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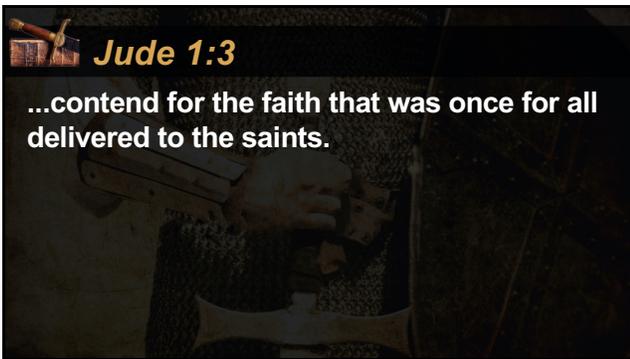
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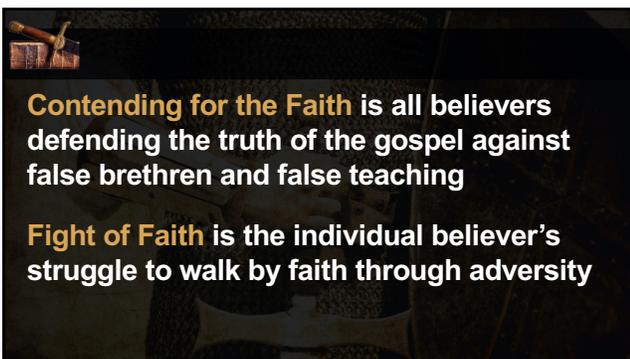
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**Contending for the Faith**

1. Gospel brings conflict and controversy
2. Know how to articulate your convictions
3. Memorize the Apostles Creed
4. Passions are doors for false teaching
5. Recognize the fruit of false teachers

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**History and Doctrine**

“From the beginning, the Christian gospel, as indeed the name “gospel” or “good news” implies, consisted in an account of something that had happened. And from the beginning, the meaning of the happening was set forth; and when the meaning of the happening was set forth then there was Christian doctrine.

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**History and Doctrine**

“Christ died”—that is history...“Christ died for our sins”—that is doctrine. Without these two elements joined in an absolutely indissoluble union, there is no Christianity.”

- J. Gresham Machen

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**Apostles Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.  
 I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our  
 Lord;  
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit  
 and born of the virgin Mary;

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**Apostles Creed**

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died, and was buried;  
 he descended to hell.  
 The third day he rose again from the dead.  
 He ascended to heaven and is seated at the  
 right hand of God the Father almighty.  
 From there he will come to judge the living  
 and the dead.

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**Apostles Creed**

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the holy catholic church,  
 the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body,  
 and the life everlasting. Amen.

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**Jude 1**

**1 Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James, To those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ: 2 May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.**

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**Jude 1**

**3 Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.**

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**Jude 1**

**4 For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.**

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**Divine Tension is Necessary**

Tension between God's mercy and grace and His justice and holiness is necessary to stay in balance. False teachers ignore this divine tension because it provides boundaries to fallen man's tendency toward sensuality.

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**Jude 1**

5 Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe.

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**Numbers 14**

21 But truly, as I live, and as all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord, 22 none of the men who have seen my glory and my signs that I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and yet have put me to the test these ten times and have not obeyed my voice, 23 shall see the land that I swore to give to their fathers. And none of those who despised me shall see it.

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**Israel Puts God to the Test**

**Test 1:** Trapped between Pharaoh’s army behind them and the Red Sea in front of them, they cry out to the Lord and complain to Moses, saying, “Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have led us out into this wilderness to die? (Exodus 14:10-12)

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**Israel Puts God to the Test**

**Test 2:** Three days in the desert of Shur without finding water, they come to Marah. but the water is so bitter no one can drink it. So the people complain against Moses again. (Exodus 15:22-24)

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**Israel Puts God to the Tests**

**Test 3:** On day 15 of the second month after their departure from Egypt, the Israelites grow hungry and complain against Moses and Aaron, saying, “Oh, that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by pots of meat and ate bread to the full. Now you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill us all with hunger.” (Exodus 16:1-3)

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**Israel Puts God to the Test**

**Test 4:** When God starts sending the Israelites manna to eat every morning, Moses warns them against trying to save some of their daily portion and eat it the following day. Despite the warning, however, some of them try it and learn that the manna breeds worms and starts stinking if left overnight. (Exodus 16:11-20)

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**Israel Puts God to the Test**

**Test 5:** Moses tells them that they should gather twice as much as usual the morning before each Sabbath morning because God won't send the manna on the Sabbath. Some of the Israelites go out to gather manna on the first Sabbath morning following that command. Of course they find none. (Exodus 16:25-30)

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**Israel Puts God to the Test**

**Test 6:** When the Israelites come to Rephidim, they complain because there is no water to drink. They ask Moses, "Why have you brought us out of Egypt? Was it to kill us, our children, and our livestock with thirst?" Their complaints are serious enough for Moses to think they are going to stone him. (Exodus 17:1-4)

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**Israel Puts God to the Test**

**Test 7:** When the Israelites are encamped at the base of Mount Sinai, Moses goes up into the mountain to be alone with God and receive revelation. Moses is gone so long, 40 days, that the people figure he is never going to return. So they, with the help of Aaron, create a golden calf to serve as their new god. They worship it and offer sacrifices unto it. (Exodus 32:1-6)

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**Israel Puts God to the Test**

**Test 8:** Three days after their departure from Mount Sinai, the Israelites complain again. The Bible doesn't tell us precisely what they complain about on this occasion, but the complaints are infuriating enough to God to cause Him to burn some of the people to death with fire. (Numbers 11:1-3)

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**Israel Puts God to the Test**

**Test 9:** Shortly after the deaths by fire, the Israelites complain again about the food situation. This time they are tired of eating the manna and long for the fish, cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions, and garlic of Egypt. (Numbers 11:4-34)

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**Israel Puts God to the Test**

**Test 10:** When Israel's 12 spies return from studying the land of Canaan, they tell the people that Canaan is a land of giants that devours those who try to inhabit it. The people to complain "Why has the Lord brought us to this land to fall by the sword and watch our wives and children become victims? Wouldn't it be better if we all just returned to Egypt?" (Numbers 14:1-4)

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**Warnings from the Past**

1. God destroyed the unbelieving Israelites that he saved from Egypt

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**Jude 1**

6 And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day—

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**Genesis 6**

1 When man began to multiply on the face of the land and daughters were born to them, 2 the sons of God saw that the daughters of man were attractive. And they took as their wives any they chose.

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**Genesis 6**

3 Then the Lord said, "My Spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh: his days shall be 120 years." 4 The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of man and they bore children to them. These were the mighty men who were of old, the men of renown.

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**Warnings from the Past**

1. God destroyed the unbelieving Israelites that he saved from Egypt
2. God imprisoned unholy angels because of unholy sexual unions with humans

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**Jude 1**

7 just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.

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**Once Blessed and Privileged**

Sodom and Gomorrah were blessed, privileged places. They were situated in a blessed area: it was well watered everywhere... like the garden of the LORD (Genesis 13:10).

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**Warnings from the Past**

1. God destroyed the unfaithful that he saved from Egypt
2. God imprisoned angels because of unholy sexual unions with humans
3. God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah because of unnatural sexual unions

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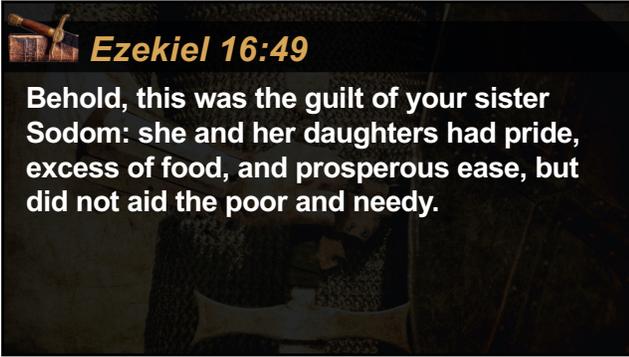
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**Ezekiel 16:49**

Behold, this was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had pride, excess of food, and prosperous ease, but did not aid the poor and needy.

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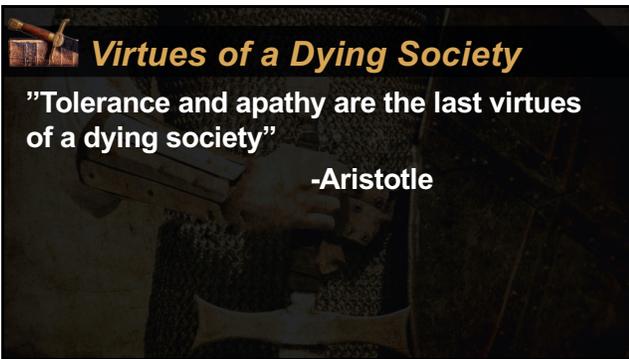
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**Virtues of a Dying Society**

"Tolerance and apathy are the last virtues of a dying society"

-Aristotle

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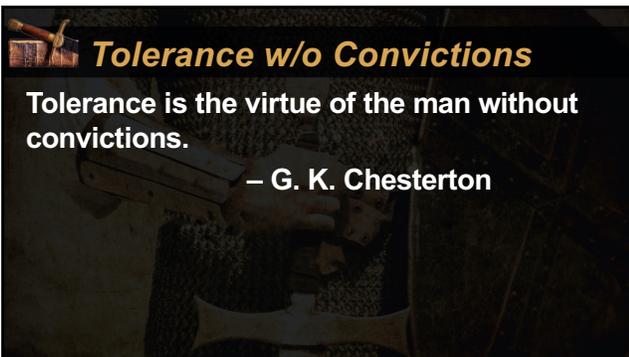
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**Tolerance w/o Convictions**

Tolerance is the virtue of the man without convictions.

- G. K. Chesterton

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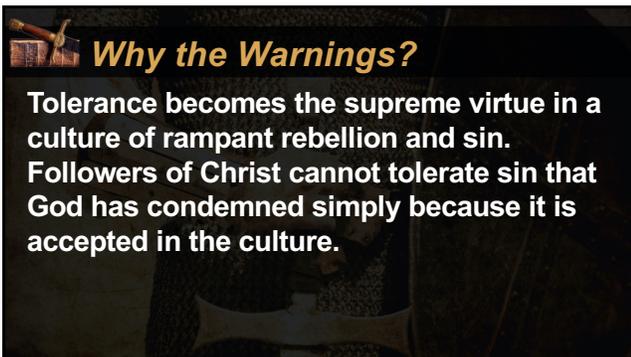
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**Why the Warnings?**

Tolerance becomes the supreme virtue in a culture of rampant rebellion and sin. Followers of Christ cannot tolerate sin that God has condemned simply because it is accepted in the culture.

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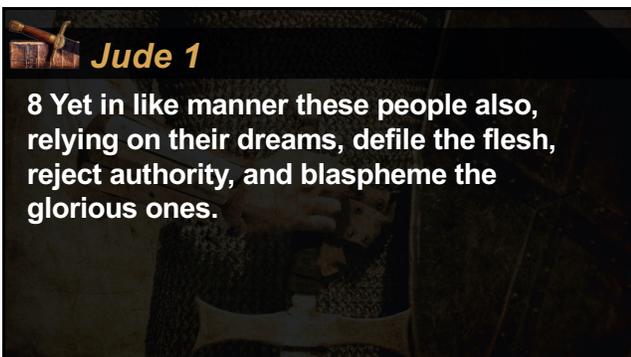
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**Jude 1**

8 Yet in like manner these people also, relying on their dreams, defile the flesh, reject authority, and blaspheme the glorious ones.

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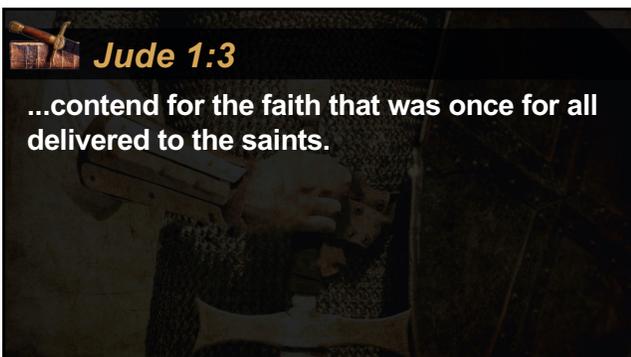
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**Jude 1:3**

...contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.

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