

## 1E. The Faith Once Delivered

**Jude** <sup>3</sup> Beloved, while I was very eager to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found myself compelled to write to you by way of exhorting (παρακαλῶν) you to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints (τῇ ἅπαξ παραδοθείσῃ τοῖς ἁγίοις πίστει).

<sup>4</sup> For certain men have crept in unobserved, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, irreverent individuals (ἀσεβεῖς), who turn the grace of our God into debauchery (ἀσέλγειαν) and deny (ἀρνούμενοι) our only ruler and Lord (θεσπότην καὶ κύριον), Jesus Christ.

<sup>5</sup> But I want to remind you (though you knew this at one time) that Jesus, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterwards (τὸ δεύτερον) destroyed those who did not believe.

**Hebrews 3** <sup>14</sup> For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end, <sup>15</sup> while it is said: “Today, if you will hear his voice, Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.” <sup>16</sup> For who, having heard, rebelled? Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt by Moses? <sup>17</sup> Now with whom was he angry forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? <sup>18</sup> And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who did not obey? <sup>19</sup> So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

**1 Corinthians 10** <sup>1</sup> Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup> all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup> all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup> and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual rock that followed them, and that rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup> But with most of them God was not well pleased, for they were strewn about in the wilderness. . . . <sup>11</sup> Now these things happened to them as types (τυπικῶς), and they were written for our instruction, unto whom the ends of the ages have come.

**Irenaeus of Lyons, *Against the Heresies* 1.10.1** — The Church, though dispersed throughout the whole world, even to the ends of the earth, has received from the apostles and their disciples this faith in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are in them; and in one Christ Jesus, the Son of God, who became incarnate for our salvation; and in the Holy Spirit, who proclaimed through the prophets the dispensations of God, and the advents, and the birth from a virgin, and the passion, and the resurrection from the dead, and the ascension into heaven in the flesh of the beloved Christ Jesus, our Lord, and his manifestation from heaven in the glory of the Father to gather all things in one, and to raise up anew all flesh of the whole human race, in order that to Christ Jesus, our Lord, and God, and Savior, and King, according to the will of the invisible Father, every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth, and that every tongue should confess to him, and that He should execute just judgment towards all; that He may send spiritual wickednesses, and the angels who transgressed and became apostates, together with the ungodly, and unrighteous, and wicked, and profane among men, into everlasting fire; but may, in the exercise of his grace, confer immortality on the righteous, and holy, and those who have kept his commandments, and have persevered in his love . . . and may surround them with everlasting glory.

**2** — As I have already observed, the Church, having received this preaching and this faith, although scattered throughout the whole world, yet, as if occupying but one house, carefully preserves it. She also believes these points just as if she had but one soul, and one and the same heart, and she proclaims them, and teaches them, and hands them down, with perfect harmony, as if she possessed only one mouth. For, although the languages of the world are dissimilar, yet the content of the tradition is one and the same. For the Churches which have been planted in Germany do not believe or hand down anything different, nor do those in Spain, nor those in Gaul, nor those in the East, nor those in Egypt, nor those in Libya, nor those which have been established in the central regions of the world.