

Contending for the Faith, Part 3

Jude 1:8-13

Jude wants us to defend the faith.

- It means defending it against attackers from the outside.
- It means defending it against attackers from the inside.

Jude points out the spiritual arrogance of those who attack the faith.

- This spiritual pride is characterized by the Bible word “blasphemous.”
- To blaspheme means to “hold in contempt,” or “abusively slander.”

Blasphemers have common characteristics.

- They rely on their own conclusions, not God’s Word.
- They are addicted to the gratification of the flesh.
- They reject any kind of spiritual authority.
- They can’t stop themselves from blaspheming.
- They are eventually destroyed by the sin that consumes them.

Jude gives us three more Old Testament examples:

Example #1 – Cain

Example #2 – Balaam

Example #3 – Korah

Jude gives us six more illustrations to drive home the danger of blasphemy.

- Hidden reefs below the surface of the water that wreck ships.
- Evil shepherds who eat the flock instead of tend the flock.
- Storm clouds that bring wind damage, but no rain.
- Fruit trees that do not bear fruit and are uprooted and destroyed.
- Tumultuous ocean waves that damage the coastline.
- Wandering stars—that is angels who have left heaven and have nothing but eternal utter darkness in their future.