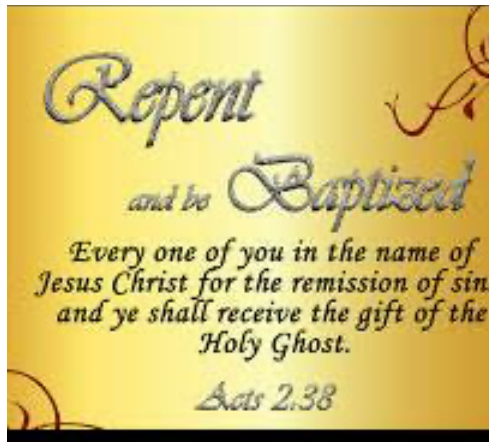


To be Saved...



Attention

Business Meeting today at 2:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.

Sunday.....10:45 a.m.

Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Website:
indiochurchofchrist.com

Preacher: Vacant

Church of Christ
81-377 Ave 46
Indio, CA 92201
(760) 342-1859

(Address Service Requested)

Indio Informer

Vol. 36 No.10
March 9, 2025

*"Trust in the Lord with all
your heart and do not lean on
your own understanding."*

Proverb 3:5

- *"Fight the good fight"*
- *"Keep the faith"*
- *"Finish the course"*

Contend Earnestly for the Faith

Jude 3

By Mike Johnson

It is clear from the Old Testament that God intended for us to adhere to His Word, and the Scriptures should not be violated (Deuteronomy 4:1-4, 5:32-33; Joshua 1:7; Numbers 22:18, 24:13; Leviticus 18:4-5). Consider now the same concept from the standpoint of the **New Testament**.

Jude (v. 3) told the early Christians that they should "... *contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.*" The Greek word used here means to *fight* or to *contend strenuously* in defense of, in this case, "the faith." It means to "*contend about a thing, as a combatant*" (*Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words*). The contending for the faith, with love, is also "earnestly" done, i.e., with might.

It is the "faith" we are to contend for earnestly. In this context, the writer uses the word "faith" in the objective sense, and it refers to the system of faith, i.e., the sum of all that we are to obey and believe (note also Acts 6:7, I Timothy 4:1, Philipians 1:27).

Thus, we are to stand firmly on God's Word, defend the truth against attacks from false teachers, and obviously, adhere to it ourselves. How do we do that? Do we accomplish this by teaching a doctrine that people can believe anything they want? Do we do this by *adding to* and *taking away from* God's Word? We must "*contend earnestly for the faith.*" We obey Jude 3 by insisting others follow the pattern of the New Testament, and we must follow the same course of action ourselves. We observe Jude 3 by requiring Bible authority for everything believed, taught, and practiced. We MUST earnestly contend for the faith.

What Then?

By David Sain

On graduation night, a father asked, "Son, what are your plans?" The boy answered, "Dad, you know that I'm going to college." The dad said, "That's right, but what then?" The boy replied, "Well, I'll want to get a good job and hopefully get married." The dad said, "That's also fine, but what then?" The boy answered, "I want to have kids. Then, after that, I will put the required years on the job and retire." The father replied, "That's good, but what then?" And the boy said, "Well...uh...I don't know...I guess I'll get old and die." The dad said, "That right, when then?" And the boy dropped his head as he realized he had plans for life on earth but no plans for life beyond this world. The Bible teaches that it is appointed unto man once to die, and after this, the judgment (Hebrews 9:27). What then?

Preach a Sermon, Preacher!

By Hugh Davis

**Preach a sermon preacher but make it short and sweet;
Our stomachs strike at twelve o'clock a hungering for to eat.**

**Preach a sermon preacher with words so smooth and fair;
For philosophy and theory we are thirsting; for scripture we
don't care.**

**Preach a sermon preacher, punctuate it with jokes;
Fill it with your yarns and tales and entertain us folks.**

**Preach a sermon preacher, we don't care what you say,
As long as you leave us all alone and fire the other way.**

**Preach a sermon preacher and don't get too specific;
As long as you generalize, we think you are terrific.**

**Preach a sermon preacher, make it good and plain,
But don't you dare get so close as to call sin by its name.**

**Preach a sermon preacher and preach it round or flat; We
love to play at hide-and-seek and guessing where you're at.**

**Preach a sermon preacher, make it what we love to hear;
We'll pat you on your spineless back while you scratch our
itching ears.**

P.S. "In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage — with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths."

2 Tim. 4:1-4 - NIV

John 3:16
For GOD so loved the
world, that he gave his only
begotten SON, that whosoever
believeth in him should
not perish, but have
everlasting
LIFE.
+