Walking in the Truth: "Stand Guard!"

Jude 17-23

October 29, 2023

I. Stand guard by remembering. (vs 17-19)

1. Remember who shared this truth. (vs 17)

Acts 1:21-22

2. Remember what truth they shared. (vs 18)

John 7:17

3. Remember why they shared this truth. (vs 19)

Acts 20:30; Romans 8:16

II. Stand guard in the love of God. (vs 20-21)

- 1. Grow strong in accurate doctrine. (vs 20a)
- 2. Grow deeper in your prayer life. (vs 20b)

Ephesians 6:18

3. Grow in <u>obedience</u> to truth. (vs 21a)

John 15:9

4. Grow while looking for Christ's return. (21b)

Titus 2:13

III. Stand guard against the flesh. (vs 22-23)

Three different kinds of people who need spiritual help:

- 1. Those who doubt. (vs 22)
- 2. Those living on the edge of judgement. (vs 23a)
- 3. Those who are immoral. (vs 23b)

LET'S DO DEEPER:

1. Read vs 17-19. Have you ever been taught that there will be such people as described here? Why would it be important for us to know this fact? Read Acts 20:29-31. What does Paul say about the importance of being aware that such people will come?

- 2. Why is it that there will always be a threat of such people within our midst (Matthew 13:24-30)? What are the key characteristics of these individuals? Verse 18 identifies them as "following their own ungodly passions." Why is it that when we are totally self-focused on our own desires that we become all those things listed in verse 19?
- 3. Read Jude 20-21. Jude uses here other supporting phrases to explain how we are to keep ourselves in the love of God. What are the different ways we are to keep ourselves? Which one is most surprising to you? Explain why.
- 4. Read vs 22-23. The first group that Jude mentions is "those who doubt." Have you ever had an experience where you were told that doubting was evil or wrong? Explain. How is verse 22 helpful for us with our own doubts?
- 5. What is it that makes it difficult to be willing to help such people who are "in the fire" (Romans 12:3)?