

The Book of Jude

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Passage: Jude 1:1-7

Title: Contending (Protecting and Defending) the Faith

Summary: For 2,000 years since Christ, there have been faithful saints who have contended (protected and defended) The Faith. They preserved "The Faith" for us, and now we have the same calling to protect and defend The Faith for the current and next generation. Jude gives us a great reminder of this calling.

Jude 1-7 (NKJV) ¹ Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ: ² Mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you. ³ Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. ⁴ For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁵ But I want to remind you, though you once knew this, that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe. ⁶ And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; ⁷ as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

Only 25 Verses / Be on Guard

The book of Jude is only 25 verse, but an in-depth 25 at that. Jude gives 8 Old Testament examples, which each in their own is a study. Jude writes this to the believers so that they may be on guard to watch out for men that have crept into the church and are leading people astray.

Another Message on False Teachers / Divine Assembly / Book of Revelation – 5 Lost Focus

You may say here we go again, another message on false teachers and apostates. We studied them in 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, now here again in Jude, you know we would really like to hear things to help me with my marriage, raising my kids, controlling my temper, and the likes.....and I say divine assembly. Divine assembly in that these books were inspired by the Holy Spirit, and I personally believe so were there order. You see it is no coincidence that we have laid such a solid foundation in regards to false teaching as preparation before we start the Book of Revelation. For in the Book of Revelation we will see study the 7 churches and see 5 of them losing focus on the Word of God, leaving their first love, being led away from the Word and Works of God by leaders who were blind themselves. God gives each a warning, He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the Church:

(Revelation 2:11 NKJV) "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death."

Revelation 17 / False Prophet

In Revelation 17 we will see the establishment of a 1 World religious system, lead by the False Prophet, many will follow because they did not have ears to hear, they did not implant the Word deep in their heart.

Revelation 17:5 (NKJV) ⁵ And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH

Marriage Parenting – Struggles / Lead Away – Suffer Greatly / Even the Very Elect

And you know in regard helps for my marriage and parenting, if you are lead away by false teaching, your marriage and children will suffer tremendously, maybe even to the point of destruction. Jesus said the delusion in the last days would be so strong, that even the very elect could be deceived:

(Matthew 24:24 NKJV) "For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

(Matthew 24:25 NKJV) "See, I have told you beforehand.

Problem Present Today / Very Convincing

The problems Jude addresses then, still effect the church today. You know not all false teachers know that they are false teachers, in fact most of them believe they are the ones that are right, and the others are wrong, that is why they can convince so many people, because they themselves are convinced.

You will Lose / Anything Less is Less

I have to add also, you may be saved, but when a believer is sucked into errant teaching they may not lose their salvation, but they will lose, for anything less than what God has for you, is less. Why settle for less.

Start

The introduction and theme are in the first 4 verses so let's start there.

Outline for Jude:

- Introduction - Author and Audience - (Jude 1:1-2)
- Theme - Reason for Writing - (Jude 1:3-4)
- Examples of Leaving the Blessings/Love of God - (Jude 1:5-7)
 - Example of the Children of Israel not entering Promised Land (1:5).
 - Example of Satan and Angels Rebelling in Heaven (1:6).
 - Example of Sodom and Gomorrah (1:7).
- Reasons for Leaving the Blessings/Love of God - (Jude 1:8-11)
 - Way of Cain (1:11)
 - Way of Balaam (1:11)
 - Way of Korah (1:11)
- Exhortations on How to Keep Ourselves in the Blessings/Love of God (Jude 1:12)
 - Building yourselves up on your most holy faith (1:20)
 - Praying in the Holy Spirit (1:20)
 - Looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life (1:21)

Prayer

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) ¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

In Every Study

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need

Introduction - Author and Audience - (Jude 1:1-2)

(Jude 1:1 NKJV) Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ:

Brother of James

Jude, the author of this epistle, was the brother of James, and both Jude and James were half brothers of Jesus (Mark 6:3).

The author calls himself "brother of James." This makes him a brother of the Lord Jesus in the family of Joseph and Mary. Vincent comments: "That Jude does not allude to his relationship to the Lord may be explained by the fact that the natural relationship in his mind would be subordinate to the spiritual (see Luke 11:27, 28), and that such a designation would, as Dean Alford remarks, 'have been in harmony with those later and superstitious feelings with which the next and following ages regarded our Lord's earthly relatives.' He would shrink from emphasizing a distinction to which none of the other disciples or apostles could have a claim, the more so because of his former unbelief in Christ's authority and mission. It is noticeable that James likewise avoids such a designation."

Wuest, K. S. (1997). Wuest's word studies from the Greek New Testament: for the English reader (Vol. 16, p. 231). Eerdmans.

Bondservant

Jude was a blood relative of Jesus, but he considered himself only as a bondservant of Jesus Christ. The fact that he wanted himself to be known this way instead of introducing himself as “Jude, the half-brother of Jesus” tells us something of the humility of Jude and the relative unimportance of being connected to Jesus by human relationships.

Mark Twain once said, “The two greatest days in a person’s life is the day we’re born, and the day we discover why.” We are born to know God...

Author / Half Brother

Jude, the author of this epistle, was the brother of James, and both Jude and James were half brothers of Jesus (Mark 6:3). You can only imagine what it must have been being Jesus brother. Why He wasn’t like the other kids, so perfect, such a goodie-to-sandals, He probably seemed to be from another world, and He was.

*(Mark 6:3 KJV) Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of **Juda**, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him.*

***Mark 6:3 (NKJV)** ³ Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and brother of James, Joses, Judas, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us?” So they were offended at Him.*

James Early Church leader / Gentiles – Circumcised /

James was a leader in the early church, as seen in Acts 15, concerning the argument as to whether or not Gentiles converted to Christianity were required to undergo the rite of circumcision. The question was debated until James stood, and quoting the prophet Amos (9:11–12), said Gentiles did not need to become Jews first and did not need to be circumcised in order to become Christians because God has His called ones even among the heathen.

***Acts 15:13–14 (NKJV)** ¹³ And after they had become silent, James answered, saying, “Men *and* brethren, listen to me: ¹⁴ Simon has declared how God at the first visited the Gentiles to take out of them a people for His name.*

James Understood Grace / Initially did not Believe

Perhaps the reason James grasped this kind of grace so firmly is that, although he had grown up in the same household as Jesus, initially he did not believe His Brother was the Son of God (John 7:5):

(John 7:3 NKJV) His brothers therefore said to Him, “Depart from here and go into Judea, that Your disciples also may see the works that You are doing.

(John 7:4 NKJV) “For no one does anything in secret while he himself seeks to be known openly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world.”

*(John 7:5 NKJV) **For even His brothers did not believe in Him.***

(John 7:6 NKJV) Then Jesus said to them, “My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready.

What Changed Mind – The Resurrection

What changed James’ and Jude’s minds? What turned them from skeptics to leaders of the faith?

Nothing short of the Resurrection, for it is after that event that we see them numbered with the disciples in the Upper Room (Acts 1:14). Everything changes after the resurrection, isn’t that true in your life too?

*(Acts 1:14 NKJV) These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women **and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.***

We think being Nice – Get Saved / Must Preach Christ

Here is something to note, sometimes we think that by being nice—mowing our neighbor’s lawn, baking him cookies, or smiling when he drives by—we will convert him. Not true. There was no lovelier person than Jesus Christ. Yet, His brothers did not believe on Him until the Cross and the Resurrection. That is why it is imperative to preach Christ crucified (1 Corinthians 1:23). You can wave to your neighbor for twenty years, and wave him right into hell. Or you can take the time at some point to say, “You know what? Jesus Christ died for your sins and rose from the dead, and you must believe on Him.” (Courson)

*(1 Corinthians 1:23 NKJV) **but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness,***

Gospel / If You Were to Die Tonight

Personal

***Jeremiah 29:11 (NKJV)** ¹¹ For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.*

Problem

*Romans 3:23 (NKJV)*²³ *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,*

Penalty

*Romans 6:23 (NKJV)*²³ *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord*

Provision

*John 3:16 (NKJV)*¹⁶ *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*

Profession

*Romans 10:13 (NKJV)*¹³ *For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."*

Recognize

*John 14:6 (NKJV)*⁶ *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*

Repent

*Acts 3:19 (NKJV)*¹⁹ *Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,*

Receive

*Romans 10:9 (NKJV)*⁹ *that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.*

Loved & Sanctified

Verse 1b - To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ: -

Depending on your translation, it may say "loved or sanctified", depending what manuscript was used as the basis of the translation. I can see how a manuscript can use either/or because God's 'agape' unconditional sacrificial love is what "hagiazō" sanctifies us (sets us apart) unto Him.

Both the Nestle and the Westcott and Hort texts have αγαπᾶω (ἀγαπᾶω), "to love," instead of ἁγιαζῶ (ἁγιαζῶ), "to sanctify." The participle is in the perfect tense, speaking of a past complete act having present, and in a context like this, permanent results. The distinctive word for "love" here is the word for God's self-sacrificial love which was shown at Calvary. This love here is the outgoing of God's love for the saints in which He gives of Himself for their good. He will do anything within His good will for the saints. He went all the way to Calvary for them when they were unlovely and naturally unlovable. He will do as much and more for His saints who in Christ are looked upon by God the Father with all the love with which He loves His Son. The perfect tense speaks here of the fact that the saints are the permanent objects of God's love. Jude is therefore writing to those who have been loved by God the Father with the present result that they are in a state of being the objects of His permanent love, and that love extends not merely through the brief span of this life, but throughout eternity (Wuest)

Preserved

And then some dear children of God fear that they might be lost. "Preserved" is τηρεῶ (τηρεῶ), "to guard, to hold firmly, to watch or keep," expresses watchful care, and is suggestive of present possession. Here again Jude uses the perfect participle. The saints have been kept guarded by God the Father with the present, and here, permanent result that they are the objects of His permanent, watchful care. (Wuest)

For Jesus (Kept for Jesus)

The words "Jesus Christ" are in the simple dative case. God the Father is keeping them guarded for Jesus Christ. Our Lord prayed (John 17:11), "Holy Father, keep (τήρεω (τηρεῶ) same word) through thine own name those whom thou hast given Me, that they may be one as we are." Our Lord committed the saints into the watchful care of God the Father, and He is keeping them for Jesus Christ, not in the sense that the Father is keeping the saints in lieu of His Son keeping them, but in the sense that the Father is keeping them so that they might continue to be forever the possession of the Lord Jesus. (Wuest)

Called KJV Order / It's an Invitation

In KJV, the ordering of the translation is the word “called” at the end of the sentence.

Jude 1 (KJV 1900) ¹ JUDE, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called:

“Called” is klētos (κλητος), placed at the end of the sentence for emphasis. It is an adjective used to describe those who were called in the sense of being invited, for instance, to a banquet. The word here speaks of that effectual call of God whereby the sinner called to salvation is constituted willing to receive that which he by nature rejects, namely, salvation, this being the pre-salvation work of the Holy Spirit in which He brings the sinner to the place of repentance and the act of faith in the Lord Jesus as Saviour. (Wuest)

(Jude 1:2 NKJV) Mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

Saved by Grace

Verse 2 - Mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you. – I meditate on this verse and remember where He pulled me from, the emptiness of my heart, the sinfulness of my life, and I am reminded that I was no one, and that I was saved by grace by a God of love. Nothing more, nothing less.

Mercy

Means to have pity on, so much so to do something about it. To which He did on the cross, and does today as He watches the ravages of sin upon the world, and individual.

Peace

Peace means “to bind together”, and the binding is us together with Him.

Love

The word is “agape”, and it is unconditional sacrificial love.

Because God is love (1 John 4:7), because we are “bound together with Him”, this “agape-love” is infused into us. His love isn’t something we have to go fight and wrestle for, it is in us, infused, wrapped, warmed, in us.

Colossians 1:27–28 (NKJV) ²⁷ To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.

Colossians 3:3 (NKJV) ³ For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Be Multiplied

Jude’s greeting contains three elements. He prayed that believers might experience God’s mercy, peace, and love (eleos, eirēnē, and agapē). Jude wanted believers to be filled to their capacity with all three graces.

Theme - Reason for Writing - (Jude 1:3-4)

(Jude 1:3 NKJV) Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

(Jude 1:4 NKJV) For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Beloved

Beloved” is agapētoi (ἀγαπητοί), a plural adjective, “beloved ones,” that is, “divinely-loved ones,” loved by God, God’s beloved ones.

Write Concerning Common Faith

Jude says I started to write to you about our common faith, but then was stirred to write about these evil and carnal men that are creeping into the church, and now I have to write to strongly encourage you to “contend earnestly for the faith”.

Found it Necessary / Had to Write at Once

V3. I found it necessary to write to you “It was needful/necessary” is *anagkēn eschon* (ἀναγκὴν ἔσχον), literally, “I had need.” The verbal form of *anagkē* (ἀναγκή) is *anagkazō* (ἀναγκάζω), “to necessitate, compel, drive to, constrain,” whether by force, threats, persuasion, entreaties. The noun means “necessity” either imposed by external conditions, or by the law of duty. Alford translates, “I found it necessary.” The Revision renders it, “I was constrained.” The compulsion to exhort the saints to contend for the faith found its source in the Holy Spirit. The first infinitive “to write” is in the present tense, speaking of continuous action. The second is in the aorist tense, implying an act performed at once. Mayor comments, “The aorist, contrasted with the preceding present, implies that the new epistle had to be written at once and could not be prepared for at leisure, like the one he had previously contemplated. It was no welcome task: ‘necessity was laid upon him.’” Jude had originally intended writing a letter containing a positive presentation of the doctrines of the Christian faith.

Holy Spirit Inspired

The Holy Spirit laid upon his heart the necessity of writing in defence of the faith. Mind you all scripture is inspired by God, and Jude is not only inspired to write what he does here, but write what he does “when” he does. There is something here for each of us, that God still works the same way today, and there may be something that He is pressing upon your heart, to do right now, to call or write to that someone, and say I have to share this with you, it is pressing against me, it could not wait any longer and today not tomorrow or later when I see you, but right now I have to tell you something very important.

[2 Timothy 3:16–17 \(NKJV\)](#) ¹⁶ All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Contend – Agonize

V,3 exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith The exhortation was to earnestly contend for the faith. The faith here is not faith as exercised by the individual, but Christianity itself in its historic doctrines and life-giving salvation. “Earnestly contend” is *epagonizomai* (ἐπαγωνίζομαι), found only here in the New Testament. The simple verb was used of athletes contending in the athletic contests. The word speaks of a vigorous, intense, determined struggle to defeat the opposition. Our word “agony” is the English spelling of the noun form of this word. The Greek athletes exerted themselves to the point of agony in an effort to win the contest. With such intense effort does Jude say that saints should defend the doctrines of Christianity.

Peter, in his first epistle (3:15), tells us how we are to do so. He says that we should “be ready always to give an answer” to the opposition. The words “give an answer” are in the Greek a technical term of the law courts, speaking of the attorney for the defence “presenting a verbal defence” for his client.

[1 Peter 3:15 \(NKJV\)](#) ¹⁵ But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

The call to contend for the faith is given to everyone, not just church leadership because the church leadership is inside the walls and it can be shut out by the world. The contending for the faith is for the seeds that God spreads through the neighborhoods and the workplaces and the school yards and the ball fields and those type of things. We’re all called into this marvelous calling to contend for the faith. And we have to contend for it with every last drop and bit that we have. We can’t waver and cower when the world comes against it because we have whole generations, thousands of years now too to be exact, that we’re willing to lay their life down even to the point of death, to contend and keep what is the true gospel and not let it be conquered. And so what a calling that we have, like those before us. We are as well those who were before others as we contend for the faith for our children and their children’s children’s should the Lord tarry. And He may just be willing to tarry longer because He’s so gracious and kind that none should perish, that all should seek repentance.

Hey beloved, as much of being ready to give a defense is for the gospel sake, for the person who is deceived, but it is for ourselves as well as when we hear errant teaching and doctrine, we have a defense to guard and protect ourselves. We say, no this is off, this doesn't align with the word of God, as convincing as this person sounds with all their charm and charisma, it is just wrong..... regardless of how many people are buying into it.

Once For All – There is no Other Faith

V3 - which was once for all delivered to the saints. The word “once” is hapax (ἅπαξ), “once for all.” Vincent says, “Not formerly, but once for all.” He quotes Bengel, “No other faith will be given.” “Delivered” is paradidōmi (παραδίδωμι), “to give over into (one’s) power or use, to deliver to one something to keep, use, take care of, manage.” The idea is that God gave the Christian doctrines to the saints as a deposit of truth to be guarded. “Saints” is hagios (ἅγιος), “a set-apart person, set apart for the worship and service of God,” namely, a believer, a Christian.

(Jude 1:4 NKJV) For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Verse 4 summarizes the major themes expounded in the rest of the book.

Crept In

The words “crept in” are pareisdunō, dunō (παρεισδυνω, δυνω), “to enter,” eis (εἰς), “into,” para (παρα), “beside,” thus, “to enter alongside.” Vincent translates, “to get in by the side, to slip in a side-door.”

There is a Greek word in II Corinthians 11:13–15 which admirably describes the methods of the Modernist, who takes after his father, the Devil. It is metaschēmatizō (μετασχηματίζω), translated “transformed” in A.V. It refers to the act of an individual changing his outward expression by assuming an expression put on from the outside, an expression that does not come from nor is it representative of what he is in his inner character. Lucifer did that after he struck at God’s throne and became the fallen angel, Satan. As a fallen angel he gave expression to his sin-darkened heart. But he knew that he could not attract the human race that way. He must impersonate God if he expected to be worshipped as God. He therefore assumed an outward expression of light, put on from the outside and not representative of his inner sinful being. He disguised himself as an angel of light.

2 Corinthians 11:13–15 (NKJV) ¹³ For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. ¹⁴ And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. ¹⁵ Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.

Under Judgment

First, such men were under the judgment of God. Their doom was determined long before Jude wrote his epistle (see Isaiah 8:19–22; Zephaniah 3:1–8).

Jude says these false teachers were “ordained to this condemnation.” The word “ordained” would indicate that it was the decree of God that these men should be false teachers. However, the word in the Greek text has quite a different connotation. It is prographō (προγραφή), “to write beforehand.”

So important for us to see here in that God sees them, God knows their ways and actions and intents of deception and destruction before time began..... yet He allows it! Why? Because love demands a choice, just like any marriage is intended to be. And although God sees it and allows it, He gives us weapons of protection and provisions, and that is His Word, and therefore He puts the requirement on us to learn the weaponry, and to use it, and to fight and defend, and “contend” for THE FAITH!

Ungodly

Second, they were degraded in character and conduct. (Ungodly) Asebeis is a central concept of the epistle, occurring five times. It describes one who fails to treat God with the worship and reverence He deserves.

Turn Grace into Carnality

Beyond this ungodliness, false teachers distort Christian teaching. They twist God's grace into a license to sin (ignoring Titus 2:11–13).

“Turning” is *metatithēmi* (μετατιθημι), “to transpose” two things, one of which is put in place of the other. Thus, these false teachers put lasciviousness in the place of the grace of God. “Lasciviousness” is *aselgeia* (ἀσελγεια). The *aselgeia* (ἀσελγεια) person is he who in the words of Trench “acknowledges no restraints, who dares whatever his caprice and wanton petulance may suggest.”

The grace that was twisted is that these men, they would teach a gospel of grace, but then it would only be for salvation. It wouldn't be for Lordship. And the two are inseparable when we read it. The grace that God gives us for salvation is the same grace that God gives us to live lives that are sanctified and set apart for him and for his glory that we should be holy and set apart.

Deny Lordship

The final step in their shameful path is to deny Jesus as their Lord and Master. *Kurion* is a title of honor; *despotēn* emphasizes a master's power over his subjects. The apostates about whom Jude wrote denied the lordship of Christ.

Now, what is involved in their act of “denying the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ”? The word “deny” is *arneomai* (ἀρνεομαι), “to deny, disown.” It is used of followers of Jesus who, for fear of death or persecution, deny that Jesus is their Master, and desert His cause

Leaving the Blessings of God - (Jude 1:5-10)

(Jude 1:5 NKJV) But I want to remind you, though you once knew this, that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe.

Jude now gives three examples where a small percentage, a small minority was able to sway whole nations, whole cities, whole groups of people. And the first we'll see a small minority, only 10, were able to sway 600,000 men and their families from entering into the promised land. Speaking of the 10 spies who were fearful to trust God for his word, they did not contend to the faith that God is who he says that he is and can do what he says he will do. And his ways are perfect. And there is no greater blessing upon a person, a family, a church, a nation, then God's ways that he declares through his word.

So the application here, let's start with children of Israel after Egypt, is that these false teachers who have crept into the church that Jude is talking about, what they want is that their teaching elevates over the word of God. They want people to evaluate and determine based on logic. It sounds so right in their minds, or it aligns and appeases the culture or it simply meets the carnal appetite. But they want the word to be challenged the word of God by what they are teaching. And what we see then, and we see now, many people just went along with it and in the end they lost all their blessing because of it.

The Power of a Minority: see the potential of a minority to sway a majority and the responsibility of older generations to guide the younger ones. (Jude 1:5-7)

Remembrance of Egypt Delivery / Moses – 10 Plagues – Red Sea / Delivered Like You and Me

First, Jude brings to remembrance the people delivered by God. You know the story. In bondage for four hundred years, the Israelites cried out to the Lord. The Lord raised up Moses as a deliverer and worked powerfully through him. After He smote Egypt with ten plagues, the Israelites were finally released. They made it to the edge of the Red Sea, where God not only parted the water but also unleashed the very same water on their enemies. They were delivered from their bondage, just like you and I were.

Next / Border of Kadesh Barnea / 12 Spies - Huge Grapes – Huge Giants / We Grasshoppers

Then what happened? They came to the border of Kadesh Barnea and sent twelve spies to scope out the land. “Wow!” said the spies upon their return. “It's beautiful. It's prolific, productive, and perfect! There's only one problem: Tens of thousands of Anakim, giant occupy the land. We're nothing but grasshoppers in their sight, and we're sure to be squished.”

Joshua – Caleb / They Grasshoppers in God’s Sight / We will Eat them Up

Joshua and Caleb, two of the twelve spies, countered, saying, “Hey, we might be grasshoppers in their sight, but they’re grasshoppers in God’s sight. Therefore, they pose no problem. They’ll be bread for us. We can eat them up!” (see Numbers 14:9):

(Numbers 14:9 NKJV) “Only do not rebel against the LORD, nor fear the people of the land, for they are our bread; their protection has departed from them, and the LORD is with us. Do not fear them.”

People Didn’t Believe / God Sentenced them to Wander 40 Years

But the people chose to listen to the other ten spies instead of to Joshua and Caleb—a choice that led God to say, “Okay, because you don’t believe what I intended to do for you, you’re going to have to wander in the wilderness until a new generation is raised up” (see Numbers 14:22-23).

(Numbers 14:22 NKJV) “because all these men who have seen My glory and the signs which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have put Me to the test now these ten times, and have not heeded My voice,

(Numbers 14:23 NKJV) “they certainly shall not see the land of which I swore to their fathers, nor shall any of those who rejected Me see it.

People Delivered – didn’t Keep Assurance / Desert – Left the Spigot

Thus, because God’s people, who were delivered by Him, did not keep themselves in the assurance of His love and provision, they ended up dying in the desert. They left the place where the spigot flows.

New Believers / Settled back into Life

There are lots of new believers, you have been saved now 2-3 years, you can remember the deliverance from Egypt, you can remember the excitement watching all God was doing in your life, but now it is 2-3 years later and you the newness has worn off, you don’t cling to Him as before, you have settled back into life. You may not be going out to the bars and what not, but you have grown weary in your walk. Church, the Word, prayer, ministry, doesn’t carry that excitement that it once did, and you are not going forward in your walk. It is common for many, you are not alone. But you have left the place where the spigot of God’s blessings flows.

The Walk is Hard

My Christian brothers and sister let me assure you of something, the Christian walk is hard. There is that honeymoon phase when you first get saved, but there is a time when you will have to fight the giants in the land. God will be with you, in fact He will do the battle for you, but you will be present at the fight.

When the Children of Israel cross over the Jordan, God will command the priests to step out in faith over the water. At the Red Sea God parted the waters, at the Jordan they had to step out in faith:

(Joshua 3:11 NKJV) “Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is crossing over before you into the Jordan.

(Joshua 3:12 NKJV) “Now therefore, take for yourselves twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one man from every tribe.

(Joshua 3:13 NKJV) “And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests who bear the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of the Jordan, that the waters of the Jordan shall be cut off, the waters that come down from upstream, and they shall stand as a heap.”

Requires Sacrifice

Walking in faith is hard, it requires sacrifice, and it will always seem easier to stay in the wilderness, but you will miss out on the blessings God has for you, for where ever the spigot of His blessings is flowing, that is where you want to be. If that is where you are at today, I pray you take this to prayer, and ask the Lord if you have left the place where the blessings are flowing, and are now content to just wander in the wilderness.

(Jude 1:6 NKJV) And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day;

Fallen Angels (exert Pastor Sandy Adams – CC Stone Mt Georgia)

Another example of those who shared the judgment of the people who deceived them, (verse 6) were “the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day...” According to Peter this story harkens back to the flood of Noah. Jude’s phrase, “who did not keep their proper domain” has some really bizarre connotations.

Some Bible teachers think this refers to fallen angels who appeared as males and crossed a God-imposed barrier to engage in sex with women. Genesis 6 is offered as proof, "Now it came to pass... the sons of God (a biblical idiom for angels) saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose. And the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever..."

Fallen angels, or demons, appeared in male form, and romanced the daughters of men. But it gets even more bizarre...

For Genesis 6 continues, "There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown." These unlawful unions between demons and daughters created a race of what the Bible calls "giants" - a freakish breed of hybrids. And ancient mythology is full of such creatures: gremlins, titans, nymphs, hobbits - they were offspring of divine beings and human beings.

Perhaps those legends were echoes of the actual "giants" in Genesis. And this explains God's extraordinary punishment. Why did He destroy mankind with a flood and start over with eight people? Apparently, the human gene pool was perverted. Only Noah's family remained pure. And realize this idea of sexual experiences with demons is not as bizarre as it may seem. Fallen angels romancing women is a favorite Hollywood storyline. In fact, it appears in the occult, as well as UFO literature. And if you believe, as I do, that UFOs are demonic appearances, then sexual abductions could be another instance of fallen angels leaving their proper domain.

Satan's agents are always trying to cross boundaries imposed by God. Jude warns us not to do the same...

Don't desire a person who's not your spouse - or take a drink you know will get you drunk - or embrace a belief that's unbiblical - or ignore an authority God has place over you... Jude is warning us, cross a boundary ordained by God and you'll be judged like the angels.

Left 1st Calling

Verse six, speaking of the angels, is just clear open rebellion. It's not even unbelief. It's not even a question, a mental theological, philosophical debate. It just gets down into an open rebellion. I'm going to do what I want to do regardless of what God says and his word, miss, that we're told here that there's even another set of demonic fallen angels that are currently chained.

And so we see the devil and the demons, these false teachers, they're not content to be subservient to God. They want to be in the place that people come and bow before them and pay them homage and worship rather than what we were created for. To be worshipers Satan like these false teachers, what they promote in people is a discontent of being content in what God has called us to be. And God has intended for us to live and be the demons led by Satan were not content with their first estate as the scripture says, their calling and habitation, they had to leave because they were discontented and hear an application to the false teachers. Satan was able to lead one third into rebellion.

The Power of a Minority: see the potential of a minority to sway a majority and the responsibility of older generations to guide the younger ones. (Jude 1:5-7)

Worshippers of God can Leave / Satan Did

Not only can those delivered by God fail to keep themselves in the love of God (leave the place where blessings flow), but so can those who are worshipers of God. Lucifer was the leader of all the worshipers of heaven. The one the Bible calls the "Anointed Cherub" (Ezekiel 28:14) had a voice like a pipe organ and hands like tambourines. He wasn't just a worship leader, he was a full on orchestra until the day he said, "I will be like God," and launched a rebellion in which one third of the angels followed him (*Ezekiel 28:14 NKJV*) *"You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones.*

(Ezekiel 28:15 NKJV) You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, Till iniquity was found in you.

(Isaiah 14:12 NKJV) "How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations!

(Isaiah 14:13 NKJV) For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north;

(Isaiah 14:14 NKJV) I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.'

(Isaiah 14:15 NKJV) Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit.

(Revelation 12:4 NKJV) His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born.

(Revelation 12:5 NKJV) She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne.

(Revelation 12:6 NKJV) Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

(Revelation 12:7 NKJV) And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought,

(Revelation 12:8 NKJV) but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer.

(Revelation 12:9 NKJV) So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

Amazing Worshipers of Heaven – Demons of Hell / Lost the Fear of the Lord

Amazing. Here, the worshipers of God in heaven became demons in hell because they did not keep themselves in the love of God. They lost the fear of the Lord. When a person loses the fear of the Lord, they enter the same place the Devil and the demons did. They became critical, they questioned God, they left their place of worship.

We can be Like That / Critical of God / Leave place of Worship

We can be like that. We can leave the place of praise and enter the place of question. Why God, why haven't you given me this, or have given me that. How could you, how couldn't you. We leave that place of praise and become critical of all that is going on in our lives. We become critical of others, and critical of God. We forget verse 2, we were just nobodies saved by grace by a God of love.

Worship is Wonderful - Become what you Worship / Worship Jesus changed to His Glory

Now worship is wonderful. In Psalm 115 it says what we worship is what we become like. It says if you worship a dumb idol that is what you will become. But we who worship Jesus Christ will become like Jesus Christ. We will be changed from glory into greater glory:

(Psalms 115:4 NKJV) Their idols are silver and gold, The work of men's hands.

(Psalms 115:5 NKJV) They have mouths, but they do not speak; Eyes they have, but they do not see;

(Psalms 115:6 NKJV) They have ears, but they do not hear; Noses they have, but they do not smell;

(Psalms 115:7 NKJV) They have hands, but they do not handle; Feet they have, but they do not walk; Nor do they mutter through their throat.

(Psalms 115:8 NKJV) Those who make them are like them; So is everyone who trusts in them.

(2 Corinthians 3:18 NKJV) But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Leaving Place of Worship – Place where Spigot Flows

Leaving the place of worship is leaving the place where the spigot flows.

(Jude 1:7 NKJV) as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

And then the other example, Sodom and Gomorrah, it was men of the city. It we read that not only old men but young men too (young was the word for adolescence). The whole city would cower to their sexual perversion that in the end the old brought a complete destruction upon a whole city because it would not come against these men and their carnal perversions. And that is a statement that can resonate through Europe and America and Canada and the likes of any nation that is allowing these things and not standing up to say anything against these things. And I don't want to just leave it and point it at homosexuality because that's a great work of the devil. It is a sexual twisting of God's intention for

marriage between a man and a woman inside the bounds of marriage, not pre-marriage, and that the body is reserved for the spouse and none other. And it's an indictment against this rampant and twisted use of pornography and nudity and even the conversations of it.

Genesis 19:4–5 (NKJV) ⁴ Now before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, both old and young, all the people from every quarter, surrounded the house. ⁵ And they called to Lot and said to him, “Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may know them carnally.”

The Power of a Minority: see the potential of a minority to sway a majority and the responsibility of older generations to guide the younger ones. (Jude 1:5-7)

Third / Sodom & Gomorrah

Third, Jude says, “Not only can you be delivered by God and be a worshiper of God, but you can receive blessing from God and still fail to keep yourself in His love.” You see, at one time, Sodom and Gomorrah were cities uniquely blessed by God. In the agrarian economy of the day, the place to be was Sodom or Gomorrah.

Lot saw a Blessed City / Great for Cattle – Lousy for Kids

We read in Genesis 13 that after leaving Egypt, Abraham and Lot had so much livestock between them that the land could no longer support them. “We’re going to have to separate,” Abraham said to Lot. “Wherever you want to go, I’ll go in the opposite direction.” So, after checking out the situation, Lot found the best pasture land, the ideal place to raise livestock, the perfect place to get rich: the plain of Jordan, wherein lay Sodom and Gomorrah. It was a great place to raise cattle, a lousy place to raise kids.

Sin of Sodom

The sin of Sodom was they had an abundance of free time as a result of living in such a blessed land: *(Ezekiel 16:49 NKJV) "Look, this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom: She and her daughter had pride, fullness of food, and abundance of idleness; neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy."*

Not Much more to Say

There isn’t much more to say about this, don’t need to. It is so easy to let the abundance we have been blessed with, turn us away, draw us away from where the spigot of God is flowing.

One Time was Blessed – But turned Backs

At one time, Sodom and Gomorrah were truly blessed by God. Yet, what happened? They turned their backs on the Lord and were eventually destroyed. This is very sobering to me because it says,

- So you’ve been saved—so were they who wandered in the wilderness.
- So you’ve been a worshiper—so were they who are now in hell as demons.
- So you’ve been blessed—so were they who were destroyed by their own depravity.

Possible to be Delivered – Partake – Receive / Not Keep Yourself

Gang, it is possible to experience deliverance by God, to partake in worship to God, to receive blessing from God, and still not keep yourself in the love of God. Beloved, make sure you are where the spigot is flowing, and get yourself under it.

Prayer

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) ¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

In Every Study

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need

Jude 1:8-25

Passage: Jude 1:8-25

Title: Keeping Yourself in the Love of God

Summary: We are given the calling as believers here in this short epistle to “Contend for the Faith”, and that calling is not to be led astray or compromise by false and errant teachers who creep into the church circles. Today in our passage, we will be called to “Remember”, seven things that will “Keep” us in the love of God, that will ensure we will not be swayed as we “Keep The Faith”.

Original Intent / False Teachers / 2 things – Grace to Flesh / Denying Jesus

Jude saying I originally wanted to write about our salvation, a letter of joy, a feel good Sunday sermon, but I find it necessary to warn you about something that can hurt you. Jude’s original intent was to write about our “common salvation.” That is, his was to be a letter celebrating the grace and goodness of God. But it took a different turn when an issue arose that he felt pressed to address. False teachers had crept into the early church, seeking to rob and rip off God’s people, seeking to pervert their understanding and keep them from enjoying God’s blessing. He points out two things they were doing, using the grace of God to indulge in their flesh, and denying that there was only one way, and that through Jesus Christ.

(Jude 1:3 NKJV) Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

(Jude 1:4 NKJV) For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Description of Them

Jude gives descriptions of them

- Spots in love feast (v.12) – hidden rocks ready to sink you.
- Rainless clouds (v.12) – always a promise but never delivering
- Fruitless tree (v.12) – trees with leaves but no fruit
- Raging waves (v.13) – stirring up a bunch of foams
- Wandering Stars (v.13) (shooting stars) – here today gone tomorrow.
- Great Swelling Words (v.16) – peddling phony words

Be on Guard / Be Alert / KEEP YOURSELF

Jude says watch out, be on the alert, they have crept in, so much so you haven’t noticed therefore I had to write and tell you they were there. Jude says what I want for you is to keep your self in the love of God:

(Jude 1:20 NKJV) But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,

(Jude 1:21 NKJV) keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Foundational Theme

The foundational theme of this wonderful epistle, as found in verse 21, is an exhortation to keep ourselves in the love of God. Underline this phrase because it is the hinge upon which the Book of Jude swings. Jude’s heart is, “Yes, there are heretics and deceivers, but you, beloved, keep yourselves in the love of God.”

What Does it Mean – Keeping Self / Stay in Place where Blessing Flow

What, then, does it mean to keep yourself in the love of God? It simply means to keep yourself in the place where you can receive His blessings, keep yourself underneath the spigot of where God’s blessings flow. We then looked at 3 examples of those who did not keep themselves under the spigot, in the place where they could continue to receive the love and blessings for God.

Outline for Jude:

- Introduction - Author and Audience - (Jude 1:1-2)
- Theme - Reason for Writing - (Jude 1:3-4)
- Examples of Leaving the Blessings/Love of God - (Jude 1:5-7)
 - Example of the Children of Israel not entering Promised Land (1:5).

- Example of Satan and Angels Rebelling in Heaven (1:6).
- Example of Sodom and Gomorrah (1:7).
- Reasons for Leaving the Blessings/Love of God - (Jude 1:8-11)
 - Way of Cain (1:11)
 - Way of Balaam (1:11)
 - Way of Korah (1:11)
- Exhortations on How to Keep Ourselves in the Blessings/Love of God (Jude 1:20-21)
 - Building yourselves up on your most holy faith (1:20)
 - Praying in the Holy Spirit (1:20)
 - Looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life (1:21)

3 Examples / Now 3 Reasons / 3 Exhortations

So Jude gave us 3 examples of leaving the love of God, now he will give us 3 reasons that people leave the love of God, and then 3 exhortations on how we can keep ourselves in the love of God.

Mundane & Repetitive / Off Course – On Course

To some you may say I know all this, it is kind of mundane and repetitive to me, maybe you may even be thinking it is boring. Beloved, don't tune out on the power that is flowing through what appears to be mundane and repetitive. You know there are many people that when I look back after preparing this study and say I wish so and so would be here to hear this, for it would change their life, readjust and recalibrate their compass for they are way off course, but the simple fact is, they are off course, because they are not putting themselves in the place where God's blessings flow. But you however, those that continue here in the Word, fellowship, devotions, you are continuing to stay on course.

Peter Reminds

(2 Peter 1:12 NKJV) For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth.

(2 Peter 1:13 NKJV) Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you,

Verses 8-10 / Leaves Accountability

Verse 8-10, Jude tells us the arrogance of these false teachers and how they have no accountability. There appears to be a pattern in peoples lives, that once they leave the place of accountability, they shortly thereafter leave the place of God.

2000 Years

The call to contend for the faith is given to everyone, not just church leadership because the church leadership is inside the walls and it can be shut out by the world. The contending for the faith is for the seeds that God spreads through the neighborhoods and the workplaces and the school yards and the ball fields and those type of things. We're all called into this marvelous calling to contend for the faith. And we have to contend for it with every last drop and bit that we have. We can't waver and cower when the world comes against it because we have whole generations, thousands of years now too to be exact, that we're willing to lay their life down even to the point of death, to contend and keep what is the true gospel and not let it be conquered. And so what a calling that we have, like those before us. We are as well those who were before others as we contend for the faith for our children and their children's childrens should the Lord tarry. And He may just be willing to tarry longer because He's so gracious and kind that none should perish, that all should seek repentance.

There are contenders, defenders, and then there are pretenders who play the role, but their heart is not with us, and their ways do not gather but scatter.

Our foe will not stop, he will press against you until either you quit, stop, or backdown.

General Armistead

There are boys here from Norfolk, Portsmouth, Hampton along the James River, from Charlottesville, and Fredericksburg, and Shenandoah Valley. Mostly they're all veteran soldiers now the cowards and shirkers are long gone. Every man here knows his duty. They would make this charge even without an officer to

lead them. They know the gravity of the situation and the metal of their foe. They know that this day's work will be desperate and deadly. They know that for many of them, this will be their last charge, but not one of them needs to be told what is expected of him. They're all willing to make the supreme sacrifice to achieve victory here. The crowning victory and the end of this war. We all here, you may tell them when you return to your country, that all Virginia was here on this day.

General Armistead speech to British Captain Freemantle before Gettysburg Charge on July 3, 1863

Parents You Are Not Alone

Parents you are not alone, as many of us feel we are as the volley and the volume of the ungodliness that is being poured out against us as Christian Believers and Christian Parents. Just look around this church and you will see a room full of parents who all are in this together, and all standing, and all of us saying let's stand together, lets us not back off or back down, not just for our sake, but for our children, and our children's' children.

Outline: Jude 1:1-25

- Remember Your Calling (1:1-2)
- Remember Our Culture (1:3-7)
- Remember Their Contentions (1:8-10)
- Remember Their Character (1:11)
- Remember Their Clouds (1:12-16)
- Remember Their Critiques (1:17-19)
- Remember His Completeness (1:20-21)
- Remember His Compassion (1:22-23)
- Remember Our Christ (1:24-25)

Prayer

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) ¹² *For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

In Every Study

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
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Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ *Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need*

Remember Your Calling (1:1-2)

Last week we studied and soaked on the beautiful calling we have, the invitation to intimacy with Him, and how He has set us apart and keeps us so He can give us His Son as a spotless Bride adorned in white

Jude 1-2 (NKJV) ¹ *Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ: ² Mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.*

Remember Our Culture (1:3-7)

Last week we studied the how these deceivers will face judgment, but that God allows them to do what they do, because every day we get the "Garden" choice if we will hear the lies and hiss of the devil, or obey the Word and promises of God. We saw how a minority, over and over, led astray the majority, and we see it before our eyes today.

Jude 3-7 (NKJV) ³ *Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. ⁴ For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁵ But I want to remind you, though you once knew this, that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe. ⁶ And the angels who did not keep their*

proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; ⁷ as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

Remember Their Contentions (1:8-10)

(Jude 1:8 NKJV) Likewise also these dreamers defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of dignitaries.

Likewise

Likewise” is homoios (ὁμοιος), “in the same way.” The A.V. takes no notice of mentoi (μεντοι), a particle of affirmation and often of opposition, meaning “but yet, nevertheless.” Vincent says the word expresses the fact “that though they have these fearful examples before them, yet they persist in their sin.”

When not to believe these teachers, when do they become false teachers, when they declare that it doesn't matter to God what kind of life we are living. And you look at how many churches are caving today on these very same issues as if the Book of Jude is not in the Bible at all.

Notice he begins in verse eight and he begins to talk about the characteristics of these false teachers. He said, Likewise also these dreamers, they defile, the flesh. In other words, anybody that believes that the life that we live doesn't matter to God. They're dreaming. They have lost touch with reality.

They reject authority in these false teachers. They reject any God given authority like pastors and elders and deacons and church leadership, even the authority of the Bible. When the Bible or these leaders call upon these people to repent of their sin and their false doctrine, they simply disregard church authority. And then not only that, but they speak evil of dignitaries. They're very, very bold in their rejection of God placed authority.

Paul says very clear words, but sadly too many Christians do not apply the scriptures, listen to the malicious gossip, and are swept away by the tactics of these false and errant teachers. When Devil came to Eve, she should have said stop right there, lets go get the Lord and bring Him into this conversation and see what He has to “Say” about what you are saying. But instead Eve entertained, and fall she did, and passed it on to Adam, and generation after generation was inflicted by it.

1 Timothy 5:18–20 (NKJV) ¹⁹ Do not receive an accusation against an elder except from two or three witnesses. ²⁰ Those who are sinning rebuke in the presence of all, that the rest also may fear.

(Jude 1:9 NKJV) Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

(Jude 1:10 NKJV) But these speak evil of whatever they do not know; and whatever they know naturally, like brute beasts, in these things they corrupt themselves.

Michael Contends with the Devil

And he gives the example here yet Michael the archangel and contending with the devil when he disputed about the body of Moses dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said the Lord rebuke you. Now what we do know about the body of Moses is that when he died, he died in the fullness of his strength. And we are told in Deuteronomy chapter 34 that so Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, according to the Word of the Lord. And He, the Lord, buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth Peor. But no one knows his grave to this day. Moses was 120 years old when he died. His eyes were not dimmed, nor his natural vigor abated. So the Lord, he buried Moses. So none of the rest of the children of Israel would know where he was buried, Why they build a shrine or something like that, begin to some kind of idolatry related. There would be the temptation for that.

And so we learn from this passage that evidently God had given the task of the burial of Moses, had turned it over to the Archangel Michael. He was in charge of the task. And in the course of obeying what God told him to do with Moses, Satan disputed with Michael over Moses's body doesn't care. I don't care what God told you to do with that body. I don't care about God's word. I don't care about His commandments, any of these kinds of things. I want that body. And then what did what did Michael, how

did he respond to him? He didn't respond with a reviling accusation. He responded with the Lord rebuke you. And here's the point. Just as Michael resisted the false teaching and the ungodly contention of the devil. The false teachers are to be resisted also, but we need to do it in a non contentious way. And how did we do that? By standing on God's word and letting God's Word rebuke them. The authority that we have for what we do comes from the Word of God.

So we don't come down to people's level and yell and get in their face and spit coming out of our mouths and veins popping out all over the place. When you're right and you have God's word as a basis for what we're doing, then that's all that we need. This is what Paul was talking about a little bit when he wrote to Timothy and he said, And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel, but be gentle to all able to teach patient in humility, correcting those who are in opposition. If God perhaps will grant them repentance so that they may know the truth and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil having been taken captive by him to do his will. So when we stand against what is false. You know. Oh, yeah, well, you know, tap, tap knowing raises to you two or, you know, whatever the equivalent of all that is. But we just say no. The Bible says the Bible says the Bible says that is the authority for our doctrine and for our practice and for resisting false teachers.

2 Timothy 2:24–26 (NKJV) ²⁴ And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, ²⁵ in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, ²⁶ and *that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.*

Michael Archangel / No Need Identify Demonic Spirits / God in Between / Dwell on Light

So these false teachers are arrogant enough to contend with God, even though we see the chief angel Michael would not contend with Satan who was created by God, these men are pure arrogance fill with foolishness. It is important to note here, that Michael, the chief angel, that's what arch means, even he didn't mess with satan; said the Lord rebuke you, he put God between him and the devil. I say this because you may come across Christians who will lay this stuff on you about having to identify each individual demonic spirit. They will say you have to identify which one is battling against you, and then you can battle it by saying, "ok demon of alcohol, I rebuke you in the name of Jesus, ok demon of cellulite I rebuke you in the name of Jesus." Listen beloved, when satan is battling against you, you put Dad in between you and satan, and you say Dad go get him. Notice Michael doesn't say I rebuke you in the name of Jesus, but he says, the Lord rebuke you. Michael removed himself from the equation, and so should we. The devil is no match for Dad, Dad doesn't even have to leave His chair, He sends an angel to do it in Revelation 20:

(Revelation 20:1 NKJV) Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

(Revelation 20:2 NKJV) He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;

In the presence of God's light, all darkness must flee. Don't spend your time focusing and studying the darkness, spend your time in the Light, and the darkness will flee. Dwell on the Light and in the Light!

We More Spiritual than You

Verse 10 - But these speak evil of whatever they do not know - But these he said in verse ten, they speak evil of whatever they do not know and whatever they know naturally, like brute beasts in these things, they corrupt themselves. Now, these false teachers, these Gnostics were going around saying, We're the super spiritual people. We know things that you don't know. We're holier than you. And that's why when you see us engaged in sin and everything, you still think it's sin because you don't have the revelation. You haven't been through the 12 layers of the whatever, you know, to see how what true spirituality is. And so they were putting this whole thing on, on, on everyone. And Jude comes in and says, no, they're not spiritual at all. He says, in fact, they're just like brute beasts. They're just like animals. They're living like animals do not think that they're, you know, something, something spiritual in in any way. They're the slaves of their flesh. They're living like animals don't follow them in their teaching and in their ways.

3 Reasons

So we saw the 3 examples of someone leaves the place where God's blessings and love flows, but how does a person that was once blessed by God, move away from God? Verse 11 gives us 3 examples:

- *They have gone in the way of Cain*

- They have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit
- They perished in the rebellion of Korah

Remember Their Character (1:11)

(Jude 1:11 NKJV) Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit, and perished in the rebellion of Korah.

Would have Chosen / Big 3 / We all Susceptible / All Can Keep Us Away

In these 3 we will see anger, greed, and envy. Now I wouldn't have chosen anger, greed, and envy as the three reasons people move away from God's blessings. I would have listed cocaine, pornography, and larceny. Why? Because those things are not my problem. You see, we tend to think the sins that will take a man away from the spout where God's blessings come out are the biggies don't we. Not true. God has an entirely different way of looking at things. For we are all open to anger, greed, and envy and in His Word, He says through Jude to me and to you, "These are three specific areas that will keep you from enjoying and experiencing My love."

Way of Cain / Anger / Anger took Root – Self-Righteousness

1.) Verse 11 - For they have gone in the way of Cain - The first explanation for why people no longer experience the love of God in their lives is that they've gone the way of Cain.

And then he says, woe to them, for they have gone the way of Cain. Now the way of Cain. Cain in the Old Testament was a poster child for self righteousness. And remember, God came to Cain and to Abel, and he had declared to Cain and Abel they were brothers and they were sons of Adam and Eve. And God declared how he was to be approached by them through faith. And that faith evidenced in an animal sacrifice. And Abel obeyed God and Cain disobeyed God. Instead of offering to God what God desired, what it can do, he devised his own manmade way of approaching God. And that is what these false teachers were doing. And it's just arrogance and it's pride. And we cannot approach God based upon our own manmade ideas in theories. We can only approach him on the basis of the way that he has approved through Jesus himself. But Cain comes along and says, no, everybody gets to God and everybody gets to define their own way to God and God's okay with all of that.

Anger

The way of Cain is also anger. Cain was angry with his brother, Abel, because God blessed Abel, but He didn't bless Cain. It's not fair, Cain must have thought. We both offered sacrifices to God. Abel brought a lamb, and I brought the fruit of my labor from the garden, but God blessed my brother's and not mine (see Genesis 4:4, 5). And such anger took root in Cain's heart that he killed his brother.

If Angry with Spouse – Boss – Brother / You've gone Way of Cain / Draw away from Spout

If you're angry with your spouse, bitter toward your boss, unforgiving of your brother, you have gone the way of Cain. Watch out for anger, gang. It'll pull you away from the place where you just enjoy God's love. It will draw you away from the spout where the blessings come out. I might also note that your anger towards another may cause them to leave the place of blessing because you may arouse them to anger.

Way of Balaam / Greed / Israel on way to Promised Land / Balak King of Moabites

2.) Verse 11 - have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit - Jude draws our attention not only to the anger of Cain but also to the greed of Balaam. You know Balaam's story. The children of Israel, all two - three million of them, were on their way to the Promised Land. "Whoa," said Balak, king of the Moabites. "There's a horde of people coming our way, and unless we do something, we're going to get trampled."

Balak sends Messengers to Balaam / God says No

Knowing of a prophet in the area named Balaam, Balak sent messengers asking him to curse the approaching Israelites. "Wait here," Balaam said to the messengers, "I must talk to God about this." Even before Balaam asked, the Lord told him not to curse the Israelites (Numbers 22:9-12). So the messengers returned to Balak with word of Balaam's refusal to join them. Balak, in turn, sent some VIPs to Balaam.

Next in Mercedes / We'll bless You

They arrived in their Mercedes and their flashy clothes, saying, "Come with us, and you'll be blessed."

Balaam – Even Silver & Gold – No / Hint Hint

"Listen, guys," said Balaam, "even if you offered me a house full of silver and gold (hint, hint), I wouldn't go with you."

So Return with offer of Wealth / God Allows him to Go / Angel Appears / Dumb Donkey

So once again, the messengers returned empty-handed. And yet, a third time they appeared before Balaam, this time offering him a portion of wealth and honor. A third time, Balaam said he would seek the Lord. But this time, God gave him permission to go, so off Balaam went. En route, however, an angel appeared to his donkey, causing the donkey to crash into a wall, smashing Balaam's foot in the process. "You dumb donkey. You crushed my foot," Balaam cried as he beat his donkey.

Why Beating Me – I'm Good Donkey / There's an Angel

"Why are you beating me?" asked the donkey. "Haven't I been a good donkey all these years? I've never given you any problems. Don't you see there's an angel standing right here, preventing me from taking you where you ought not go?"

My thoughts on the matter is that Balaam could have made more money off a talking donkey than the money made by cursing Israel, but anyways continuing on.

Talking Donkey couldn't Deter / Balaam can't Curse but Blesses

Yet even a talking donkey could not deter Balaam, so he continued on, until at last he reached the mountain overlooking the Israelite camp. Opening his mouth to curse them, all that came out was blessing. "Hey!" said Balak, "I hired you to curse them, not to bless them! Maybe we should change locations." So they built another altar in a different location. Once more, Balaam stood to curse. And once more, all that came from his lips were words of blessing.

Balaam didn't Understand God's Grace / Israel Bring Curse Upon Self / Moabites

The error of Balaam lay in the fact that he didn't understand God's grace. Balaam thought that because His people were rebellious and evil, God would surely want to destroy them. Consequently, knowing that even though he could not curse the Israelites, the Israelites could bring a curse upon themselves, Balaam told Balak to have the Moabite women parade themselves in front of the Jewish men. And during the romantic interludes that were sure to follow, the Moabite women would be able to introduce the Jewish men to their idols.

Balaam Right / They followed Moabites gods / Today Joined to Unbeliever

Balaam was right. In the Book of Numbers, we read "the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods." The anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel, and twenty-four thousand died as a result (Numbers 25:1–9). It is still true today if you join yourself with an unbeliever you will end up cursing yourself. You will have brought it upon yourself. God is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Heb 13:8).

Balaam Spoke Beautiful Prophecies / Ends up Heretic/ Greed took him Over / Definition of Greed

Why did Balaam, who spoke some of the most beautiful prophecies in all of the Old Testament about the coming of Messiah, end up a heretic and a loser? Because he did not keep himself in God's love. Why didn't he keep himself in God's love? Greed. What is greed? Never being satisfied, never being thankful, always wanting just a little more. Watch out, precious people. Greed will remove you from the spout where the blessings come out.

(Numbers 24:2 NKJV) And Balaam raised his eyes, and saw Israel encamped according to their tribes; and the Spirit of God came upon him.

(Numbers 24:3 NKJV) Then he took up his oracle and said: "The utterance of Balaam the son of Beor, The utterance of the man whose eyes are opened,

(Numbers 24:4 NKJV) The utterance of him who hears the words of God, Who sees the vision of the Almighty, Who falls down, with eyes wide open:

(Numbers 24:5 NKJV) "How lovely are your tents, O Jacob! Your dwellings, O Israel!

(Numbers 24:6 NKJV) Like valleys that stretch out, Like gardens by the riverside, Like aloes planted by the LORD, Like cedars beside the waters.

(Numbers 24:7 NKJV) He shall pour water from his buckets, And his seed shall be in many waters. "His king shall be higher than Agag, And his kingdom shall be exalted.

(Numbers 24:8 NKJV) "God brings him out of Egypt; He has strength like a wild ox; He shall consume the nations, his enemies; He shall break their bones And pierce them with his arrows.

(Numbers 24:9 NKJV) 'He bows down, he lies down as a lion; And as a lion, who shall rouse him?' "Blessed is he who blesses you, And cursed is he who curses you."

Rebellion of Korah / Sin of Envy / Numbers 16 / 15K Died / Be Content

3.) Verse 11 - and perished in the rebellion of Korah. - Korah's sin was envy. We find his story in Numbers 16: "Moses, who made you the big man on campus? I have just as much right to determine direction for this nation as you do." So saying, Korah led a rebellion that resulted in the deaths of nearly fifteen thousand of God's people. Moses said ok tomorrow you stand by your tents and we will stand by ours, and we will ask God to open the earth and swallow up whomever He hasn't chosen, and thus God did. Beware of envy—of wanting someone else's position. A key to life is just being content with where God has you.

Joseph's Brother / Big Sleeves / the Big Boss

Joseph's brothers were jealous. Joseph had a coat of many colors, or literally, a coat of "big sleeves." In Joseph's day, working men wore sleeveless coats, like vests, in order that their arms would be free to labor. But the bosses, the supervisors, the head honchos wore coats with big sleeves in which they could keep money and supplies—sort of like briefcases.

We see Big Sleeves – get Envious / Joseph's big Sleeves – big Problem

Sometimes we look at someone else's big sleeves and say, "Boy, that guy's got it made." But Joseph's big sleeves were hardly an asset. You see, envious of Joseph's position, his brothers sold him as a slave to a group headed for Egypt. There, Joseph was eventually promoted to the position of head slave. No doubt some of his fellow prisoners looked at him and said, "Boy, I wish I had the coat of a head slave"—little knowing that even this coat would get him in trouble as he shed it to flee Mrs. Potiphar's advances (Genesis 39:12).

Just Rest / He'll Put You / be All Lord Wants / People Should want Develop – but Not Gain Position

Just rest in the place God has you, gang. He'll put you right where you should be. This doesn't mean we shouldn't want to be all that the Lord would have us be. But there comes a point when we're no longer saying, "Lord, I want to develop the talents and abilities you've given me to the fullest degree," but rather, "I've got to do whatever it takes to gain that guy's position. I've got to be the guy with the big sleeves."

Korah – Ground Sucked him Up / You'll end in a Pit / World come Crashing Down

What happened to Korah? The ground opened up and sucked him in (Numbers 16:31–33). Here's an easy way to find yourself in the pit: Be envious of another's position. You don't know what you're headed for; you don't see what you're getting into; and before you know it, your world will come crashing down upon you.

Summarize these 3

So these false teachers, they're leading a rebellion against God's given a God given authority of the pastors, of the elders, of the deacons in the church, and they were who were resisting their false teaching and their attempts at it, self-promotion. And you can imagine what they were doing. Who do you think you are to confront us and tell us we're as smart as you were, as good as you? We're not going to put up with this. And Jude warns, steer clear of those folks. Judgment is coming and it is not unprecedented in in history.

Dissertation on False Teachers

Now Jude gives us a dissertation on these men, and it is not flattering:

Remember Their Clouds (1:12-16)

Deny Power Resurrection Life - Communion

And then he goes on and he says they are spots in your love feasts and they ruin the the communion services and the love feasts. I mean, here they are. They're taking the love feast was a meal that was associated with communion. And you're taking the symbol of Jesus's body, the bread, the symbol of his blood, the cup in all. And as as they're partaking of these things, here are teachers that are in that same meeting who are denying who Jesus is. They're denying that he's the messiah. They're denying him as the son of God. They are denying his power to change a life and his teaching about what he wants his disciples to be. And they were ruining the Lord's Supper for the church.

(Jude 1:12 NKJV) These are spots in your love feasts, while they feast with you without fear, serving only themselves. They are clouds without water, carried about by the winds; late autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots;

Verse 12 - These are spots in your love feasts – The word spots there mean hidden rocks, like the kinds right under the water that you can't see but enough rock to rip the hull of the boat and sink it. The “certain men who crept in unnoticed” (verse 4) were those who, like Korah, Cain, and Balaam, endangered God's people, seeking to woo them away from the simplicity of God's grace. Jude calls them “spots.” They're like hidden rocks, he says. They join in your fellowship, in your potluck dinners, in your celebration of the grace and goodness of God—but with a hidden agenda. Like hidden rocks, they blend in presently, but they will cause you to crash eventually. And then he goes on to use even stronger metaphors to describe these false teachers.

Verse 12 - They are clouds without water - Rain was valuable in those days, but they only produced clouds not water. That is, they seem to say all sorts of wonderful things, but their teaching leads only to dry, discouraging days.

Verse 12 - late autumn trees without fruit - Because they're dead trees, they bear no fruit. He describes them as late autumn trees without fruit now and late autumn the if a if a tree doesn't have fruit by late autumn, it's not going to have fruit.

So there is no reason for a tree not to have fruit at that point. But they're late autumn trees without fruit. And not only that, are they fruitless, but they're twice dead, pulled up by the roots. In other words, they are dead. They are incapable of producing fruit in another person's life.

(Jude 1:13 NKJV) raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame; wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.

Verse 13 - raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame - They're wild waves. They have lots of motion, but erratic, meaningless, and wasted energy. Foam will never satisfy your thirst.

Verse 13 - wandering stars - Finally, Jude likens the false teachers to wandering—or shooting—stars. People come on the scene with all sorts of fantastic promises, all kinds of interesting doctrines, shining brightly for a month or two or three. Then when hard times came, or things didn't work out, like shooting stars, they fizzled, faded, and moved on to the next unsuspecting community.

Verse 13 – Reserved Blackness of darkness forever - They can't lead you anywhere safe because they're not going anywhere safe themselves. For whom is reserved the black. Of darkness forever. They are headed to hell themselves. And not only can't they lead anyone to heaven, they're not headed to heaven themselves.

(Jude 1:14 NKJV) Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints,

(Jude 1:15 NKJV) "to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."

(Jude 1:16 NKJV) These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage.

Now Enoch - Now, Enoch, the seventh from Adam prophesied about these men also saying, Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of his saints. Notice talking about Jesus's second coming because it is a judgment that this is referring to does not say that he comes for 10,000 of his saints, but he comes with ten thousands of his saints. That's us to execute judgment on all to convict all who were ungodly among them, of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way.

Verse 16 - and they mouth great swelling words - The same problems Jude is addressing affect the body of Christ today. False teachers, "mouthing great swelling words," continue to peddle their phony doctrines to anyone who will listen. If you've been walking with the Lord very long, you know that as soon as one strange wind of doctrine blows through, another is sure to follow. When I hear of these "new things" my heart sinks, because I know it is just something else to distract God's kids.

And of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against him, ungodly is used five times in the one verse. We can surmise that Jude is not impressed with Ungodliness. He talks about their speech, their grumbles, their complainers. And the reason they grumble and they complain is because they don't get to fulfill all of their lusts.

Remember Their Critiques (1:17-19)

(Jude 1:17 NKJV) But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ:

(Jude 1:18 NKJV) how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts.

(Jude 1:19 NKJV) These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit.

Can't Reason – Switch to Mock

But, you beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ, how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their ungodly lusts. These are sensual persons who caused divisions not having the spirit. When he talks about them being mockers, Jude reminds them that the apostles had spoken of the fact that when these false teachers came that that they would also be mockers and not to be surprised by it. One of the one of the most effective weapons of the enemy is mocking if you can argue something away, then he comes in and he'll try and attempt mockery. But you notice what the reason behind the mockery is. And the reason behind their mocking is that they reject God's truth.

Who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts? In other words, the reason that they mock the Word of God and the standard of God is not an intellectual reason, but it is a sin reason. And they mock the Word of God because not because they think, oh, there's an intellectual problem with being a Christian, but because the word of God denies them a sin that they love more than they would ever love God at this point in time. Isn't it interesting you watch this whole fight that's been going on last several years related to the public display of the Ten Commandments, the United States of America, And all got to have a separation of church and state. And I mean, we just can't have the Ten Commandments out here in front of the school or statehouse.

They got all the intellectual reasons, so to speak. And then they mock the Word of God. They mock the law of God. They mock the standard of God.

You know all you have to do is go up to one of those people and say, you know, could you tell me about the deep intellectual problems that you have with Christianity? All you have to do is go up and say, What sin do you love that God tells you no to? And then you'll have the reason behind the mocking. And that's

always the way that it is. Jesus spoke of it when he spoke to Nicodemus. And then notice now he closes the letter by saying, But you now all this is what the false is all about. This is what's happening with them.

Happy is the Man – Gospel Profoundly Simple

Happy is the man or woman who understands that the gospel message is profoundly simple and simply profound. It's Jesus—nothing more, nothing less, nothing else.

3 Exhortations

After giving us three examples of people who walked away from God's love and three explanations of why they did so, Jude now gives us three exhortations to keep ourselves in the love of God.

Exhortations on How to Keep Ourselves in the Blessings/Love of God (Jude 1:20-21)

- Building yourselves up on your most holy faith (1:20)
- Praying in the Holy Spirit (1:20)
- Looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life (1:21)

Remember His Completeness (1:20-21)

(Jude 1:20 NKJV) But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,

(Jude 1:21 NKJV) keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Verse 20 - building yourselves up on your most holy faith - The first way to keep yourself in the place where you're being drenched in the love of God is to build up your faith. How are we built up in faith? The Bible tells us very simply that faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God (Romans 10:17). That's it. To keep yourself in the love of God means that you continue to be a student of the Word. You build up your faith by taking in God's Word, by daily making the practice of spending time in Scripture a priority, by assembling with other believers to study the Word corporately (Hebrews 10:25).

(Romans 10:17 NKJV) So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

(Hebrews 10:24 NKJV) And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,

(Hebrews 10:25 NKJV) not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

Verse 20 - praying in the Holy Spirit - What does it mean to pray in the Holy Ghost? It means allowing the Holy Spirit to inspire your prayers, saying, "Lord, I don't want to come to You with my ideas and my agenda because I don't know what these things might lead to if You grant them to me. So I come to You, Lord, asking for Your Spirit to inspire me to pray. Guide my conversation, Lord. Help me to pray biblically, to be guided by Your Spirit even as I talk with You right now." Don't pray your prayer list and then move on to the next thing in your day, pray in the Spirit.

Verse 21 - keep yourselves in the love of God – In verse 1-2 we read the Lord keeps us and watches over us, but here we see our calling. Contradiction?, not at all! God Every day we have a "Garden Decision" of who we will listen to, the lies of the devil, or by faith the Word of God. It is your Garden decision today of what you will do with His Word.

Verse 21 - looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life - Finally, we are to keep ourselves in the love of God by looking for the coming of Jesus. How it affects my priorities, how it changes my perspective, how it alters my emotions when I say, "Lord, today I'm going to look for Your coming." Today might be the day, dear saints. What a difference it makes when we remember this.

Faith – Spirit – Looking / Faith – Hope - Love

Stay in the Word. Pray in the Spirit. Look for Jesus' coming—three things you can do to keep yourself under the spout where the blessings come out. They're practical, workable, doable—and, interestingly, we see in them faith, love, and hope: Faith, by being in the Word (Romans 10:17); love, by praying in the Spirit whose fruit is love (Galatians 5:22); and hope, by looking for the blessed hope of our Lord's return (Titus 2:13).

All You Talk About / Right On / Keeps Strong

“All you guys at Calvary Chapel ever talk about is being in the Word, looking for His coming, and praying,” some charge. “Right. Exactly. You got it!” I say—for that’s exactly what Jude tells us to do in order to keep ourselves in God’s love. It works, and it works well, show me a one who isn’t strong in their faith who continue in these 3 things.

Again, I have to continue in systematic teaching, or I won't continually come back to these things.

Remember His Compassion (1:22-23)

(Jude 1:22 NKJV) And on some have compassion, making a distinction;

(Jude 1:23 NKJV) but others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

Those Affected / Show Compassion – Grab by the Neck

What about those who have been affected by false teachers, who are caught up in wrong doctrine? What are we to do with them? Jude gives two approaches. To some, show compassion. Be very gentle with them as you patiently wait for them to see the light. Others, however, you have to grab by the nape of the neck and yank them out of the destructive stuff with which they’re involved. Some people you can minister to with compassion, stressing the goodness of God, for doesn’t Paul say in Romans 2:4 that it’s the goodness of God that leads men to repentance? Others, however, you have to grab by the collar, and tell it like it is, listen my friend, the path you are on leads to hell, and I can't guarantee you once saved always saved for only God knows your heart.

Make Sure you Don’t get Sucked In

Verse 23 - hating even the garment defiled by the flesh - In the Old Testament, whenever a man was cleansed from leprosy—a picture of sin—his garments were to be burned (Leviticus 13:52). Jude uses this as an analogy to say, “When you’re dealing with folks who are caught up in perversity, make sure you yourself are not affected.” In other words, “Save the man, but burn the garment.” We don’t need to stay current on the movie scene in order to be able to understand them. Not do we need to go to the bar to witness to them. Nor read their perverse poems or journals, or web blogs they write. All we need to do is dwell in the Light, and point them to the Light.

Remember Our Christ (1:24-25)

(Jude 1:24 NKJV) Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,

(Jude 1:25 NKJV) To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, Be glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever. Amen.

Warning – Place of Rest

Finally, after all of his warning, Jude leaves us in a place of rest, saying God is the One who will keep us from falling.

Love Flowing / Get Under Spigot

God’s love is unconditional, never turned off, never diminished. The only question is: Will you plant yourself in the place where you can be drenched with it?

Word – Prayer - Looking

Jude tells us exactly how to do that as he exhorts us to stay in the Word, pray in the Spirit, and look for our Lord’s coming. “If you know these things, happy are you if you do them,” Jesus said (see John 13:17).

Love the Simplicity

I love the simplicity of the Word! May the Lord build your faith as you study it. May He fill you with love as you pray in the Spirit. May He give you hope as you look for His coming.

Amen!

Outline: Jude 1:1-25

- Remember Your Calling (1:1-2)
- Remember Our Culture (1:3-7)
- Remember Their Contentions (1:8-10)
- Remember Their Character (1:11)
- Remember Their Clouds (1:12-16)
- Remember Their Critiques (1:17-19)
- Remember His Completeness (1:20-21)
- Remember His Compassion (1:22-23)
- Remember Our Christ (1:24-25)

Prayer

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) ¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

In Every Study

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need

Gospel / If You Were to Die Tonight

Personal

Jeremiah 29:11 (NKJV) ¹¹ For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Problem

Romans 3:23 (NKJV) ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Penalty

Romans 6:23 (NKJV) ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord

Provision

John 3:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Profession

Romans 10:13 (NKJV) ¹³ For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."

Recognize

John 14:6 (NKJV) ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Repent

Acts 3:19 (NKJV) ¹⁹ Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,

Receive

Romans 10:9 (NKJV) ⁹ *that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.*