A FAITH WORTH FIGHTING FOR!
DR, ROGER BARRIER
JUDE 1-4
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Today we will begin a study in the New Testament book of Jude. The beginning of the church age is detailed in the Bible book called the Acts of the Apostles. This book describes the deeds and teachings of the men and women who laid the foundation for the church. The end of the age is described in the book of Jude. This book describes a large-scale falling away (apostasy) from Christ in the latter days. Jude is often called The Acts of the Apostates.

The first four verses relate how Jude intended to write concerning our common salvation, but a crisis forced him to plead for Christians to fight for the "faith". All else must wait.

Jesus raised the question in Luke 18:8, "When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

The Bible predicts that there will be a great departing from the faith around the time of the return of (

While the end of the age will be characterized by a general, world-wide apostasy, or falling away from (
Christian.

Falling away from the Truth can occur on a national level.

Falling away from Christ can occur on a church level.

I want to personalize the battle in the first four verses today. HOW DO WE CONTEND FOR THE FAITH?

1. UNDERSTAND YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CHRIST (JUDE 1-2)

What it means to be a slave instead of a brother!

What it means to be called, and loved by God the Father, and kept in Christ!

2. GET A FIRM GRIP ON THE TENNANTS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH (JUDE 3)

"The faith" here is not faith as exercised by the individual, but Christianity itself in its historic doctrines an
of truth contained in the Scriptures.

This faith was delivered once for all time—see Hebrews 1:1-4. There is no further revelation to come. Any
12.

Let's talk about the "faith" we are to defend. Significantly, Jude mentions most of the fundamental article

1. The Bible is the ultimate truth and authority.
2. Mankind is bent, marred, sinful and incapable of self-repair.
3. Jesus Christ is 100% divine God.
4. Jesus Christ died a substitutionary death for mankind on the cross.
5. The resurrection validates the life and work of Jesus Christ.
6. Jesus Christ must be personally received by every individual as the only way to be restored to fe

3. LET NOTHING COMPROMISE YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST (JUDE 4)

Jude picks out three characteristics of apostasy:

1. Ungodliness
2. Loose living
3. Denial of Christ

    There are several ways to deny Christ:

    1. On the day of persecution for personal safety
    2. For the sake of convenience
    3. By hypocrisy when our lips say we believe in Christ, while our actions prove otherwise
    4. By developing false ideas about Him
    5. By denying that Christ is only way to Heaven

Falling away from Christ can occur on a personal level.

Read Hebrews 5:12-6:4. Go on to maturity.