

Full Transcript
Jude 1:1-7
17 September 2023
Pastor Ray Bollas

Pastor Ray (00:00:01) - We've made it all the way to the Book of Jude as we're marching through this New Testament. And then soon enough, in a two weeks, counting this week will be in the Book of Revelation. Then after several months in that, I believe we'll be heading into the book of Genesis new beginnings, but so much that the Lord would want to share with us and speak with us today. So as you're. Would you turn there with me to the Book of Jude? We're just going to look at seven verses. We'll finish the book probably next week. We'll see how we do today because I'm questioning how far we can get with seven verses. But it reads 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, mercy, peace and love be multiplied to you. Beloved. While I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found that necessary to write to you, exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

Pastor Ray (00:01:23) - For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation. Ungodly men who turned the grace of our God into lewdness, and denying only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ. Verse five. But I want to remind you, though, you once knew this, that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt afterwards destroyed those who did not believe, and the angels who did not keep their proper domain but left their own abode. He has reserved and everlasting chains and under darkness for the judgment of the great day as Sodom, verse seven and Gomorrah and the cities around them in 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. Well, you know, that's a lot right there. And I'm so thankful. And, you know, I just want to say to you, God bless you for wanting to go chapter by chapter, verse by verse. You know, as I said, and I look at this and I go, man, this can be some heavy stuff and man, this can be.

Pastor Ray (00:02:39) - And I go, But this is what I know. The people who come here want. They want the pure milk of the word. They want the word in its wholeness. They don't want anything watered down. They want to hear it. And even the things that we know that we know, we still always come. But it's good to know that we're all in this together as we look around and because we're coming into this passage, the theme of this book is to contend for the faith as he as we just read. Hey, I wanted to write to you about our common salvation, have some warm times together. But, you know, I felt the spirit speak. I got to tell us to contend for the faith. I believe that, of course, the scripture is inspired, of course, according to our brother Timothy Paul, telling Timothy. But I see, though I don't want to call it inspired, I see great wisdom in the chapter breaks. That's why when we do our reading plan, if you're part of it, our reading is different from most of the others, because I believe that the chapter breaks have some goodness and wholeness in them.

Pastor Ray (00:03:54) - That's why we read whole chapters as we go through our reading plan in a year rather than breaking it in the middle. And but I believe and I love I think there's just a great divine order. And this is such because we can go, what is hey, we got to contend for the faith. Jude's going to tell us because these men have crept into the church to bring deception and then we can go, oh, boy, didn't we just, like do this for 3 or 4 months now? First John, second, John, third, John. Now here we come into the book of Jude. More of the same. Well, I believe absolutely that it's divine order because in probably two weeks we're going to start the Book of Revelation and seven churches in the Book of Revelation, as we look at chapters two and three, five of them all had the same fault. They started to deny the word of God and they weren't ready for what was coming. And the Lord would speak. And in all seven church he who has an ear let him hear.

Pastor Ray (00:05:05) - And this is what the Lord speaks to us. And as we look at the Book of Revelation, as we've been looking at first, John, second, John, third, John looking at the Antichrist, the small Antichrist coming into the deceptions, all to lead up to the big anti Christ, which will be a man who is demon filled with the devil himself. And there is going to be a one world religious system. Revelation 17 Read that whole chapter. And the reason that the world will go after a one world religious system is because they will not stick to just the simplicity of the Word of God. He's going to give us this calling to contend for the faith. And here's what I know and here's what I feel for us is that we know the those that are studied and schooled as we do what we do here, just the simplicity of the word that, yes, we believe the Bible is the word of God. We believe there's nothing to go by the cultural shifts of the world and these type of things.

Pastor Ray (00:06:17) - But what I want to share with you is we are enjoying this faith. And when we read through it, he's going to call it the faith. It's a definite article, meaning the faith, not just our general faith that we have, but the faith which is Jesus Christ, him crucified, and the redemption that comes with the belief in him. But for 2000 years, Christian, there have been men and women who have contended, fought, defended, protected this faith. And 2000 years later, we get to reap what we are and enjoy this faith, the faith, the only faith that brings salvation. And should the Lord tarry because he is ever so gracious, should he tarry because he wishes that none should perish, but all should seek repentance? This passage today, this study for these two weeks, it's a calling for us of the generation before us, contended for the faith to protect what we have. That it could be passed down to us. We're literally the children from that manner working from the left.

Pastor Ray (00:07:26) - But, you know, there's a right as it keeps flowing and there's a generation and our children and our children's children's who have to be protected, that this faith stays contended for, protected and defended, so that those who fought, some of them died, that we might have what we have that our children will have. And so it's more and it's way under this attack for sure. And I'm going to have a hard time teaching even these seven verses because there's like these eight examples. Each of them are a Bible study in themselves, and you have to decide how you want to do this. Jude would be great in one setting. I think it's too much. We'll just make it through verse seven today, But we're going to see this contending for

this faith and we're going to see three examples of people who were leaving the blessing of the faith and the promises that God would have. Then next week, we'll look at the other two, the reasons for leaving as we'll see the way of Cain, Balaam and Cobra today.

Pastor Ray (00:08:36) - We're going to see the examples. It's going to be the children of Israel. We're going to see the angels that rebelled, and we're going to see Sodom and Gomorrah. And then the third one for next week also is the exhortation on how to keep ourselves in the blessing and love of God. And I think that's we'll get through those. And so that's what we have. And so, Father, I pray this blessing upon your word and Lord, it's a lot to cover. This word. It's living. It's powerful. It's sharper than a two edged sword. It's more than information. It's transformation. It's more than facing the word. It's facing God. Our savior, the overcomer. Where would you show us who you are and how great you are? Speak to us as we go through these, what you think of us and your great thoughts towards us, and what is it that you want us to do and what can we boldly ask of you? But as always, we need to be on guard when we leave here.

Pastor Ray (00:09:43) - What the devil will spring on us? But even right here, what he tries to do with this stealing, killing and destroying. Lord, let me not get in your way. Get me out of the way. Let your word just do what it was designed to do. I pray in your name. Amen. So the introduction. The author and the audience of You're the audience. Praise the Lord. Verse one, Jude one 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. So there's like four Jude's in the New Testament, and I could go through all four, but it comes down to, well, which Jude is this? It boils down to two real quick. Is it the Jude that's, you know, spoken of in as one of the names of the apostles? And I'll just get to the boil down real quick. He just said that he's the brother of James. So it boils it down real quick.

Pastor Ray (00:10:49) - Mark, Chapter six. This Jude is the brother of the Apostle James. This of this James, not the apostle, but one of the church leaders thereafter. And God is Mark chapter six, Verse three is not. This the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James and Joses. And of Judah. Jude and Simon are these not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him. This is Jesus's half brother. And that makes this very significant as we read this, because James, Jesus's half brother, James, will be one of the leaders in the early church. And as we read these things together and there's just this significance here, do you notice he's not Jude, the half brother of Jesus. He's Jude the Bondservant of Jesus Christ. I think he's making a point here as he writes this for us is let me not get into my earthly relationship with Jesus Christ and let that be confusing of who I am and all that I'm about. I want you to know I'm way more than the brother, half brother.

Pastor Ray (00:12:09) - Jesus Christ. I am the bond servant. Bond Dulos. I am connected and my whole life is to serve my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. And so again, he's the half brother. And it's interesting for us as we read this, we know in Acts 15 that James is a leader in the church. In John chapter seven, they come while Jesus was teaching. They're like, Oh man, Jesus has lost his mind. And verse five of John seven says, For even his brothers did not believe him. Acts Chapter

one, verse 14. Then all of a sudden it's after the cross. It's the resurrection. In Acts chapter one we read, these all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication with the woman and Mary, the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers. Jude and James didn't believe they didn't believe that Jesus was Christ the God, the Messiah and the promised one. But here we read in Acts chapter one. Well, now they do. What changed? It was the resurrection.

Pastor Ray (00:13:35) - Jesus dying wouldn't have changed their mind. It had to be the resurrection power that changed their mind, because if he would have just died and went into the grave, they'd go, Well, you know, that's what he gets for kind of claiming to be God. But when he rose from the dead and the resurrection power, that's when their whole lives changed. You know, there's a place for us, Christian, When we share the gospel, we must share the gospel in its fullness. A sin that separates us from the Holy God, breaking his holy commandments and the wages of that sin is death. And that Jesus Christ for God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son that whosoever should believe in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life. And there's that place, Hey, God, Jesus will forgive you of your sin. But when we share this gospel, we must share with people the acts 20 The Acts ten nine. If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you'll be saved.

Pastor Ray (00:14:46) - The power of the Gospel is the resurrection. The power of the gospel is the resurrection that says not only did God accept the sacrifice, he left the consequences of the sacrifice in the grave buried in hell. Because when he rose again, it proves that God accepted the sacrifice and that what Jesus did rose from the dead is a picture of all who lay there and put their trust in him will receive the same thing. There's a power in the resurrection. And listen, when we sit here and we have our prayer life, we can't pray. And I can't live my relationships in just the forgiveness I have to lay and live my relationships and all the hope that I lay. There is a God who is a resurrecting power. He has the power to forgive, sin and raise the dead. What is dead in your life right now? Because if we sit here and we just look at forgiveness and it's beautiful and we're going to read this, I love it. But when I come and go, You're the God who raises the dead.

Pastor Ray (00:16:04) - Therefore, I can believe what I think is dead in my life in this relationship or what I think is dead in my life in this part of the ministry. Or you fill in the blank for your life. If I know and I go, You know what, Lord, I'm going to call on your resurrection power. You raise the dead and you overcome all the consequences. You overcome the fallen world so now resurrected Mighty God. Come and do what only you can do. And this is what James. And this is what Jude will do. Jus going to come and he's going to speak. And the fact that Jude. Can write this. Tells us this and that. He doesn't live in his past failings. And some of us do. Oh, I can never be used from the Lord. I'm done. Oh, what I've entered into, if people, you know, start to talk about bringing up my past, then I should just be quiet and be shut down. Jude could have been that.

Pastor Ray (00:17:04) - He could have been like Peter. Who? You know, Peter, you denied the Lord, you know, three times and Peter got up. Why? Because the resurrection power. And here's

Jude. He could have been. Could have spent his whole life the one who didn't believe lived in the same home. Got the closest insight of anybody in the world that Jesus, Jesus would have been so different than any kid on the ball field or in the schoolyard if you follow that, you know. And yet here he can come and say, I didn't believe it, But after the resurrection, I'm going to tell you I believe it. And the power of the resurrection is that God would say, Hey Jude. As I speak to your heart. Go tell the world. About your brother. Who's a savior, who forgives and empowers. And so Jude will do just that. He doesn't let any of the past keep him down. And he comes and he speaks some words that are just beautiful to us.

Pastor Ray (00:18:05) - Versus the back end of verse one. To those who are called sanctified. Maybe your translation actually says Loved by God the Father and preserved in Jesus Christ. The manuscript's, kind of the different manuscripts as the transcriptions would go from the original and they would pass down. Some of them say, maybe your translation, like I said, mine, I'm in. New king, James says Sanctified means to set apart. Others are saying loved. And you know what? I just go, Both are good for me. Both are right for me because you cannot be sanctified, which means to be set apart without being loved by God and this word loved. And sanctified or so closely resembled from the heart of God. And the verb tenses that are used here is when we talk about God's agape love. It speaks of the object. There's an object of God's love, and the verb tense speaks of a permanent. Permanent. An object with a present condition. Meaning I love this object today and nothing will ever change it.

Pastor Ray (00:19:26) - And you being sanctified. I love you today. Based on what I did on that cross and nothing will ever change that. Nothing. I love this word. Because nothing will ever change it. And he says, preserved. It's the same verb tense as he's speaking of the object. Sanctified and loved. Preserved. My present. My present preservation of you. Nothing will ever change that. It's permanent. I will have my eye upon you. My watchful eye is upon you. And that's literally what the word preserved is. Meaning my watchful eye meant to watchful my watchful eye is upon you. God sees you. And God sees me. We come to his word and he wants everybody. I'm watching you in the most beautiful sense. And some people think, Oh, I don't want God watching me. He's going to see all my messes up and all these gods like, No, I'm watching you because I'm going to preserve you. I'm going to hold you and I'm going to keep you. My watchful eye is present and it's permanent.

Pastor Ray (00:20:45) - I will never take my eye off of you. Sanctified and agape, unconditional sacrificial regardless of anything. Because my love is enough to settle this past, present and future. And. That word there. It's ever so slightly. And they both are correct. But it says and preserved in Jesus Christ the word. As well and probably better in the original Greek is. Preserved for Jesus Christ. God, the Father. And other places will read. And Jesus holds us, preserves us, keeps us. But in this verse, it's preserved for Jesus Christ. God, the Father. Speaking to us. I'm going to keep a watchful eye. I'm going to preserve you. I'm going to keep you. Presently and permanently. Because I want to deliver you. To Jesus Christ. That's what a bride is. The father has found the bride. This is the one that I have for my son. And I'm going to make sure that my son gets his bride permanently and presently, and nothing will change that.

Pastor Ray (00:22:15) - What a beautiful verse. And I know we can read through it to get to the other stuff that's so interesting. Some of it's mind boggling as we'll get there, but I never want to go through these things and just blow through these things because I need to hear these things in my state. When I look into the mirror, I know who I am when I have time, when everything's finally quiet and I sit there alone with myself and think of myself, where I've been and all these type of things. And I just come back to verses like these. I am the object of your love. And you got your eye upon me. And you thank me so that you want to deliver me to your son. And if he wants me. Oh, the beauty of it. We started the. The back end of this first scene to those who are called. But it's how we flow it into the English. But actually in the in the manuscript original calls at the end, it's like an exclamation point called and some take it and they applied into the theological sense of, you know, so you were called and, you know, we've been set apart.

Pastor Ray (00:23:27) - And and there's a beauty of that in the doctrine and theology of these type of things. But really what what the point that he's making about this isn't a theological statement. What he's making the point about is it's a calling as and the word was used in. It's an invitation. I've invited you into the banquet. I've invited you to come, and it's an invitation of intimacy. And I invite you to come and be my object of love. And so we come into this place of the choice. Do we say I do or not? I called you. I invite anyone in and anyone in I bring in. And then you get this place that present and permanent that my love, my agape, my unconditional sacrificial love is watching over you and will keep you and preserve you for my son as the bride. And it's just a beautiful thing. And he builds on it more in verse two as he says, Mercy, peace and love be multiplied to you that word mercy. It means to have pity.

Pastor Ray (00:24:33) - And this is what the Lord, I have pity on you. Not because we're so pitiful in that manner, but the pity is because of what sin would do to us and the destruction of sin. And I went in the object of my love because of my agape, unconditional sacrificial love. I went and did something about it on the cross. And now we come to this word peace. And it literally means to bind together. That's what peace is. I can bind together. And the separation that we once had because of our separation, because of breaking God's holy law, now comes a peace through the mercy of God that He shed abroad to bring us into this loving relationship. And now I bind you together. And. And then here we see the word again. Love. It's the agape love. And when we piece it all together, this agape love, because Christ is in us, it literally it's an infusion of love of God into us. God does this amazing. I infuse you with who I am, Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Pastor Ray (00:25:39) - And I put my love and it's infused. And then there comes this place. Then that we become these reflections and these bond servants. And this is what Jude. What he's done for me, man, that love that's been infused for me, I'm going to go the distance regardless of what the world. And here's Judy's. He's going to write to us. He's putting himself in harm's way because he's going to be calling out those that have are creeping in and he's been somewhere to go, Hey, I got to call these guys out and he's not going to have any fear doing it because this is what love will do when it's infused. And I love God's math because we usually go one plus one equals two. But here the word is it's multiplied when he gives us mercy. Peace and

love is not one plus one plus one equals three. It's a multiplication that can't be added up. I multiply these things because I want you to have life in that more abundant. And he's speaking to the reader here who happens to be us.

Pastor Ray (00:26:35) - Man, I want to multiply these things, grab it it, live it and come into these things. But I need to tell you what we'll do when God's a multiplier. The devil's a divider, the devil's a diminishing, and God wants to multiply all that He is in us, infused with his love and and the joy that he brings to all these things. But if he's a multiplier, devil is a divider. And here's what verse three and four Jude will say to us, because he's putting us on guard. 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. Definitely. There's one faith, one faith only, which was once for all delivered to the saints. Verse four for certain men crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation. Ungodly men who turned the grace of our Lord God into lewdness and denied only the Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Pastor Ray (00:27:44) - I doubt Jude. These verses that we're starting into are going to be highly taught throughout the pulpits of America and the pulpits of Europe right now. But the divine author who wrote this for us tells us it must be seen, because beloved, hey, the object of my love, you're the object of my love. And therefore I have to warn you of these things. And let me warn you, I wrote to you and here's what he's literally saying in that I found it necessary to write to you. I started to write to you. I wanted to write about our common faith, the common salvation I wanted to write. And he wanted to do verse one and verse two, like for all of the 27 verses, I wanted to just write about how awesome our salvation is, how awesome God is. I wanted to send you a word that was warm. I wanted to send you a word that just wrapped you and infused you with the love of God. And those are beautiful, wonderful sermons. But he goes, as I started, and the verb tense of this, he's literally as I started to write, it's like he.

Pastor Ray (00:29:02) - Is writing this down. He probably had it in his head, like all of us. I'm going to write this letter. But as he was writing it says, as I was presently writing, it turned into I continued to write. But now, he says, as I started to write to you, I felt this compelled to change and I needed to switch because it's inspired by the Holy Spirit. I need to switch my writing to you and I need to come and tell you about verse four. I need to come. And I feel this compelling of this is what I need to write about next, and then we'll study this for the next two weeks of these eight examples that he's going to give us. I am so thankful for men, women, not just the Scripture, but in my life personally, who are led by the Holy Spirit, who can take themselves outside the ritual and rhythm of this is what I do on Monday. This is what I do on Tuesday, Wednesday, all of us that I can be sitting there feeling like right now, this is what I do on Monday mornings or Thursday afternoons and be so open and so connected with the Holy Spirit that we can stop and go, It's time to pivot.

Pastor Ray (00:30:29) - I know this is what I meant to do, but this is what I feel the Holy Spirit speaking to me is what necessary to be done when you come into that place. Church When we come into that place, we got to be willing to go. I need to break my routine. I need to break whatever I think needs to be done and I need to be open enough to go. This is what you're

calling me to do. And I don't think there's one of us in here right now today that God hasn't at some point been speaking to us, pressing His Holy Spirit on us. Here's what I want you to do. I know you've been listening. I know you've been saying, I'm going to do this and you haven't done it yet. And this isn't a condemnation or be down, but he's speaking to you. I need you to. Write that letter. I need you to make that call. I need you to reach out to that person. Doesn't necessarily mean, but it could be.

Pastor Ray (00:31:29) - I'm calling you to speak the truth to that person and go. Listen. I've been watching it too long, and no one's going to tell you this except God. And I believe he's given it to me to speak to you. This needs to be addressed, but it might just be that person that we go. They got all the friends in the world. But you know what? A lot of times all the friends in the world aren't led by the Holy Spirit because they're in their daily routine. And God breaks through to you because you're sensitive to here like Jude was. Send them that word and say, Hey, listen, I'm praying for you. Hey, listen, if you ever need anybody, hey, I know what you're going through is hard. And if you been there, you can say, I relate to it. If you haven't been there, you can say, I can't relate to it other than I know one who can and his name's Jesus Christ. Whatever you're going through, I know he sees it.

Pastor Ray (00:32:27) - And there's this, this beauty church and Christian, this power when we come. You know what? Lord, interrupt me like you did, Jude. Because if not, we'd have a great book. But, man, what he's given us is divinely inspired for this moment. And I think it's divinely inspired for our moment as Christians in the day that we live, because we got to be coming into the last generation and we're going to be talking about generations at a high level because timing exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith again, verse three contend exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith. This word here, it's the same word that was used regarding the athletes of the Olympians speaks of a vigorous, intense, determined struggle to defeat the opposition. This is what. Hey, look, I'm exhorting you to contend earnestly, agonizes where we get the word in the Greek as it translates into our English. It's agonizing. I need you to step it up. Listen, you know what? There's a place where we're going to have to sweat.

Pastor Ray (00:33:46) - And I tell you what. There's a place for our kids because we're contending for the next generation. We're going to have to agonize for them. We're going to have to agonize in prayer. We're going to have to agonize as we watch them have to face and navigate through this world. But here's the thing. Anybody ever wrestle anybody ever box or, you know, it's even if you played soccer or football, here's the formula. That is the same formula in all these type of competitions. The opposition to the opponent not only must be equal, it must be greater for victory. So we have this devil and he's coming with this tremendous opposition. We cannot come with half the opposition against him. We can't even come with equal opposition. We have to defeat the devil at a greater opposition. And I'll tell you what, we ain't going to do this one on one. I don't think any of us can do this one alone. We all need to call upon the name of the Jesus Christ. But I think there's also the place, the only way we're going to come and defeat the opposition of the devil is what our brother Jude here speaking to us.

Pastor Ray (00:34:59) - Hey, church, you need to contend together. He's going to say, all of you for the faith. All of you. Not just the leadership, All of you. Because the only way to defeat the opponent is not just an equal opposition. That's called a tie. We don't live for ties. No one plays a game hoping they're going to tie. We play to win. And the victory is the victory of Jesus Christ. And so we come and we have this calling and we need to be ready to to contend for this faith. Our brother Peter. It's like Jude was reading Peter. I missed my slide. But first, Peter 3:15 be sanctified 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's in you with meekness and fear and that word to give a defense. It was a legal term like you're going in the court, you got to be ready to defeat whatever the other attorney's presenting. That's what the devil wants to do.

Pastor Ray (00:36:06) - He wants to come with all these things. And here's what Peter says. You got to be ready to give a defense. What is it? Every lawyer studies law. No one gets to study law for a week or a month or a year. They spend years studying law so they can go and go. I hear what the law you're trying to present, but let me give you the law of the land and how it shuts that down. And this is what Peter says. This is what Jude saying to us and this is what I want to say to us. I know you know these things. I know I know these things. But it's our turn, Christian. If we don't contend, agonize, fight to defend. Protect the faith. The next generation will not have it. The next generation will think what has been said to them and what has been presented to them must be the faith, because we didn't stand up and do something about it. And he says, which was once for all delivered to the Saints.

Pastor Ray (00:37:11) - So there it is. It's once and for all. By the way, if you've got an app, you're always looking for app 2.0. The next release, there is no other release. The faith there does not need to be a 2.0 of the faith. It's Jesus Christ him crucified everywhere to God is pure. It's a shield. This is what we contend to and we don't need. And there's not one more thing the faith given to us and we must contend for it. And so to put this in a in its flow, verse four, for certain men have crept in unnoticed. Who long ago were marked out for this condemnation. Ungodly men who turned the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ. This word crept in. It was a word that was used literally. They just slipped in for us. They we would say they came in the side door. They just kind of slipped in and walked among us. And he says they just looked like us.

Pastor Ray (00:38:14) - They were just part of us. And that's what Second Corinthians 11, as I think about that verse for such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves in the apostles of Christ. And no wonder for Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore, it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness who end will be according to their works. The word here that speaks of this transform in what he's speaking of. What's on the outside. Doesn't reflect what's on the inside. And this is these men who slip in. They come in female women, too. They come in and they just look like everyone else. But what's going on in their heart is nothing close to the way that they present themselves. You see how deceptive that is. He says they're under judgment. They're under judgment from before time. Here's the significance of what he's saying about that. Because we look and we go, well, wait a minute, Why doesn't the Lord just make it clear when

they walk in, let everybody just, you know, some type of light over them or some type of, you know, their hair does something or their face.

Pastor Ray (00:39:46) - You know what I mean? Like that. And it's vital for us to understand this of God sees them and he goes. Their judgment has been determined before the foundation. I know their destiny. But then we go, Why do you let them come in and do this? Well, because love requires a choice always for love to be love. But here's the point that God's speaking to us of if we contend for the faith, which means we contend for the Word of God. They can't deceive us. It's what we said about Gaius last week as we studied third. John. All these. This di trophy's knees who came in to deceive so many deceived everybody but or deceived many. But he couldn't deceive Gaius because Gaius was continually in the word, continually in the faith. He was continually in serving the church and serving others. And this is what is really the heart that's being spoken of here. If you're in your flow, if you're under the blessing that God's leading and leading us to, when they do creep in, that it will be flags that will go up, they'll start to talk, but eventually they will be seen like, you know, there's just something that's not right here.

Pastor Ray (00:41:07) - And he's going to talk about what they do as he speaks about this. They're ungodly so they don't reflect the heart of God. But he says they turn grace in the lewdness, which literally is just for our sake. It's carnality. And this is. This is where we start seeing the cultural shift and we start seeing what the word is being called for us is there is plenty and there's no lacking of it. For by grace you've been saved through faith. And the Church of Western Hemisphere is very much into for by grace you've been saved through faith. That's it. And it's true. But if you notice what Jude goes on to fill in for us, they deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ. Double Lord. Grace is salvation. But grace also is Lordship. And so he says here and he's calling them on and he's making this clear about them. They're going to come in and they're going to speak the same gospel of grace. But what you're going to see is they're going to diminish the Holiness the Lordship.

Pastor Ray (00:42:23) - And Jude starts by saying, Jude a bondservant. I am the slave of Jesus Christ, and whatever his word is for my master is his will for me. And so when I read these words and someone comes and they try to bring us anything other than than I can come and go, now you're saying the right words, but when it comes in to the purity of the Word of God, there's something off. And I tell you what, we're watching it over and over and we talk about it so many times in our prophecy updates big names, and we find out they preached a great gospel of love, but then eventually their sin finds them out and we go, man, the carnality of them, what they were doing that was so hidden, the lewdness and the carnality of it. Well, he gives us three examples and time would never. Each of these is a sermon, but. I want to make a point about the three rather than give the depths of the three and then miss the point that I believe is being made here.

Pastor Ray (00:43:33) - He's going to talk first about the children of Egypt. Um, wilderness wandering aimlessly. He's going to talk about the angels who were blessed, created by God, who left their abode and the strangeness that happened there. And then Sodom and Gomorrah. So let's start with verse five, and then we close. And each of these is just a two minute point.

But I want to remind you, though, you once knew this. So he's bringing them, hey, you guys are forgetting something. He's taking them back to the Old Testament, that the Lord, having saved the people out of Egypt afterwards, destroyed those who did not believe. You know the story. Great mighty acts of God that only a God could do delivers you from the greatest army of the world. Takes you unarmed. No weapons. Defeat the great Egyptian army. Takes you. And you know, people want to say that the you know, the Red Sea is just this story made up, that there's no way that the waters could split.

Pastor Ray (00:44:45) - You just tell people when they say that, you just go, well, then they go. It's really it was the red seed. It was only three feet high. And I go, okay, well, it's still a miracle that God has the power to bury the whole Egyptian army in three feet of water. No matter what you get at, this is a miracle. And through the Red Sea, they go and into this promised land and they see the mighty work of God. They march and they come and then they come to Kadesh Barnea. This is the Promised Land. They're only like 40 days into their march. They send 12 spies. And then what? We know the story to come out. Joshua, Caleb, ready for war. And this is what the calling for us. This is what he said. This is yours. I don't know how we go and defeat these giants in the land, but this is what you said, and therefore you will deliver. Well, then there was ten.

Pastor Ray (00:45:37) - Who? What? Did not believe that God was who He said that he was and would do what God said He would do. And that's the whole point that's being made. Those ten did not believe that God is who He says He is and will do what He says he will do. And there is where the lack of faith comes for us, where we go. You're the overcomer. The resurrection power says that I have victory over the greatest giants in my life. And when we share that, we have to tell people the resurrection power gives you everything. Well, you don't know my past doesn't matter where your past, because it's buried in the tomb. The resurrection power will give you the victory over drugs. It will give you the victory over that sexual or that lust lee thing. That resurrection power will give you victory over depression and anxiety. You fill in the blank. But these ten come back and they go, We can't do it. Here's the point that I want to make, and we're going to make it two more times as we look at these others.

Pastor Ray (00:46:38) - The minority. They could sway the majority. There are 600,000 men of war. We would read through our study, through the Old Testament. Do the math. Give them a wife. Give them a couple of kids. Got some grandparents, got some who aren't of war. We're talking 2.5 to 3 million people was the nation of Israel. Some wouldn't even go up to six. I'll just go 2.5 to 3 million. Do you see the point that I'm making? It only took ten. To sway a whole nation. And he took ten to keep. 2.5 out of the promised land. And this is what Jude speaks. It's only going to take one to come in and sway and destroy. You can't put your guard down of the one. And I'm amazed after 20 plus years as a senior pastor, 30 plus as a man of God, how many times I've watched one person destroy not just ten, 20 generations, how I watch one person destroy this family who then left the faith because they are no longer grounded in the word.

Pastor Ray (00:47:53) - And then it passed on to their kids and their kids kids. And this is what you got to contend for the faith because the world's going after. And they creep in ten,

destroyed a whole nation. And then he goes on, Well, before I move on to that, kept the whole nation out of the promised land. But delayed a blessing for the next generation for 40 years. Right. We're seeing the generation that was able to sway a majority, but did this damage against a whole next generation, made them spend 40 years wilderness wandering. And this is what we can see in this verse six way more notes when they get posted of these verses and these things. So the notes will be posted with the audio and video by the end of today. You can read more of these things. I go in deeper, but verse six 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. I'm glad they're bound, whoever these are, because the ones that are loose, man, they're doing a pretty decent job of damage and destruction and wait till they fully get their unleashing when we read the Book of Revelation and get into the tribulation and see that the unleashing on that, this is a strange passage debated on the depths to go into this.

Pastor Ray (00:49:33) - But who are these angels that did not keep their proper domain? They're the fallen angels. Of course they are. What I believe is Genesis chapter six. They're the angels that we read in the Creed. You know, it's just strangeness that they were Sons of God, which always reflects refers to angelic beings. And they came in in Genesis six before the day of Noah, and they were able to have some type of sexual relationships with women on Earth. It is a bizarre city. A lot of teachers don't want to connect it because they're afraid to get into it. But we've talked about this a couple of weeks ago in our prophecy update. And time doesn't. I purposely don't plan on deep dive in it here. We'll probably talk about it again. You know, if I start talking about aliens, as I like to say, if I start talking about aliens and that they're real, majority of the people would say, the guy's crazy. The guy goes into extreme conspiracy theories. Well, here we are all these years later.

Pastor Ray (00:50:49) - If I talk about aliens today, you would call me senator. You would call me Congressman, because 60 Minutes down the road, they're having hearings at the United States capitol of the greatest country in the world saying, what is this? We got all this footage. We got these things that people say that they've seen now. And we're going to talk about this in the prophecy update next week. NASA opened up a hole and you should see the list of the experts on the panel going. We need some type of address to these things. Your Department of Defense has opened up a website specifically directed towards UFOs, which now it's UAP. It keeps changing, so I won't try to. It's unidentified. That's the only thing that doesn't change. But they keep changing the other alphas because they're not sure what it is. So next week, right before the prophecy update, I'll see what they're calling it this week. And but it's unidentified objects that we have no word for. And here's here's my point. Do I believe they're aliens? No.

Pastor Ray (00:52:06) - I've been saying it for all my minute. It's Ezekiel chapter ten. Read it and you'll see. Read through Revelation. They're demonic beings. And I don't know how they have because they say. How can a demonic being take on this earthly possession? I don't know. Other than they can they have they will. We see it in Genesis chapter six. Here's what the Lord's speaking through Jude about these and here's the application that I want because I couldn't just jump over that. I got to come to whatever these fallen angels are. Here's what Jude sang. They lived in the greatest blessing. They were created by God to worship. Satan was the worship

leader. Ezekiel 2028 Isaiah 14 As you read through this. He was the most beautiful being created the worship. And here's what he found is discontentment. I'm not content with who I've been created to be and therefore I need to rise up. And here's the point that I make. It only took ten to sway a whole generation in Egypt, and it only took one to wipe out one third of the angelic host.

Pastor Ray (00:53:26) - And this is what Jude is say, man, you got to be careful. You don't it's not the majority. It's that minority that will come and bring on this destruction. And Satan was no longer content. He got these one third of the angels, however many there are to become discontented. And he's going to speak the same thing. And I close here in verse seven. Yeah, I know. It's time. And so Sodom and Gomorrah, verse seven, and the cities around them in 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. All three of these examples are going to come to their ultimate, and they seem that they have some day and say that they proven themselves. I'm getting what I want, but God saying they're reserved for judgment, I see them. This doesn't surprise me. They exercised their free will and here they are in Sodom. What a picture we see of today.

Pastor Ray (00:54:26) - But here's again the point that I want to make as I close. Read this closely, Genesis 19. This is what we're contending for 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 and they called to Lott and said to him, Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us, that we may know them carnally. Ezekiel 16 tells us the sin of Sodom. 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 the needy. They had all this time on their hand. And they found themselves of What can I do to feed my flesh and satisfy myself? Because I got all this time and that's why work is a good thing when you got to work. But here's the point that I want to make both old and young. The young would not have led the old.

Pastor Ray (00:55:31) - The generation of the young would have watched and learn from the generation of the old. And here is a generation of these men and they lead a whole generation of the youth and it ends up affecting the whole surrounding region. And so here again, as we close with our word today. There's these minorities that are affecting the majority. And here we are called to contend, to protect and defend. And we can see it in our country. There is a generation, the generation, it's these it's horrendous. It's these older men who are promoting and propping up down the road, 60 Minutes here to make all this normalized, to make all this acceptable. Look at the age of them. And now look who's the affected of them. It's this generation. Listen, you know it. I'm thankful that God divinely designs these all of us here, moms and dads, grandmas and grandparents. We must contend for the faith. We must be the ones that stand up and go, I know this is what they say, but let me tell you what the word of God says.

Pastor Ray (00:56:52) - And it might just take you that whatever the Holy Spirit is speaking to you in lunch with somebody today, or just a burden that he puts on, I need you to speak. Because all it takes for evil to triumph is for good men and women to do nothing. It's not a Bible verse, but it's a Bible theme. Father, I bless you and I thank you for the calling that you give us. And Lord, the things that have been put before us. You've called us to contend for the faith, the fight for it, to protect it. And Lord, we do it through the prayer room. We do it. We must come with a cumulative opposition that's greater than what the devil's bringing and throwing. This is definitely not a day that we get to cruise and relax. We are the generation, no doubt. We're seeing all the pictures, the rebirth of Israel. You had to do that to set up what's next. And here we are. Look, Lord, in this generation and the the gifting of it, the privilege of it, but also the responsibility of it.

Pastor Ray (00:58:06) - And Lord, I know it's easy to just get tired. I get so tired of fighting this fight. The Lord last breath till a candle flickers out. May I speak the name of Jesus Christ? What the truth of your word is I speak it to my children, my children's children. May we speak it to those that you put in our life in this beautiful balance? The object of love Call to an invitation of a banquet with the creator of the universe who loves them like Jude. No sin, no failings, can keep us from the love of Christ. Because that's who you are. That's what you do. And so, Lord, may we be the same with the same heart. Thank you for your word. We love you in your name. Amen.