

20210919 HOW TO CONTEND FOR THE FAITH – PART 2

Jude 22-25

²² Be merciful to those who doubt;

²³ snatch others from the fire and save them; to others show mercy, mixed with fear--hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh.

²⁴ To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy--

²⁵ to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.

There are our three action plans for others in the text.

- One. Be merciful.
- Two. Save.
- Three. Hate the sins.

HOW TO CONTEND FOR THE FAITH FOR OTHERS. OUR ACTION PLAN NUMBER ONE. BE MERCIFUL.

“²² Be merciful to those who doubt.”

The story of Gedeon (Judges 6)

“God, if you will save Israel by my hand as you have promised, I need some proof. I will place a wool fleece on the threshing floor. If there is dew only on the fleece and all the ground is dry, then I will know that you will save Israel by my hand, as you said.”

“God, do not be angry with me. Let me make just one more request. Allow me one more test with the fleece. This time make the fleece dry and the ground covered with dew.”

That night God did so. Only the fleece was dry; all the ground was covered with dew.

Thomas’ story in John 20.

“Thomas, stop doubting and believe.” (John 20:27)

Jude 22 (MSG)

“²² Go easy on those who hesitate in the faith.”

HOW TO CONTEND FOR THE FAITH. ACTION PLAN NUMBER TWO: SAVE THEM. (v23a)

“²³ Snatch others from the fire and save them;”

Galatians 1:6-7

“⁶ I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel--

⁷ which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ.” (Galatians 1:6-7)

Galatians 6:1-4

“¹ You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified.

² I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law, or by believing what you heard?

³ Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort?

⁴ Have you suffered so much for nothing--if it really was for nothing?" (Galatians 3:1-4)

Galatians chapter 3:6-7

"⁶ Consider Abraham: "He believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness."

⁷ Understand, then, that those who believe are children of Abraham."

HOW TO CONTEND FOR THE FAITH. ACTION PLAN NUMBER THREE: HATE THE SINS. (v23b)

"²³ ...to others show mercy, mixed with fear--hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh."