

Jude Series

Lesson #014

September 13, 2012

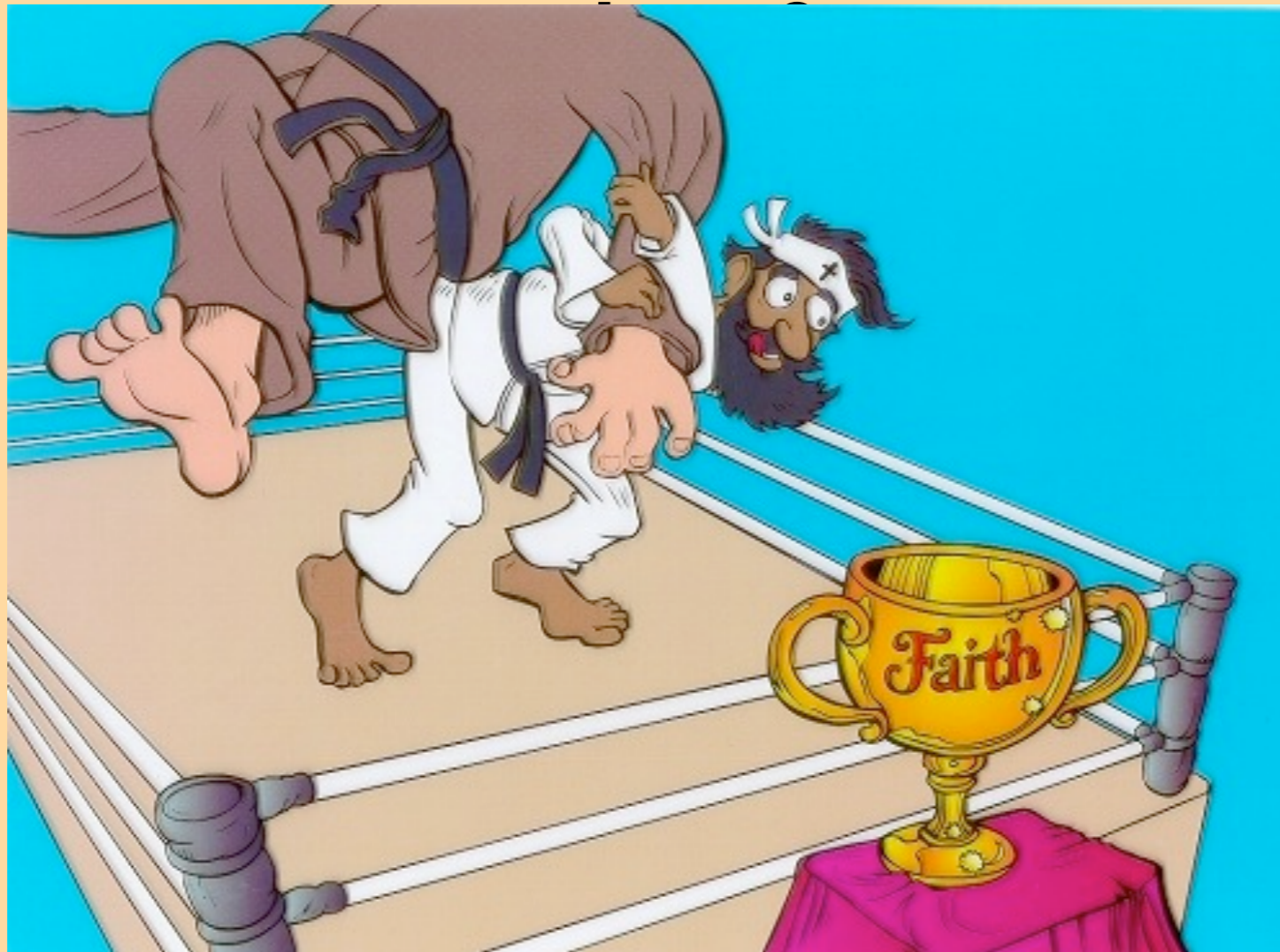
Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbible.org

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JUDE: CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

IDENTIFYING WORLDLY
THINKING IN OUR OWN SOULS
AND WHERE IT CAME FROM



Jude 3, “Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, 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.”

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**ἐπαγωνίζομαι *epagōnízomai*;
Present Pass (deponent) Inf.**

“to strive, contend earnestly; to exert intense effort on behalf of someth., *contend*.

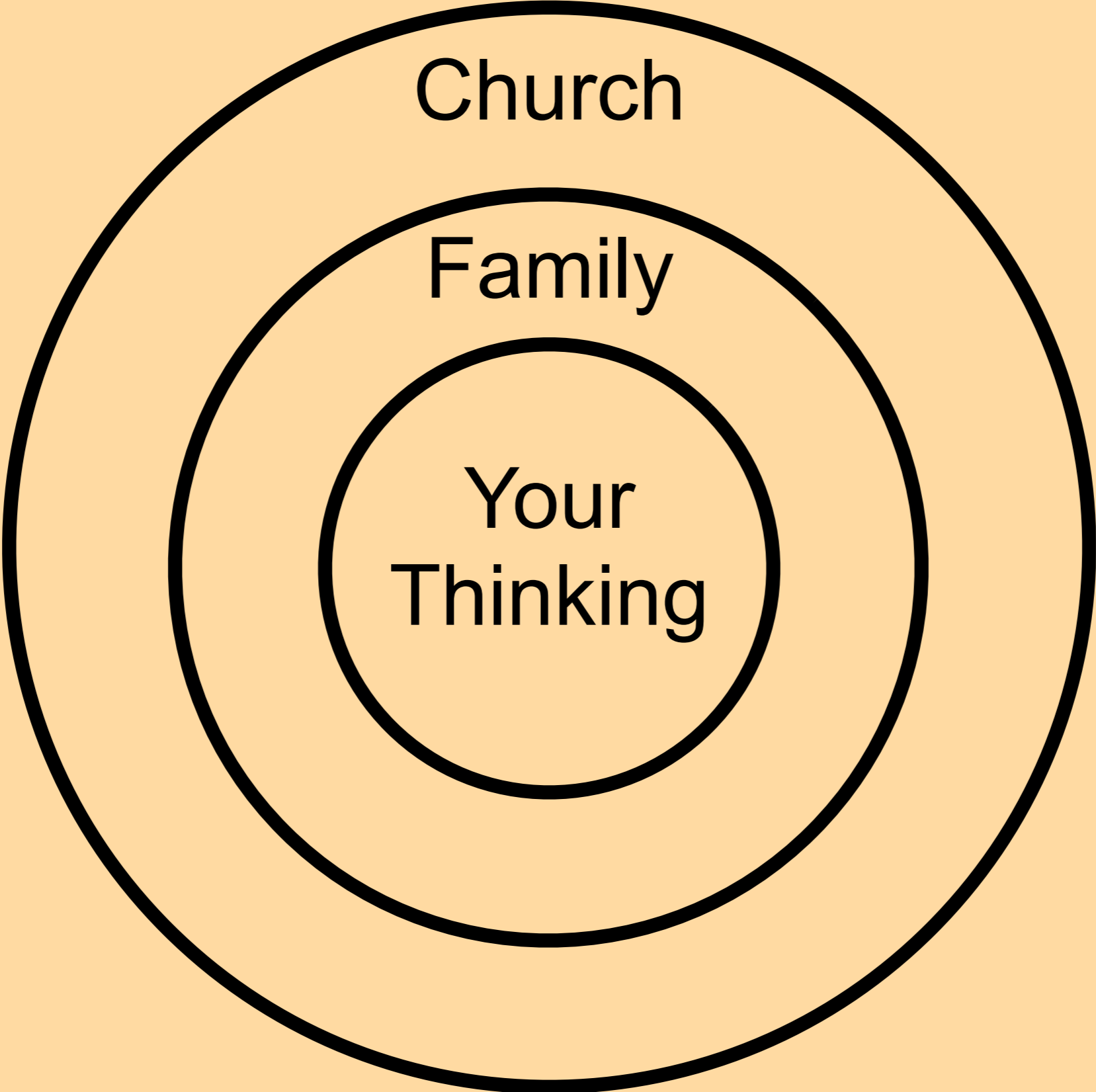
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πίστις *pistis*
dat fem sing
faith, belief, trust;
value; proof

ἐπαγωνίζομαι
epagōnízomai;
Present Pass
(deponent) Inf.

“to strive, contend earnestly; to exert intense effort on behalf of someth., *contend*.”



Church

Family

Your
Thinking

2 Cor. 10:5, “casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

2 Cor. 10:6, “and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.”

καθαίρω (*kathaireō*):
pres act part masc plur nom
to take down, destroy,
demolish

Matt. 7:3, “ Any why do you look at the speck in your brother’s eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye?

Matt. 7:4, “Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me remove the speck from your eye’; and look, a plank is in your own eye?

Matt. 7:5, “Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.”

The Basis of Knowledge

	SYSTEM	STARTING POINT	METHOD
Autonomous Systems of Perception	RATIONALISM	Innate ideas Faith in human ability	Independent use of logic & reason
	EMPIRICISM	Sense perceptions External experience; Scientific method; Faith in human ability	Independent use of logic & reason
	MYSTICISM	Inner, private experience; intuition Faith in human ability	Independent, nonlogical, nonrational, nonverifiable.
Divine Viewpoint	REVELATION	Objective revelation of God	Dependent use of logic and reason

MODERNISM

Immanuel
Kant:
Subjectivism

RATIONALISM

EMPIRICISM

SKEPTICISM

EXISTENTIALIALISM

19TH–20TH
Centuries

Descartes
Locke

Post-
Modernism
1900–present

The Enlightenment ca 1640–1780

Postmodernism Basics

Truth is created, not discovered.

Reason, rationality and science are cultural biases.

Those who trust reason and the things based on reason, like science, Western civilization, education, the U.S. Constitution, are just biases from European cultural conditioning.

This cultural conditioning is designed to keep power in the hands of the social elite—i.e., Europeans (whites).

Comparison of Modernism, Postmodernism and Biblical Christianity

Subject

Biblical Christianity

**Modernism/
Postmodernism**

Human Nature

Mankind is in the image of God; spiritual and physical.

Humans are material machines. The universe is purely physical. Nothing exists beyond our senses.

No opinion; suspicious of any dogmatic assertions.

Comparison of Modernism, Postmodernism and Biblical Christianity

Subject	Biblical Christianity	Modernism/ Postmodernism
Free Will	Diminished by sin; still morally responsible.	Autonomous and self-governing. Choose their own direction. People are products of their culture and only imagine they are self-governing.

Comparison of Modernism, Postmodernism and Biblical Christianity

Subject

Biblical Christianity

**Modernism/
Postmodernism**

View of Reason

Reason is necessary but not the basis for understanding reality; it discovers some truth, but revelation is also needed.

Rationalism and empiricism are the only basis for discovering truth.

Denies objective reason, rationalism is a myth.

Comparison of Modernism, Postmodernism and Biblical Christianity

Subject

Biblical Christianity

**Modernism/
Postmodernism**

**View of
Progress**

Mankind isn't progressing toward anything; advances are positive, but there is no utopia brought in by man.

Mankind is progressing by using science and reason.

Denies objective reason, rationalism is a myth.

**No Meaning, No God
Existential Darkness, Despair**

DETAILS/PHENOMENA

People

Observable phenomena

Things

Events

Language

66% believe no such thing as absolute truth exists.

72% of those between 18–25.

**53% of evangelicals believe there are no absolutes.
Not even Christ is absolute.**

- a. The collapse of the importance of religious belief.**
- b. Globalism**
- c. Now fragmentation and polarization have left us in culture wars.**

Christianity: Truth is objective and can be known

Postmodernism: no objective truth, no absolute knowledge, no certainty

Therefore, human beings make up their own reality; multiple realities are equally true.

Postmodernism:

**meaning is created by a social group
and its language.**

Postmodernism:

**It is impossible to know God, history,
or reason.**

**It is impossible to communicate truth
because:**

... with no absolutes behind language, each person is trapped and imprisoned by their own language or culture or group that seeks to marginalize them.

“How old are you?”

“I’m seven and a half exactly!”

“You needn’t say exactly,” the Queen remarked, “I can believe it without that. Now I’ll give you something to believe. I’m just one hundred and one, five months and a day.”

“I can’t believe that,” said Alice.

“Can’t you?” the Queen said, in a pitying tone, “Try again: draw a long breath, and shut your eyes.”

Alice laughed. “There’s no use trying,” she said, “*one can’t believe impossible things.*”

“I daresay you haven’t had much practice,” said the Queen. “When I was your age, I always did it for half an hour a day. Why, sometimes I’ve believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast.”