

University Heights Church of Christ

BULLETIN

November 30, 2008

Jude 3 *“Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write to you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write to you, and exhort [you] that you should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered to the saints.”*

So, how do I do that? How do I “earnestly contend” for the “once delivered faith”?

1. Understand and accept that there is a “once delivered faith” to be “earnestly contended” for.
2. Understand and accept that I have a personal responsibility to know that once delivered faith and to earnestly contend for it.
3. Study the Bible diligently.
4. Measure every part of my life by the message of the Bible changing everything I must in my thinking and behavior in order to obey God’s will as it is revealed in the Bible.
5. Study the Bible both to answer my own questions and to be able to answer those who ask about my faith.

But how do I use the Bible to guide my life?

I study the Bible to find out how Jesus and the other faithful servants of God in the Bible used God’s word in order to determine God’s will and I make every effort to use the Bible the same way they used God’s inspired word.

God’s approved servants have always obeyed all of God’s direct commands that applied to them. A direct command that applies to me is to believe, repent and be baptized by the authority of God for the remission of sins.

Matthew 28: 19 *“Go you therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, [even] to the end of the world.”*

Mark 16: 15 *“And he said to them, Go you into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He that believes and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believes not shall be damned.”*

Acts 2: 38 *“Then Peter said to them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, [even] as many as the Lord our God shall call. 40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this crooked generation. 41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added [to them] about three thousand souls.”*

Another direct command is to eat the Lord’s supper.

Luke 22: 19 *“And he took bread, and gave thanks, and broke [it], and gave to them, saying, This is my body, which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. 20 Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup [is] the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.”*

Another direct command is to give as prospered on the first day of the week.

1Corinthians 16:1 *“Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do you. 2 Upon the first [day] of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as [God] has prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come”*

I also must follow the approved examples of the New Testament. It is the approved example of the disciples in Troas that lets us know that the disciples ate the Lord’s supper on the first day of the week.

Acts 20:7 *“And upon the first [day] of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached to them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight”*

I must also observe what is necessarily inferred in the text. That is illustrated in **Acts 20:7** by the fact that the disciples at Troas all knew when and where to come together in order to obey the commandment to eat the Lord’s supper. All of the disciples could come together because they had a time and a place to come together already agreed upon.

I also must respect the silence of God. That was one of Paul’s arguments to the Corinthians.

1Corinthians 11: 23 *“For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered to you, That the Lord Jesus the [same] night in which he was betrayed took bread: 24 And when he had given thanks, he broke [it], and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. 25 After the same manner also [he took] the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do you, as often as you drink [it], in remembrance of me.”*

Paul’s argument is, *“ This is what I received of the Lord. This is what I delivered to you and this is what you ought to be doing and this is all you ought to be doing. Because you do not have authority to do anything other than what has come from God through the faithful apostles.”*

In contending earnestly for the once delivered faith I must be able to give book, chapter and verse for what I believe and practice. I cannot be actually obeying God unless I know what obeying God is. Whether or not I am ever called upon to prove anything to anybody else I must be able to prove the truth of what I believe and practice to myself because if I do not do that how can I know that I am obeying God? In everything I do and think I need a direct command, an approved example, a necessary inference or a place of meaningful silence interpreted in context from the Holy Bible in order to approve what I believe and practice. **2Timothy 2: 15** *“Study to show yourself approved to God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”*

Remember To Pray For

Dallis and Alma Isaacs
Francis Nations
Bill Baker
Mary Jane Frost
Melanie Bilye
Rick Shamas
Bonnie Wells
Sarah Phillips
David Alford
Carol Bach
Marian Lyda
Edith Tirey
Lucy Hale
Pamela Clayton
Ella Wells, and her family
Lorene Pagan
Freddie Ward
David and Chessie Harwell
Donna Caldwell
Mabel Greene
Tony Tyree
Ruth Brundige
Cindy Miller
Christie Ellis
Shirley Lewis
Brady Gibbons
Gail Hunter
Larry Flannery
Donnie Joseph
Cheryl Spear
Lanny Hiller
Charity and Abdiel Pallafox
Helen Stephens
Chris Handshoe
Jeffrey Howerton
Addison Pervine
Carl Stripplehoff
Tom Kemp
Freda Blakey

Psalms 78:41 “Yes, they turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel. 42 They remembered not his hand, [nor] the day when he delivered them from the enemy.”

How did Israelites fail?

1. They turned back
2. They tempted God
3. They limited the Holy One of Israel
4. They remembered not

How did Israelites succeed?

Joshua 1:8 “This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; but you shall meditate therein day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall have good success.”

Thoughts

Psalms 106:38 “And shed innocent blood, [even] the blood of their sons and of their daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan: and the land was polluted with blood”

INNOCENT BDB/Thayers # 5355

05355 naqiy {naw-kee'} or naqiy' (Joe 4 : 19; Jon 1 : 14), {naw-kee'}

from 05352; TWOT - 1412a,1412b; adj

AV - innocent 31, guiltless 4, quit 2, blameless 2, clean 1, clear 1,

exempted 1, free 1, variant 1; 44

1) clean, free from, exempt, clear, innocent

1a) free from guilt, clean, innocent

1b) free from punishment

1c) free or exempt from obligations

2) innocent

According to the word of God are babies innocent or are they totally depraved? Some of **the most popular religions on earth** claim that the Bible teaches that humans are born into this world totally depraved, because each of us has inherited the guilt of Adam. **Read your Bible.** The Bible does not teach that children are depraved. The Bible teaches that children are innocent. To teach that the Bible used a word that means “**INNOCENT**”, “**GUILTLESS**”, “**QUIT**”, “**BLAMELESS**”, “**CLEAN**”, or “**CLEAR**”. If you are one that believes that the Bible teaches that we are born with the guilt of Adam’s sin read **Psalms 106:38** in your Bible. Then turn to the New Testament and consider the attitude that Jesus expressed toward children.

Matthew 18: 2 “And Jesus called a little child to him, and set him in the midst of them, 3 And said, Verily I say to you, Except you be converted, and become as little children, you shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.”

Far from being totally depraved and completely estranged from the God who created him, this little child, who was already mature enough to be capable of being called and to respond by coming to the caller, was the example of what all must become in order to enter the kingdom of heaven. The doctrines that say humans are born with the guilt of Adam’s sin are simply wrong and people need to stop believing them and begin believing what the Bible actually says.

But what about **Psalms 51: 5** “Behold, I was shaped in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.”

Notice that the writer is saying that his **parents** were sinners. That is true of each one of us but our parents are sinners because each of them has sinned, not because Adam sinned.

But what did we inherit from Adam? From Adam we each inherited a body of flesh that is capable of being tempted and also capable of sinning. **WE, AS DID ADAM, BECOME GUILTY WHEN WE GIVE IN TO TEMPTATION AND DISOBEY GOD. WE ARE NOT BORN WITH THE GUILT OF ADAM’S SIN, WE ARE BORN WITH A BODY THAT IS ABLE TO SIN LIKE ADAM WAS ABLE TO SIN.**

Notes

The singing will be Friday at 7:30PM

The men’s business meeting will be December 14 at 2:30PM

To understand the New Testament study the Old Testament

I must know about Cain, Balaam and Core if I am going to understand God’s message to me in Jude 11.

“Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.”

What will the message of Hebrews 11 mean to me if I do not know whom those people are that the inspired writer uses as examples of saving faith?

If I do not know the Old Testament I should not expect to understand the New Testament.

1Corinthians 10: 9 “Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. 10 Neither murmur you, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. 11 Now all these things happened to them for examples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.”

Schedule of Services

Sunday Morning

Bible Classes 9:45 AM

Worship Service 10:45 AM

Sunday Evening

Worship Service 6:00 PM

Wednesday Evening

Bible Studies (all ages) 7:30 PM

Monthly Song Service

First Friday each month 7:30 PM

University Heights

Church of Christ

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COME STUDY THE BIBLE
AND WORSHIP WITH US

HELP GOD’S WORD GROW
LEARN IT • OBEY IT • TEACH IT