

Jude 3-4

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.* ⁴ *For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.*

Every Christian must be prepared to earnestly contend for the Gospel against false teaching within the Church.

Types of false teaching:

who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

1. Sinful living

Matthew 7:15-20

15 *“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. 16 You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? 17 So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. 18 A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.*

2. false Gospel (deny who God is and what he does)

Characteristics of false teaching:

1. Unexpected

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*

2. Sneaky
3. Dangerous

Reactions to false teaching

1. Ignorant
2. Apathetic

Contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.

3. Engaged
4. Or we contend

What can we do? How to be prepared.

- Be humble

Matthew 7:21-23

21 “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ 23 And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’

- Pray
- Know theology
- Test everything to Scripture
- Engage in community
- Confess and repent sin
- Be courageous and bold

Lastly, **remember who you are.**