CONTEND, FOR THE UPRIGHT

Jude 1:8-16

November 1, 2026 | Pastor Gary Shavey

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Rather than seeing the truth, what do false teachers see? Why? Why are false teachers rebellious? When temptation comes, do you find yourself rationalizing sin and falling prey to it? Or do you recognize the danger and flee from it in order to stay upright and pursue righteousness? Who in your life can help you stay accountable and watch your life and doctrine?

2. How discerning have you been of the spiritual leaders you listen to and support? Using the identifying marks Jude gives us, do any of them fall under the Via Negativa? What are their central messages? Are they centered on the gospel and Jesus Christ's works?

3. What do the five examples/metaphors from Jude teach us about false teachers and the ungodly? Who do false teachers really feed and why? How does this affect the body of Christ? What did Paul compare false teachers to in Acts 20:29-30? What is Satan's plan with regard to the church? Why do false teachers complain? Why do false teachers flatter people?

4. During the week, listen to yourself at work, home and any other place that you spend good deal of time. When you are faced with obstacles or bad attitudes of others at work, do you murmur and complain about them? Do you go home and repeat the same complaints to your family? If complaining is one of your weak areas, then try giving those you work with some compliments and encouragement. What should your words you speak to others, and for yourself, be like according to Ephesians 4:29 and Philippians 2:14-15?

5. Who have you been praying for to invite to Christmas Eve?

RECOMMENDED READING

Ferguson, Sinclair B. *The Christian Life: A Doctrinal Introduction. Banner of Truth.* (Trust, 1981).

Keller, Timothy. *Counterfeit Gods: The Empty Promises of Money, Sex, and Power, and the Only Hope that Matters.* (Dutton, 2009).

Morley, Patrick. *The Four Voices: Taking Control of the Conversation in Your Head.* (MIM Press, 2022).

Whitney, Donald S. *Simplify Your Spiritual Life: Spiritual Disciplines for the Overwhelmed.* (NavPress, 2003).