Let the Church Live Loud

Jude 1:17-23

The enemy has seized the opportunity of shallow spirituality in the church.

Men, supposedly called to preach the Gospel, has exchanged the sword of the Spirit for the tickling feather of alternative doctrines.

These alternative doctrines are numbing agents and not cures for the terminal disease of sin.

In his writings, Paul describes the doctrine of the faith to be Sound.

This word <u>SOUND</u> (Grk> hygiainō) is used to describe one's health who is in perfect shape;
One who is clear of infection or disease. It means to be uncorrupted.

Paul's exhortation to the God called preacher in his 2nd letter to Timothy is to "preach the word; reprove; exhort; and rebuke. Be consistent in season and out of season."

2 Timothy 4:3-4 / To Timothy, Paul writes concerning a time that would come when...

...They will not endure sound doctrine. Wanting to have their ears tickled, they will <u>accumulate</u> for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires. They will turn away their ears from the truth.

Those who do not want to hear sound doctrine will "accumulate teachers" > this is plural, meaning more than one; the KJV translation uses the word "heap" which implies many teachers.

These people will go anywhere to anybody who will tell them what they want to hear. Jesus said, "The world loves its own."

Timothy, called by God to preach the Gospel, is charged with preaching <u>sound doctrine</u> - pure, unadulterated truth; to use a modern term, "Without spin."

Truth confronts; truth may provoke anger; truth shatters false peace; truth requires action that wars against the flesh.

Therefore, to be a witness to truth, requires boldness.

Peter and John's Prayer Request

Acts 4:29, 31 "And now, Lord, take note of their threats, and grant that Your bond-servants may speak Your word with all confidence; And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and *began* to speak the word of God with boldness.

Paul's Prayer Request

2 Thessalonians 3:1-3 ⁽¹⁾ Finally, brethren, pray for us that the word of the Lord will spread rapidly and be glorified, just as *it did* also with you; ⁽²⁾ and that we will be rescued from perverse and evil men; for not all have faith. ⁽³⁾ But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil *one.*

Jesus' Promise

Acts 1:8 "you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

Wisdom is not Silent!

Proverbs 1:20-21 (20) Wisdom shouts in the street, she lifts her voice in the square; (21) At the head of the noisy *streets* she cries out; At the entrance of the gates in the city she utters her sayings:

However, many cannot hear. They are Spiritually Deaf. Some are even Impenitent.

Prov. 1:22 But scoffers delight themselves in scoffing. Fools hate knowledge

Prov. 1:24 They refuse God's call; They ignore His outstretched hand.

Prov. 1:24 They neglect His counsel. They refuse to respond to His reproof.

The Need for the Church to Live Loud

Jude 1:17-23 ⁽¹⁷⁾ But you, beloved, ought to remember the words that were spoken beforehand by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁽¹⁸⁾ that they were saying to you, "In the last time there will be mockers, following after their own ungodly lusts." ⁽¹⁹⁾ These are the ones who cause divisions, worldly-minded, devoid of the Spirit. ⁽²⁰⁾ But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, ⁽²¹⁾ keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life. ⁽²²⁾ And have mercy on some, who are doubting; ⁽²³⁾ save others, snatching them out of the fire; and on some have mercy with fear, hating even the garment polluted by the flesh.

In the last time there will be

- mockers, following after their own ungodly lusts.
- ones who cause divisions
- ones who are worldly-minded (sensual)
- ones who are devoid of the Spirit (God's presence distinguishes His people)

Recognizing these, we must remain vigilant to guard our souls.

- Keep yourselves preserve the love of God (love for God)
- "Building yourselves up" working and constructing our spiritual life / relationship with God
 - Fellowship
 - Worship
 - Continuing in under preaching & teaching
- "In our most holy faith" (pure faith before God)
- Praying in the Spirit (prayers prompted by the Holy Spirit / in the power of the Spirit;
 - Paul writes in Romans 8 that the Spirit intercedes for us when we can't articulate the words.

With our soul spiritually intact...

- We can help those who have been made to doubt.
- We can save some by snatching them out of the fire
- They are some we must be careful in helping, lest we contract their infectious sinful depravity.

Let us make our call and election sure. Let us seek to be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. Let us seek boldness from God to speak His truth, and that the Holy Spirit will work through us to draw the sinner unto the Lord.