

20210829 WHY TO CONTEND FOR THE FAITH

Jude 5-16

JESUS CAME TO TESTIFY TO THE TRUTH

When Jesus faced Pilate, Jesus told him, "For this I came into the world, **to testify to the truth**. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."

TRUE DISCIPLESHIP – HOLDING TO THE TRUTH OF GOD

"If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

TRUTH SETS US FREE FROM THE PENALTY, POWER, AND PRESENCE OF SIN

"Everyone who sins is a slave to sin... I know you are Abraham's descendants. Yet you are ready to kill me, because you have no room for my word..."

I am telling you what I have seen in the Father's presence, and you do what you have heard from your father... Why is my language not clear to you?

Because you are unable to hear what I say... You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him.

When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. Yet **because I tell the truth, you do not believe me!**"

The problem of the church calls for the necessity to contend for the faith

Jude 4

⁴ For certain men whose condemnation was written about long ago have **secretly slipped in among you**. They are godless men, who change the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord.

3 LAYERS' WARNING

1. For believers

⁵ **Though you already know all this, I want to remind you that the Lord delivered his people out of Egypt, but later destroyed those who did not believe.**

2. For spiritual beings

⁶ **And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority but abandoned their own home--these he has kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains for judgment on the great Day.**

3. For unbelievers

⁷ **In a similar way, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding towns gave themselves up to sexual immorality and perversion. They serve as an example of those who suffer the punishment of eternal fire.**

said these people serve as an example of those who suffer the punishment of eternal fire.

Christians' response to all of these social phenomena in our time?

Jude 14-15

¹⁴ Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men: "See, the Lord is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones

¹⁵ to judge everyone, and to convict all the ungodly of all the ungodly acts they have done in the ungodly way, and of all the harsh words ungodly sinners have spoken against him."

Nothing changed. Fallen human nature hasn't changed. And God's response to this fallen sinful nature hasn't changed either.

APPLICATION

"Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?"

When they kept on questioning him, Jesus straightened up and said to them, "If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her."

When Jesus told them "If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her," those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there.

Then Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

She said, "No one, sir."

And Jesus said, "I don't condemn you." Then Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

1. With ourselves, we turn our own way to God's truth as we seek His help.
2. With others, we don't condemn them. Let the spirit of God do the work in their life.
3. But with their sinful ways, we don't accept those ways. When they find themselves broken, helpless, and ready to hear us, we encourage and challenge them to leave their sinful ways as we share with them the greatest truth of God's love manifested in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ to take all of their sins away and to give them everlasting life.