20] because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark
was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. [21] Baptism,
which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a
good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, [22] who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand
of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

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1. Think about a time that you experienced rejection. How did it feel?

2. In what ways, large or small, have you experienced criticism or rejection for your faith or for doing good (verses 13-14)?

3. What is the reason for hope in you (verse 15)?

4. In what ways do verses 17-22 emphasize the ultimate victory of God in Jesus?

5. What questions do verses 19-21 raise in your mind?

6. What encouragement do you draw from Peter's assurance that all authorities and powers are subject to Christ (verse 22)?

7. How does this scripture point to the <u>living</u> <u>hope</u> of Jesus?