



Sunday Sermon Discussion Outline

Pastor Philip Thomas, July 7, 2024

Jude 1-4 – Why Should We Contend for the Faith?

Jude doesn't begin his epistle by describing *how* to contend for the faith. He explains *why* we must contend for the faith: because the false teachers are perverting the gospel message and abusing God's grace as a license to sin. Believers must understand God's grace and contend for the faith.

We don't contend for the faith against flesh and blood.

We contend for the faith by:

- Building ourselves up in our most holy faith
- Praying in the Holy Spirit
- Keeping ourselves in the love of God
- Waiting in hope for the coming of the Lord

Receive mercy, peace, and love of God in abundance.

Be compelled by the Holy Spirit.

We respond and apply the Word of God we have heard by committing to contend for the faith.

May the Lord keep you from all evil, he will keep your life. May the Lord watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. May you pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness. May you fight the good fight of the faith. (Psalm 121:7-8, 1 Timothy 6:11-12)

Discussion Questions:

- What do we understand from Jude's opening and self-identification as a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ? What is the example Jude sets for us?
- How did the Holy Spirit intervene in terms of the epistle that Jude wrote? How is this action of the Holy Spirit relevant to us?
- How were the false teachers perverting the gospel message?
- What does it mean to be responsible for responding to God's grace, mercy, and love?
- What does it mean that the gospel message was entrusted once and for all to us?
- Why is contending for the faith *not* about fighting against people? What do Ephesians 6 and 2 Corinthians 10 teach about contending for the faith?
- What do verses 20-21 tell us about how we must contend for the faith?
- How can you commit to contend for the faith?