

"CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH"

JUDE 3

1

2 Arm Ourselves

"Wherefore take up the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and, having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; withal taking up the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the evil (one). And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Ephesians 6:13-17 ASV)

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3 "CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH"

- Contending for the Word
- Contending against False Teachers
- Contending against the World

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4 CONTENDING FOR THE WORD

- Respect for the Word:
 - "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
 - "And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers." (1 Thessalonians 2:13)

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5 CONTENDING FOR THE WORD

- The Bible Must Be The Standard For Our Faith:
 - "... whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies – in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen." (1 Peter 4:11)
 - "I have applied all these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, brothers, that you may learn by us not to go beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up in favor of one against another." (1 Corinthians 4:6)

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6 CONTENDING FOR THE WORD

- We Must Teach All The Word:
 - "... for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God." (Acts 20:27)
- Teaching There Is One Church:
 - "And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Matthew 16:18)
 - "There is one body and one Spirit just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call" (Ephesians 4:4)
 - "And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent." (Colossians 1:18)

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CONTENDING AGAINST FALSE TEACHERS

► We Are To Have No Fellowship:

- "Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them." (Ephesians 5:11)
- "I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them." (Romans 16:17)

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CONTENDING AGAINST FALSE TEACHERS

► Do Not Condone Their Teaching:

- "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world." (1 John 4:1)
- "Everyone who goes on ahead and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God. Whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house or give him any greeting, for whoever greets him takes part in his wicked works." (2 John 9-11)

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FALSE TEACHERS NAMED

Paul Exposed False Teachers:

- 1 Timothy 1:20 (Hymenaeus, Alexander)
- 2 Timothy 2:17-18 (Hymenaeus, Philetus)
- 2 Timothy 4:14 (Alexander)
- 2 Timothy 4:10 (Demas)

John Exposed False Teachers:

- 3 John 9-10 (Diotrephes)

Jesus Exposed False Teachers:

- Matthew 23:13-17 (scribes, Pharisees, hypocrites, sons of hell, blind guides, fools)

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CONTENDING AGAINST FALSE TEACHERS

► Love of the World = Enemy of God:

- "... Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God." (James 4:4)
- "Be sober, be watchful: your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8 ASV)

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CONTENDING AGAINST THE WORLD

► Always Remember This World Is Not Our Home:

- "But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ" (Philippians 3:20; 2 Corinthians 6:17-18)
- "Wherefore Come ye out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, And touch no unclean thing; And I will receive you" (2 Corinthians 6:17 ASV)

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CONTENDING AGAINST THE WORLD

► We Must Be Transformed:

- "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." (Romans 12:2)

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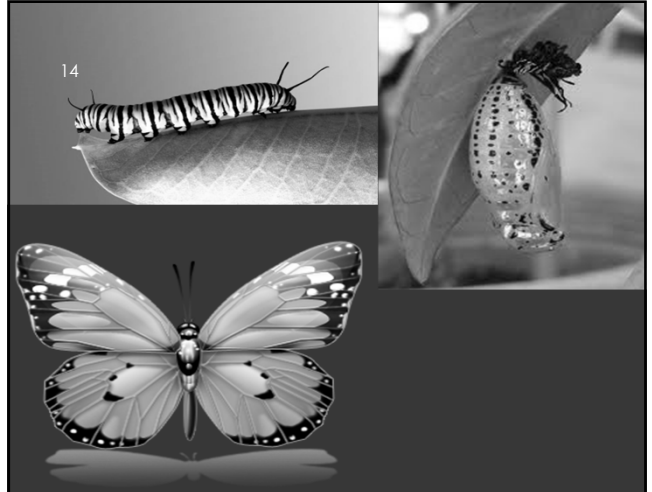
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"CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH"

"But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death."
(Revelation 21:8)

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God's Plan of Salvation

- ▶ Hear the Word: Romans 10:17
- ▶ Believe the Word: John 8:24
- ▶ Repent of Sins: Luke 13:3
- ▶ Confess Christ: Romans 10:10
- ▶ Be Baptized: Acts 2:38
- ▶ Remain Faithful: Revelation 2:10

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