

FAITH

THE CURRENCY OF THE KINGDOM

PART 8 - CONTEND EARNESTLY FOR FAITH

In the previous 3 resources on faith we have looked at what it is to have great faith, little to no faith, and how the substance of faith is established and formed within us by the continuous hearing of Christ's Word.

Jude 1: 3 talks about contending earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints.

Jude 1:3 Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints.

Jude's original intent we can see was to write about our common salvation, but he switches course and says he feels it necessary to now write to the church about contending for the faith, as there were false teachers going about teaching Gnosticism.

Q. What does it mean to earnestly contend for the faith which was handed down to the saints?

The word earnestly means: with sincere and intense conviction

The word contend means: to compete with others in a struggle to achieve something.

If we hear the meaning of earnestly and contend through the flesh this will take us to the wrong place, but if we hear this through the spirit, this will have us moving together towards a reality in Him which we can all lay hold of and possess. Something we can be part of together.

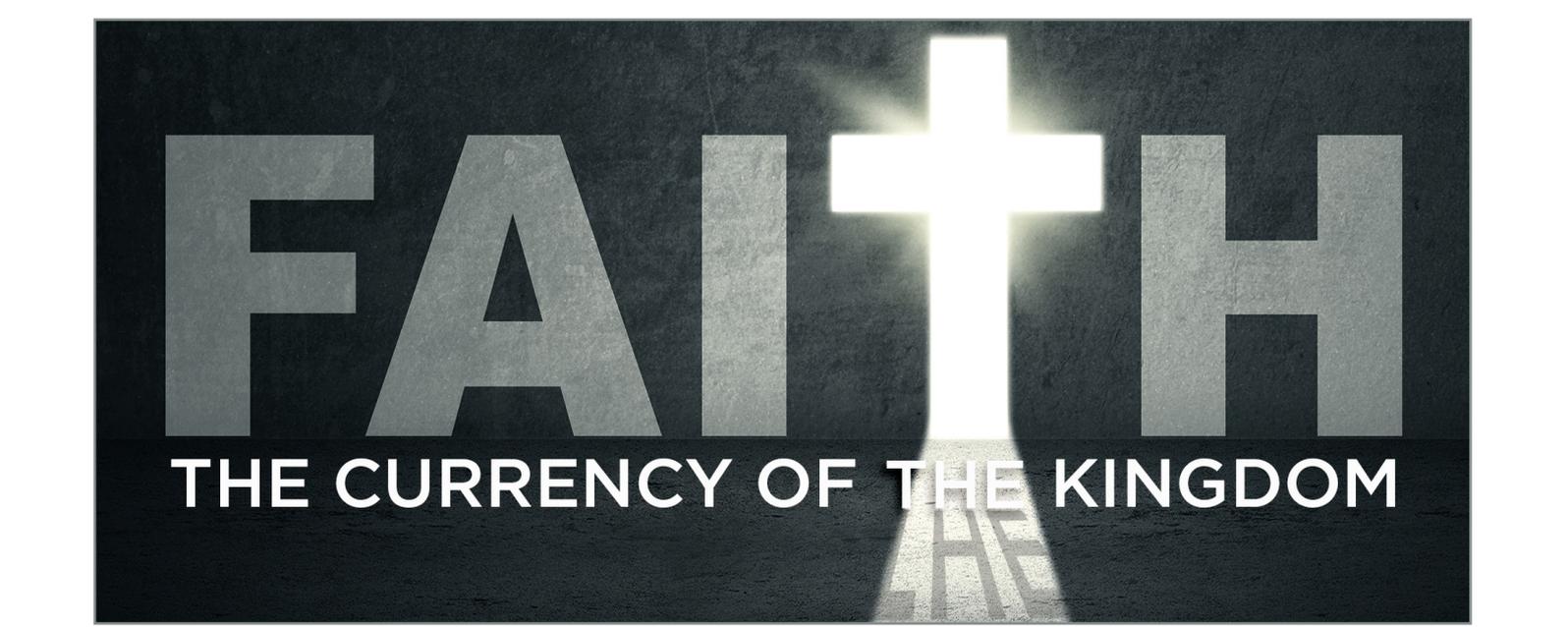
We don't need to make things up and come up with new visions and purposes etc. We need to earnestly contend for the reality which already exists in Him. We need to earnestly contend for the faith which our predecessors have handed down to us as fellow saints.

It is this faith that enables us to see the unseen seen spiritual kingdom which Jesus brought with Him when He came. It is this faith which enables us to partake of this kingdom way of being upon the earth, becoming and being ambassadors of this kingdom.

This is what we see in Hebrews 11 with all the great people of faith. It is this expression of faith which they were in which they have handed down to us and are cheering us on in.

Q. What can one expect to receive and enter into if one earnestly contends for the faith with God and others?

Q. How excited are we by this reality and why?



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Q. What does spiritual contending look like in Him and what doesn't it look like?

Q. What are some of the consequences which we will face if we are not earnestly contending?

Q. What is one thing you need to take away from this resource and seek Him on?