Jude 1:3 (ESV) Beloved, 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.

A Case Study on Contending:

1. The Galatians’ Departure (1:6-7a)
   - No Thanksgiving
   - The Nature of Their Turning from the Gospel
     - It Was Serious!
     Galatians 1:6-7 (ESV) 6 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— 7 not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.
     - It Was So Soon!
     - It Was NOT Hopeless!

   What We Learn About the Gospel:
   - When you turn from the gospel, you turn from God Himself.
     Verse 6 - you are so quickly deserting him who called you
   - When you turn from the gospel, you turn from “the grace of Christ”.
     Verse 6 - him who called you in the grace of Christ
   - You have nothing to turn to if you turn from the Gospel.
     Verse 6 - and are turning to a different gospel—

2. The False Teachers’ Distortion (1:7b)
   Galatians 1:7 (ESV) not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.
   - False Teachers Create Confusion and Division
   - False Teachers Reverse the Gospel – verse 7b - “pervert” or “distort”
3. A Universal Warning (1:8-9)

Galatians 1:8-9 (ESV)  
8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.

2 lessons:

• The warning is universal. – The curse shows us the sobering responsibility we have as Christian teachers.

• The Gospel is essential. – This curse shows us that the gospel is our priority as Christian teachers.

4. Paul’s Ambition (1:10)

Galatians 1:10 (ESV)  
For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.