

# Sunday, June 4, 2023

1 Timothy 4:13, “Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.”

**Title:** Contend for “THE FAITH”

**Series:** Jude, An Ancient Letter Written to Believers of THIS Day...3 **Text:** Jude 1:1 - 25

Purpose: I want to PERSUADE my congregation that “the faith” is not a generic term but is a very deliberated specific term for faith in the person, Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

Introduction:

The devotional last week was entitled “Holy Spirit Directive” and the major points were: The Divine Directive to Contend is NOT the same as Being Contentious; The Divine Directive to Contend is Parallel to Spiritual Warfare; The Divine Directive is to Hold to what was Delivered and be Awake; The Divine Directive is Empowered by Prayer

~ Jude 1:3, “Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.”

## 1. THE FAITH; Not All Men Have the Faith:

~ Romans 12:3, “For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.”

KJV, “For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of Himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.”

~ 2 Thessalonians 3:2, “and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith.”

The issue is NOT if a person has received a measure of faith; the issue is where they are choosing to place their faith. Consider the Apostle Paul himself.

## 2. THE FAITH; Is Established on the Person Jesus Christ:

~ John 14:6, “Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.””  
John 10:7, 9

~ Acts 4:12, “And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

~ John 3:14 & 15, “And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, (15) that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.”

~ Romans 10:10 – 13, “For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. (11) For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put

to shame.” (12) For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. (13) For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”” See Joel 2:32

## 3. THE FAITH; is to be Kept:

~ 1 Timothy 4:7, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”

~ Galatians 1:3 – 5, “Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, (4) who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, (5) to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.”

~ Galatians 1:6 – 8, “I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—(7) not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. (8) But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.”

~ Galatians 3:1 – 3, “O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. (2) Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? (3) Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?”

~ 1 Timothy 4:1, “Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons.”

## 4. THE FAITH; is to be Built and Grow:

~ Through the Word: Romans 10:17, “So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.”

~ Through Prayer: Jude 1:20 & 21, “But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, (21) keeping yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.”

~ Through Trials: 1 Peter 1:3 – 7, “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, (4) to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, (5) who by God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. (6) In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, (7) so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

Proverbs 17:3 & Proverbs 27:21

**Conclusion:**

Communion