

Seeking To Strike The Balance Between Holding Fast To Grace, Ministry, And Biblical Separation Pt. 2

- **What biblical balances do we need to strike... both personally...and corporately as a local church... as we seek to live out the truths of God's grace?**

- 1) Showing grace to others and biblical _____.
- 2) Extending grace while practicing church _____.
- 3) Ministering in grace while practicing biblical _____ from false teaching.

1. The believer in Christ...

- a. We reviewed 16 points in Message 41

2. The believer in Christ needs to _____ for the revealed truths of Scripture. (Jude 3-4)

- a. Why should the believer earnestly contend?

- 1) Because _____ had already begun infiltrating the church.

- b. What does it mean to “*earnestly contend*”?

- 1) “Contend” – to _____ or _____ intensely in a contest.

- 2) Truth worth _____ is truth worth _____.

- c. How often is this to be done?

- 1) Present tense — repeatedly, whenever _____.

History demonstrates why this is necessary:

1920’s – 1930’s: Fundamentalist vs. Modernists

1940’s: The Rise of Neo-Evangelism

1950’s: Ecumenical Evangelism

1960’s – 1970’s: Charismatic Movement

1980’s: Tele-Evangelists & Prosperity Gospel (Rise of Christian Psychology; Lordship Salvation)

1990’s: Church Growth Movement

2000’s: Doctrine Doesn’t Matter, Experience Does (Emergent Church; Rise of Calvinism & Neo-Calvinism)

- d. Why is contending for the faith needed?
- 1) because God's _____ must be _____!
 - 2) Because false teachers will _____ local churches and bring in false doctrines!
- e. What are you to earnestly contend for?
- 1) The _____ body of revealed _____!
- f. What is true about "the faith"?
- 1) It is _____ and _____!
 - 2) It is not in _____!
- g. Who has "the faith" been delivered to?
- 1) The _____!
- h. What is at stake is the preservation of God's truth for future generations?
- 1) The Church is always one generation away from doctrinal _____.
- i. What about the problem of "ecumenicalism" and the "end-justifies-the means" thinking?
- 1) But Scripture repeatedly teaches that _____ cannot be _____ for results.
 - 2) God never instructs believers to _____ truth in order to achieve a _____ outcome.
- j. What has happened to our modern day seminaries, some that once taught the truth?
- It is often a gradual process:
- 1) One _____.
 - 2) One _____.
 - 3) One generation _____ than the previous one.
- And over time...
- 1) Institutions that once stood _____ for biblical truth begin moving _____ from it.
- k. Then where does God want people to go?
- 1) If someone has never believed in Jesus Christ... God's desire is that they be _____ by grace through _____.
 - 2) If someone has trusted Christ... God's desire is that they continue to _____ in grace through a daily _____ - _____ walk.

Key verses: Jude 3-4

Key words: Earnestly contend; Contend; Grace