

Contend for the Faith

Jude 1:3,4 ... I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

a) **1864** *epagōnizomai* (from [1909](#) /*epí*, "focused on" and [73](#) /*agōn*, "a contest, competition") – properly, to *contend* (literally, "*struggle upon, appropriately*"), i.e. with skill and commitment in opposing whatever is not of faith (God's *persuasion*).

- Where is the church's power? They shall cast out devils..., they shall speak with new tongues,... they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover.
- Where are the gifts of the Spirit in our assemblies?
- Do we pursue after God in study, prayer, and fasting?
- Do we find ourselves in the motion of "separation from the world"?
- Do we find ourselves in the motion of "loving the brethren"?
- Are we fervent in our spirit for God and for the brethren?
- Do we groan because of the "shame of our nakedness"?
- Are we aware that may be "our" present state?