

QA: How To Respond to False Charges? by John T Polk II

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

QUESTION: How can a Christian respond to false charges?

ANSWER: Since this is not a "new" problem, let the Apostle Peter instruct us:

For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men. (1 Peter 2:15):

1. LET OUR GOOD CONDUCT MAKE THEM LIARS!

Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation. (1 Peter 2:11-12)

2. REMEMBER THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS.

For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: 'Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth' [Isaiah 53:9]; who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously. (1 Peter 2:21-23)

3. DO NOT BECOME LIKE THEM, WITH FALSE CHARGES.

Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing. (1 Peter 3:8-9)

4. DO NOT "BE AFRAID OF THEIR THREATS."

But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you are blessed. 'And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled.' [Isaiah 8:12] But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear. (1 Peter 3:14-15)

5. KEEP A GOOD CONSCIENCE BY OBEYING GOD.

... Having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed. For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. (1 Peter 3:16-17)

—— jtpll, February 21, 2021