

Snatched from the Fire

Pastor Anthony J Shetley
Sunday, September 12, 2021

There is a short, powerful letter tucked away in the back of our bible. Fittingly, I believe, it directly precedes the writing of Revelations. It addresses apostasy and falling away from the true faith – sound doctrine.

Jude 3–4

3 Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was **once for all handed down to the saints**.

4 For certain persons have crept in **unnoticed**, those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, **ungodly persons** who turn the grace of our God into licentiousness and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Actions to take:

“Build yourselves up on your most holy faith, (Jude 20)

- This is ongoing and accomplished by the ministry of the Holy Spirit, the word of God, and the holy church.

“until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God...no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;” (Ephesians 4:13–14, NASB95)

(PRAYER) pray in the Holy Spirit.” (Jude 20) Led by the Spirit; in harmony with the Spirit;

“Keep yourselves in the love of God” (Jude 21)

- Love for God is demonstrated through obedience
- The new Heaven and earth will be populated with people who love the Lord.
- Maintaining close communion with the Lord
- Setting affection on things above

wait anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.” (Jude 21)

- True understanding of the last days will keep present reality in focus.

“looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,” (Titus 2:13)

He reminds them - “God can keep you from stumbling.” (Jude 24)

Summary: We must save ourselves if we are to save others.

Concerning those who are wavering, Jude writes - *“And have mercy on some, who are doubting;” / wavering* (Jude 22)

Lord help us to *“save others, snatching them out of the fire.” (Jude 23)*

The last days are as the days of Noah.

- The population of the earth is steeped in sin
- The masses are oblivious to the coming judgment of God from the hardness and blindness of their heart!

“they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be.” (Matthew 24:38–39)

On these we must *“have mercy with fear, hating even the garment polluted by the flesh.”* Love the sinner, hate the sin; Don’t fall trying to help others. (Jude 23)