

STEWARDS OF THE GOSPEL, MORE SONGS FROM THE HEART, TRUTH ON TRIAL

Special Topics Unit; Truth On Trial - *Truth Upheld* - August 26, 2018

Text: Philippians 1:27-30, 1 Peter 3:15, 2 Thessalonians 2:15, Jude 3

Intro: We can stand firm in God's word and we can defend its truth for good reason. We need to live with the assurance that God's word can handle any attempt or challenge to disqualify its credibility. There are credible evidences to defend the truth of God's word.

I. Reliable Evidences Affirm the Truth of God's Word!

1. (Phil.1:27-30) Paul's instruction about their (our) responsibility to the gospel.

a. Should not be affected by Paul's P_____ or A_____! (27)

b. Our manner of life/conduct/behavior should be worthy of _____.

c. We need to be standing _____. We need to be striving

_____.

d. We should not be frightened by _____.

e. What has been granted to us?

2. (1 Peter 3:15) What is Peter telling us here?

3. Research: Who was Cornelius Tacitus? What did he write about Christ and Christians?

Who was Pliny the Younger? What did he write about Christians in his letter to Trajan (Roman Emperor)?

Who was Josephus? What did he write about Christ and Christians?

Why is this important?

II. The Bible Does Not Contradict Itself!

1. Read the following passages. Do these passages give a contradiction of God's character? Why or why not? Malachi 3:4-10

Ezekiel 24: 13-14

Genesis 6:6-7

Exodus 32:14

Jonah 3:10

What picture of God should we take away from these passages?

2. (2 Thessalonians 2:15) What did Paul say we should do? How do we do that?

III. Understanding the Main Theme of the Bible Helps Us To Defend It!

1. What would you say the main theme of the Bible is? (Brief is better)

2. What does the word "contend" (Strong's #1864) mean?

3. Define "the faith" that Jude tells us to contend for.

4. Who of the church is to contend for the faith?

5. Why did Jude say we would have to contend for the faith? (v.4)

6. How has God equipped you to contend for the faith?