

*“Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common Salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that Ye Should Earnestly Contend For The Faith which was once delivered unto the saints. For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the Grace of our God into lasciviousness (reprobate lust), and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.”*



*“Jude 1:3-4 KJV”*

The word “contend” means to strive to win. How do we win faith? Through God’s Word, of course. *“Faith cometh by...the Word of God; not of yourselves, it is the GIFT of God.”* A gift is not beneficial to its intended if not received. *“But as many as received Him, (the Word made flesh) to them gave He Power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His Name. For unto us was the Gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the Word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.”* When the Word of God is received by a believing soul it brings in that moment the GIFT of faith. The faith and repentance of the sinner is verified by their willing obedience of God’s Word. *“But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works and by works was faith made perfect?”* So one must ask, “How do you “contend” for a gift?” especially when Scripture plainly says, *“NOT of works lest any man should boast. NOT by works of Righteousness which we have done.”* Well the answer lies in this question, “What opposes faith?” and therein we find the Truth: Unbelief! How do we fight it? *“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the Knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity EVERY THOUGHT to the obedience of Christ. Let this Mind be in you.”* The word “captivity” implies the rebellious nature of our thoughts. We “contend for the faith” by submitting to God’s Word as the Foundation of our mind.

I must expel all unbelief,  
And fiery darts sent to deceive,  
Through faith alone I must believe,  
If I would one Day stand Redeemed! –CGP

All men are faced with the same choice Adam had to make: Believe God or not, and their eternal destiny is determined by that choice. *“He that believeth on Him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, BECAUSE HE HATH NOT BELIEVED in the Name of the only begotten Son of God. But without faith it is Impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a Rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.”* Men are born into Condemnation by virtue of Adam’s unbelief whereby he condemned all men. But a return to obedience through faith can reverse that choice. If the foundation is faulty, the house falls. Faith is the solid Foundation upon which Grace builds, and Christ is the “Corner Stone” of that building! *“Now therefore ye are...built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief Corner Stone; In Whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an Holy Temple in the Lord: In Whom ye also are builded together for an Habitation of God through the Spirit.”* Unbelief is the enemy with which we must contend with every choice we make, from the moment we’re born. It is not a physical conflict, but rather spiritual and it continues through every moment of our mortal life. Once received, the GIFT is ours eternally, but we must “contend” with unbelief, live by that faith, or have a mortal life of complete pain and misery. Jesus said, *“I am...the Truth. If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.”* It is the receiving by believing, verified by the obeying of Truth that forever liberates the soul!

*“And ye shall know the Truth, and the Truth shall make you free. If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.” John 8:32, 36 KJV*