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Romans 11:33

# INCREASING IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD

Ashland Church of Christ 2008



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## Offense — Preparing for the Attack

# Why Christians Must be Offensive

Text: Jude

**Key Text:** 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.”

Introduction:

- 1) There are times when our lives are going to be offensive:
  - a) Romans 12:1-2.
  - b) 1John 3:13.
  - c) John 15:18.
- 2) The focus of our study today centers around the athletic use of the word ‘offense.’

### I. **Contend** (3-4).

- A. “To contend about a thing, as a combatant” (Vine).
- B. Notice, the word ‘earnestly’ is added for emphasis.
- C. The reason we are to be offensive with the gospel is found in verse four.
  1. Acts 20:29.
  2. 2Peter 2:1.

## **II. Consider (5-16).**

### **A. Three examples of divine retribution (5-7).**

- 1. The people in the land of Egypt (5).**
- 2. The angels who sinned (6).**
- 3. Sodom and Gomorrah (7).**

### **B. Three reasons to contend (8-10).**

- 1. Those who do not contend reject authority (8).**
- 2. Those who do not contend bring reviling accusations (9).**
- 3. Those who do not contend are like brute beasts (10).**

### **C. Three illustrations of their destruction from the Old Testament (11-13).**

- 1. Cain (Genesis 4:3-8).**
- 2. Balaam (Numbers 22:5-7).**
- 3. Korah (Numbers 16:1-35).**

### **D. Three part prophecy of Enoch (14-16).**

- 1. The Lord will come with angels.**
- 2. He will execute judgment.**
- 3. He will convict the ungodly — He will prove them wrong.**

## **III. Construct (17-23).**

### **A. Be warned (17-19).**

### **B. Be on guard (20-21a).**

### **C. Be awaiting mercy (21b-23).**