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## FROM JUDE TO EASTER – WHEN IN DOUBT

**Jude 2 (NLT/ESV)** - 2May God give you more and more **mercy, peace, and love**. 3Beloved, 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.

**Jude 20-25 (ESV)** - 20But you, beloved, **building yourselves up in your most holy faith** and praying in the Holy Spirit, 21keep yourselves in the **love of God**, waiting for the **mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ** that leads to **eternal life**. 22And **have mercy on those who doubt**; 23save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others **show mercy with fear**, hating even the garment stained by the flesh. 24Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, 25to **the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.**

**Faith (aman or pistis) (n)** - to stand firm, to trust, to be certain, to believe in.

**Mercy (hesed or eleos) (n)** - compassion or forgiveness shown toward someone whom it is within one's power to punish or harm.

**Peace (shalom or eirēnē) (n)** - peace, harmony, wholeness, completeness, prosperity, welfare and tranquility.

**Love (chesed or agape) (n)** - goodwill and benevolence of God shown in self-sacrifice and an unconditional commitment to a loved one.

## WHEN IN DOUBT:CONTEND FOR FAITH!

### (1) CONTEND BY REMEMBERING:

**Genesis 1:27,31 (NIV)** - 27So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them...**31God saw all that he had made, and it was very good!**

**Romans 5:12 (NIV)** - 12Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned.

**John 3:16 (NIV)** - 16**For God so loved the world** that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

### (2) CONTEND BY SEEING:

## THE DOUBT IN EASTER

- Triumphal Entry! – Doubt. Misunderstood. Unbelief.
- Passover! – Doubt. Betrayal. Denial.
- Greater Things! – Troubled. Doubt. Hate. Threats. Sorrow.
- I have overcome the world! – Betrayal, Denial, Doubt
- Crucifixion! – Forsaken. Doubt. Death.
- Resurrection! – Still Doubt...

## THE FAITH IN EASTER

- Triumphal Entry! – Blessed! The King!
- Passover! – Remember! Believe! Promises!
- Greater Things! – Believe! Joy!
- I have overcome the world! – Take Heart! Victory!
- Crucifixion! – Faith! Hope!
- Resurrection! – Life!

IT IS IN THE GREATEST DOUBT THAT WE MUST CONTEND TO HAVE THE GREATEST FAITH

IT IS IN OUR GREATEST DOUBTS THAT GOD GIVES US OUR GREATEST MERCIES

IT IS IN THE GREATEST CHAOS THAT GOD OFFERS US THE GREATEST PEACE

IT IS IN THE GREATEST DEATH THAT GOD GIVES US THE GREATEST LIFE.

John 15:13 (ESV) - Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

John 3:16 (NIV) - **16**For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have **eternal life**.

### (3) CONTEND BY LIVING:

Romans 5:1-11 (ESV) - Therefore, since we have been justified **by faith, we have peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ. **2**Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. **3**Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, **4**and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, **5**and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. **6**For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. **7**For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— **8**but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. **9**Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. **10**For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, **shall we be saved by his life. 11**More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Romans 6:4-5 (NIV) - "We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.""

**HE IS RISEN!.....ARE YOU?**