

Jude 1:8-25  
Keeping Yourself in the Love of God  
Full Transcript  
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Pastor Ray (00:00:01) - All right. We've made it as far as verse eight of Jude, and I am just going to start at the beginning of verse one as my introduction. And for time sake, because there's just so much here in this, we're going to finish the book next week. We'll be in Revelation. Chapter one. Tell a friend, Invite a friend as what a what a book that is. As we look at that and again, Prophecy update today at 1130. And but I'm just going to start in verse one as we read, because there's just so much and then we'll take a point and we'll pray because last week I know we only covered seven verses and there was so much there. I asked Jordan at the end, I go, I go, How long did I go? I mean, I know I seem to carry over a little bit. And Jordan says, I don't know. My watch only has hours and minutes and seconds on it. It doesn't have days. So that's where we ended on that.

Pastor Ray (00:01:07) - But would you join me as we just kind of look at some of the things from last week as a recap? Then we'll get into our passage today. Jude Chapter one, Verse one Jude a Bondservant of Jesus Christ, 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. The whole book that we're going to be is just this continual. Remember, remember, remember. And that's what we'll do in the prophecy update. Just remember how close we are to the Lord's return. But he's just bringing these things to remember us, for us to remember. And he starts with and then he ends with I mean, verse 24 and 25 are some of the beautiful, most beautiful passages in the Bible as we close out the book. But just just this beautiful. Remember, you're calling the word calling meant an invitation to a banquet and some turn it into this big theological doctrine discussion. But for us, it really it's an invitation to intimacy.

Pastor Ray (00:02:15) - God loves you. The creator of the universe sanctifies us, sets us apart, puts his eye upon us, his watchful eye, his agape, unconditional sacrificial love. And then, as we studied last week and then I'm going to present you to my son as the spotless bride. What a beautiful remembrance. And all of us need to continually remember that in whatever days we're living. Maybe. Maybe you're under some hardship. Maybe you're under just a great time in the Lord. But there's always going to be a place where we need to come to and just go. I just need to remember my calling that I've been invited to the banquet with the King himself and he robed me and in verse three and four is really the theme of the book and why he wrote this epistle, this letter to these people. And again, this is Jesus's half brother. We discussed that in our study last week. Beloved verse three Why 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 once for all delivered to the saints.

Pastor Ray (00:03:34) - 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. And so the Jude says, I started to write. I just wanted to write this beautiful love story to you. And he did. And he does because love warns as well as it warms. And but he says, you know, I started to write to you about the Faith Definite article, meaning there's one faith, one faith only. Not all roads lead. There's only one road. Jesus Christ, the way, the truth and the life, the lamb of God who came and took provided became the sacrifice for our sin. That's the only faith there is. Everything else is a lie. But I wrote to tell you about this great love and of Jesus Christ, the invitation and our future and all these things. But he's literally saying, but then just in midstream, literally, as I'm penning this out, I'm filling the spirit come.

Pastor Ray (00:04:39) - But you know what? Actually, I need to shift gears here. I need to pivot and I need to tell you, deceitful men are creeping in and they want to take you away from the faith, the simplicity of the gospel. They want to take you away from this invitation, the sweetness of the banquet. Just come to me. All you who labor. It's an invitation for all who would come. But they're going to creep in and we're going to see them and their in their ungodliness five times in this short epistle, he's going to call them ungodly. They're not godly, but they come across with all the trappings that they want to fool you into these things. And so as we said last week, the theme of this book is to contend for the faith, contend, defend for 2000 years, church for 2000 years since the cross, we've had brothers and sisters who have been willing some to the point of death to defend this. The faith, the only faith. And when the world came up and tried to twist it and turn it, they stood.

Pastor Ray (00:05:41) - Some men, women went to the cross and died for it. Others lost livelihoods, other lost reputation. All stuff that we can relate with. We might not here in America this season lay down our life, but we've had people in this pulpit who may come from foreign lands. We've been to Mission fields where they could die for preaching this gospel. So it's not foreign. But the point that we brought last week and the calling that we have to defend the faith today, we're going to talk about keeping ourselves in the love of God. That's how we defend the faith by just sticking to what we'll study today. It's not going to be hard or complicated. I just need to stick on what you're telling and remember these things. For 2000 years. There's been those in front of us been willing to fight for this. And you know what? God is rich in his mercy, and he wishes that none should perish, that all should seek repentance. He may just tarry for another five, ten, 15, 20 years.

Pastor Ray (00:06:50) - I can't imagine it as I do a prophecy update today at 1130. I go, I can't imagine. I don't even know how we make it through today. But he's so rich and Grace Mercy, as we read in verse two, Mercy, peace and love. That's what I want to give and invite anyone to and to have. And so there's this place. We're next. Will we be next? Will we lay it down? Reputation, resistance. The mocking that will read as a critique us. One of the points here in verse 17 through 19 as we talk about his soon return, if he came the first time, surely comes the second time. If we don't, who will leave the faith for the next generation? And that's the calling

that we have. And that's where we are the next generation to speak to this current generation. And that's why he writes and he pivots and these type of things. And it just made me think of the price. But up the road, 60 minutes from here, Gettysburg, we live and enjoy an America today based on what happened up there on that battlefield.

Pastor Ray (00:08:08) - The whole world would be changed literally if it was not a United States that went to fight against a Adolf Hitler. He would have never been defeated. This whole world would have changed. But it became a United States because of what was settled up in Gettysburg on that battlefield that day in 1863. On July third. But I'm thinking and it just as I studied history and there's a general's name was Lewis Armistead, and he was leading one of the infantry groups, as in that battle, that was one of the most deadliest battles fought in the planet and fought on American soil, of course. But I remember what the historian recorded and he spoke it. And he said that because the British sent over their ambassadors to watch and then report back and his name was Captain Fremantle, and this is what the history said that Lewis Armistead said to him right before they stepped out and right before they marched into that bloody battle. He said, There's boys here from Norfolk, Portsmouth, Hampton, along the James River from Charlottesville and Fredericksburg and the Shenandoah Valley.

Pastor Ray (00:09:38) - 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 are all willing to make the supreme sacrifice to achieve victory here, the crowning victory and the end of this war. We're all here. You may tell them when you return to your country that all of Virginia was here on this day. You know what? Here we are. All the cowards and shirkers are gone, I believe. Or they might still go to churches so called, but they're not going to stand and come against what's being spoken of here by Jude and all the trappings and all the twisting and all the all the watering down and taking away from the faith, the gospel.

Pastor Ray (00:10:55) - The cowards in the shirkers are gone. And here we are. Where's what's left? And God has entrusted to us like generations past that we're the generation to keep the faith for this next generation, however long he should perish. I pray a blessing for you for being willing to stand for that and to continue on in that. And last week we looked and as we started about. Verse five, six and seven, he gave these three examples of the judgment that would come on these men who've crept in. They just creep in. They come alongside. We'll see before we finish there in the communion celebration and all these things. But I want you I want to remind you, verse five, 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. We talked about in the studies out there how ten men, a minority, were able to lead a majority to not trust the Word of God. Caleb and Joshua, two of the 12 spies.

Pastor Ray (00:12:07) - God will do what he says he will do. God is who he says that he is and will do what he says he will do. And if we believe that there's nothing that you cannot have

victory over because God will lead you into the victory. But when we come like these ten spies, it's too big for me. They're too powerful for me. It's I don't want to go this long, hard way. Those ten were literally saying, we can't trust the Word of God because he says, I'll give you this land. And we saw how a minority can sway a whole majority. And we're watching it today. In this society, our culture that we live in, especially here, the United States of America, then we saw a minority, one devil saint, fallen angel, excuse me, lead one third of the heavenly host to rebel 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.

Pastor Ray (00:13:07) - We looked at that, and one of the takeaways that we take from there is and this is what's applicable for us. God allowed it. He allowed that fall. He allowed the garden. And here's the application for all of us every day. Christian Every day. Every day, every one of us. We have a garden decision that we get to make. Nothing's changed for 6000 years. We have a garden decision where the world, the flesh, the devil comes and presents and we get our garden moment to go. Yes or no. And as I've said in the in the here's where Eve falls and Eve should have stopped it right there. It's not the the back and forth with the devil. And we go all those roads having conversations with the devil. What Eve could have should have simply shut down right then. And there was this stop. The father's close by. Always. Let's bring him here and let's have him address what you're saying to me. Let's hear what his word has to say.

Pastor Ray (00:14:23) - And that's where we get every day of your life. Every morning. Every day. I continually have my garden moment that I got these things and I'm going to go, am I going to trust the word of God? Maybe even when I don't understand it, even when the world seems to be screaming and it seems sound so convincing, whatever's being spoken here, or am I just going to come and say, this is what your word says? And this is the children of Israel. You are who you say that you are and you'll do what you say to you will do, even when it's painful, even when it's lonely, even when I have to walk it all by myself. But there was a minority one who was able to bring a third, a majority with him. And then we see it again, verse seven, with Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them in a simple manner, to these having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth in the example suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

Pastor Ray (00:15:21) - So the Lord San, I marked these out. I knew they would come. Egypt, the unbelievers, the devil and the angelic host that falls. The Sodom and Gomorrah story. We've seen them all. I knew them. And there's a judgment that's going to come. It doesn't surprise me. And again, because here's what the Lord says to us, because there's always going to be decision for everyone to make. Everyone gets their guard and moment daily to make the decision. He goes, But I see him. And here's the point that's applicable. So great I allow it. Because I can sit and look at situations in my life. Oh, Lord, Why is this happening? Why did you allow this in my life and my family in the in the church and the ministry and these type of things. And I just have to come to I might not understand all of it, but I know one thing for sure that I'm sure you allowed it, because if we want to rewind the clock all the way back, he could have stopped the devil from speaking to Eve.

Pastor Ray (00:16:19) - But he allowed it because everybody gets to make their decision. Love must have a choice. And that plays into very much of our society today. They say love wins. No, God wins. The love of the cross. And love has to be the choice that's made. It's not a blanket cover. All we choose love and it's God is love. And that's when love wins over everything. Anything that is not is not. And so he says to remember your calling. He says, Remember our culture. As we looked at those three things and how fitting replicable they are of our culture today. And so I pray, Lord, just as we carry on these next seven points for where we pick up here, let's remember. These next things and we come to remember their contentions. So he's going to talk about these. They creep in, They look so they sound so they seem so godly. But five times he's going to say in these short 20, they're ungodly. They're not God like. But we go and he's making that point.

Pastor Ray (00:17:28) - But they come and they seem so godly and he's saying, not anywhere near. Because remember and here's the first point of today's passage, eight through ten, when they come with a contention, it's not of the Lord anybody rises up in the contention is not under the spirit. And so let's get rolling on that verse eight through ten, verse eight likewise carries us back to these men. Likewise, they're also dreamers, defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of dignitaries. And so they are dreamers, you know, they dream up these things and they dream that they can somehow shift and twist what the word of God says. And it says, But they defile the flesh. And here's here's one of the clearest tell tales of anyone. And I'm going to talk in in the prophecy update going to name names specifically when I do a teaching, I don't name names specifically because the Bible teaching is meant to be broad prophecy update is meant to be very day. This is what's happening in our day and time, so I don't want to get it twisted and missed, but I'm going to talk about some of these men today, the Dreamers, and they defile the flesh.

Pastor Ray (00:18:43) - And here's the here's what's being spoken of here. Anyone that comes and says, live like you want, God's okay with it. And it's so much today, you know, there's and I'll show it in the Prophecy update today, there's billboards in our country that say. Abortion. Then underneath of it says it's always been part of God's plan. The United States of America on our highways. God loves you. And. God loves you and abortion is okay. There's like three of these. They're dreamers and they think they can change the Word of God. And I surely want to say just because I feel like if you've had an abortion, God does love you. The cross does cover that. But I know you're here and you're you're you're haunted by that. And God says, I forgive you. I receive you. That doesn't separate you from me. The cross covered it. But what he will say about abortion is the cowards and the shirkers they've all left. They don't want to stand up and battle this.

Pastor Ray (00:19:54) - Who will speak for the silent voice if it's not us? I'm not saying that someone has to then raise that baby their whole life. We understand all these type of things and situation. But, you know, there is there is families out there who say, give me that baby. And so you think about that. And if you want help on that, we'll help you with that. Come talk to us. But the dreamers, the final oh, God says live any way that you want. And here's one of the telltale signs of them. They reject authority and they speak evil of dignitaries. It's very much

speaking of inside the church realm. They come into the church and then they they just slam down the structure of the church, the leadership. They come in and go, no, no, no, they listen. We got special knowledge. They're legalistic, they're critical. And we're going to see what these people are really going to they're going to become full of flesh envy, self-seeking, greed, all about them.

Pastor Ray (00:20:57) - And so he's going to expose those type of things. But they got to come just like third John was. You got to come in third. John's just amazing. A man named Dickerson's could actually get the church to bar out the last living Apostle John what type of And he used the word the malicious gossip. What type of power did this man die? Prophecies had that he could sway a whole church to keep the last living apostle who just wrote the Book of Revelation shortly a couple of years prior. That's how convincing they can be. And so any time you come into that place, anybody bring in a charge against the leadership, it might be the leadership called mom and dad might be the leadership called parents, might be the leadership called Pastor Elder first Timothy 5:19, says no accusation can be made against the church leadership or the leadership in the home without 2 or 3 witnesses. So they come and they start tearing it down. It's immediate. We remember the contention. We go right away. Bells are going off.

Pastor Ray (00:22:04) - You don't seem to be as godly as you're presenting yourself to be because you're outside the Word of God. And we could go on and on. But I think it speaks for himself. But I think one of the things we speak and what we see is no one needs to be deceived. Oh, can I get deceived by these men and women who creep? As long as we keep ourselves in the love of God, as long as we're in this place, I get my garden moment. All I got to do is say stop. Let's go get the father. God. Father, What does your word say? Because if you're not going to proceed based on the word, then I know that what you're saying is not of the father. None of us need to be deceived on any of these things. And Jude's right now to remember, to remind us, as I have my seven points for today, nine in total. Just remember, just remember and we'll all be victorious in the end. Verse nine and ten, he goes on and I'm going to hate all these very high because I think that's how Jude meant this, because they all could be one week Bible studies verse nine.

Pastor Ray (00:23:04) - Yet Michael the Archangel was content 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. Verse ten. But these speak evil of whatever they do not know and whatever they know naturally, like brute beast in these things, they corrupt themselves. You doesn't hold back. And you know Jude is laying it out. He's making it clear he's going to tell us, balance yourself with compassion, but don't let your compassion bring you into a deception here. And here's what the devil here's how this plays out for us. Deuteronomy, Chapter 34 Moses dies. God, as we see here, gives the command the word to Michael the archangel. Go get the body of Moses. I'm going to bury them. I think very clearly for us, the Lord knows if the children of Israel got the body of Moses, what would they do? Well, Peter, you know, let's build three tabernacles, you know, Mount of Transfiguration.

Pastor Ray (00:24:12) - It would have turned into a traveling idol. They wouldn't have just they wouldn't have just it would have been some temple that they carried around. Oh, Moses. Then they would go, We can't go to battle without the body of Moses. They would have twisted and all this type of insanity that man's does. And Michael the Archangel Ark. It means head angel. He's given the command to the head. Angel, go and get the body. And the devil shows up. And here's where we see what the application is. The word of God said to the angel. Get the body. Bring him. I'm going to bury him. No one knows where Moses is buried. The devil shows up. I don't care what the word of God said. I don't care what God said. I want this body. It brings us into all kinds of, you know, wonder, why does he want the body? What did he want to do with the body? Very interesting. And. I'm looking at my watch here.

Pastor Ray (00:25:14) - Saying stay on point. We'll save that for a prophecy update. Very well. Could be something crazy like with this alien stuff, right? And I say that, as I said last week, Prophecy update If you talked about aliens, which they're fallen angels just lets you don't have to wait till the prophecy update for that. They're just fallen angels. If you talk about aliens, people will say you're crazy. Now you talk about aliens, they call you congressman, they call you. You know they're down there or they call you general, as we'll see that in our prophecy update that the Department of Defense stood up a website to address and talk about an unidentified objects and they changed the from unidentified flying objects to UAP. And it just changes every week what it all means. But unidentified phenomenons is what there are some they stood up 60 minutes down the road a website to address it. So I don't know what Satan wanted to do with the body. But here's the point that I do know. God said, Michael, get the body and the devil shows up and contends and goes, No, I don't care what he says.

Pastor Ray (00:26:28) - I want the body. So you see what the Jude is building on these men, these women who slip in, creep into the church. They eventually start to just say, No, no, no, that's not what the word means. And we're going to talk more about that. And I'll wait till I get to these things of these things. But here's a point that I see very clearly. The devil comes and Michael the Archangel gives us all just a great example. He does not contend with the devil. Anytime you have to deal with anything in that spiritual realm, put you put Dad in between you and the devil, right? You don't want to sit here, people, man, I go through this so many times, you know, people want to talk about, you know, Pastor, what I want to talk to you about what's going on in my family is there's a spirit of depression. So they think we have to identify what the name of that demonic spirit is. It's the spirit of depression or it's the spirit of alcohol or it's the spirit of thinning hair.

Pastor Ray (00:27:36) - It's whatever they come up with, all these things that this is what the cause is. And I go, No, it's a fallen world and it's filled with demonic realm. Ephesians six we wrestle not against flesh and blood. All I need to know is anything that I'm going to ever enter into the spiritual realm. Do you want to hear a crazy story? It's not in my notes. My wife looks at me, goes, Just just. So one day I was in here and it was the evening and I was just spending the time praying. And I think I was praying in the spirit. And as Jude will talk, where you pray the Scripture because the Scripture is the spirit, because it's the word of God. And I was in Daniel and I was praying about the prince who's going to come and establish his kingdom. And I was I

was like, Devil, your day is done. The king has come and he will establish his kingdom on Earth. You're on a short leash. And I, I was praying and, I mean, I could.

Pastor Ray (00:28:33) - It was just a moment. And no kidding. Everything is explainable. But there was this howling that started to happen outside, and I can explain it. Well, there is a wind coming in like we've had these winds and it was coming in between the buildings and it would make that howling noise. But nonetheless, the man of faith that I am in, my boldness and my power and sure strength, I go, I'm going home. And as I was walking down the hallway to leave, just walking down the hallway to leave, I hear in the bathroom and I know everything that's in the bathroom. You know, here's what I hear. I hear something fall in the bathroom and I go, Boy, I know everything that's in the bathroom and nothing would make that noise. So I proceeded to the door, the man of faith that I am, and I punched in the alarm code and I locked the door and I go, I'll let an Orange County police take care of this one. And I got my car and I rode home.

Pastor Ray (00:29:37) - And if we believe there's a if we believe Ephesians six, then we have to believe that we wrestle not against flesh and blood. And so but there's this place that, you know, I just need to put dad between me and the devil and I don't need to wrestle and face him and and try to debate these type of things. What devil this is. I just know it's a demonic realm. And, Lord, I'm going to pray my brother, my sister is under attack right now. And sometimes I just go, Lord, I just know I'm under attack right now. I can literally feel like something, you know, my my nerves aren't settled or this and that, whatever the warfare is. And we just say, Lord, come show up. I don't need to rebuke the devil. And Michael the Archangel also shows me and us, anybody that comes in that doesn't agree with this word of God, we don't need to rise up with loud voices. We don't need to rise up and feel like we have to raise our voice to make our point.

Pastor Ray (00:30:40) - Here's what Michael the Archangel said. The Lord rebuke you. He didn't rebuke him. He said, the Lord rebuke you. I don't need to get in your face. I don't need to be the one that that jumps into this thing. The Lord rebuke you and you ever come into any type of contention with your brother and sister. Second Peter 224 And the servant of the Lord must not quarrel, but be gentle. Just be gentle. Once you start rising up in anger and contention, I automatically go when I see that this person's not in in the spirit. And if I sense that in myself, I say to myself, You need to stand down and you need to depart because you are not in the spirit if you're ready to rise up in contention. And he says in back, end of verse ten, But these speak evil, whatever they do not know. And again, so the point is they're coming and they're trying to make themselves that they know something that the rest of the church don't know.

Pastor Ray (00:31:36) - And we're going to see that in every week that we every month we do a prophecy update that they're going to come and say, no, that's God is so much beyond that. Now. He's no longer that narrow minded critic. There's freedom live and enjoy the freedom of Christ. And and that's old and outdated. The word of God never changes, ever. And so then he's going to go on and I write it, remember the character. But the contention and the character, they all weave together, especially when we see Cain to start with, but remember their character. So we can see if there's a contention, man, if even if it is you personally strong



contention, I'm not in the right place. Verse 11. Cain Woe to them, for they have gone the way of Cain. Then he's going to say, I've run greedily after the Arab Balam for profit and perished in the rebellion of Korah. So Cain, what's, you know, gone the way of Cain? Well, Cain killed his brother.

Pastor Ray (00:32:34) - How long did he here's here's what two things with Cain. Cain filled with hatred, anger. Once again, I can look and I go, man, if I'm filled with any type of anger or just hatred, I know this is another spirit. I can't be right if I'm filled with hatred. You're going to see verse 22 to 23. He's going to say, Remember compassion. If we don't have compassion, that they're that they're wrong, they're deceived or they're hurting them, we have to go. Do I really have the spirit of Christ in me? But how long did how long did Cain hate his brother? As long as he was able. Anyways. It's a rule. It's a rule. Why? All right. We'll cut that out of the final tape. And But you know what? Cain's you know what his ultimate sin is self righteousness. And we can all be on guard of that. But speaking of the false teachers. But I want to teach the who's here. We're looking to identify them.

Pastor Ray (00:33:45) - They're self righteous, you know? Whoa, man, look at me. I am so godly. I am so. This is Cain. What's Cain? Self righteousness again. Bring me a sacrifice. Obviously Abel brought. What was the sacrifice? He brought the probably would have been the lamb. Cain He brings the work of his hands. I know better. Doesn't matter what the word of God said. Doesn't matter what he required of me. I'm going to show my works. I'm going to show my sweat. I'm going to whatever it was. He was self righteous and he felt that I know and what I do is best. And so we see this application for Cain, the self righteousness. I know, I know what the Lord might be saying, but I know better than He ties it in with anger. Well, verse 11, he goes on and have run greedily in the air of Balam for profit. That's number 22. We know that story. The children of Israel, they have they they've come, they've rolled out of Egypt.

Pastor Ray (00:34:51) - They're rolling over all the battles and all the princes and kings that are coming against them while Moab sees them come and go, Man, we can't beat these guys, which is pretty amazing. They defeated Egypt as we study last week without a sword because God's won it for him. Well, here they are. They're defeating all these other foes and king of Moab, Balak, He sees them go, I can't defeat these guys, so I need to get some help. So he goes and he gets one of the prophets. His name's Balam and says, How can I beat these guys? I want you to curse them. So he sees whatever their power and their victory is, is because of God's favor upon them. That's their we are whatever the power and victory we have, it's because God's hands upon us, because God wants us to win this war and to take this ground, to have these victories over whatever these things are in our life. So but Balak knew and Balam will come to know.

Pastor Ray (00:35:43) - But if I can get them to turn against the Word of God, then God will have to judge them and deal with them. We studied that a couple of weeks ago. So Balam, he says, you know, well, I can only say what God tells me to say. So he gets up the first time and be ready. Yes, curse him. And he says words of blessing and then basics like, why are you blessing him? I ask you to curse him. Let's go to another spot. Maybe that will change. So he gets up and instead of cursing them and blesses them again, he's like, I'm asking you to curse them. You just

keep blessing him. They're going to get more and more. And then Balam and this is the heir of Balam for profit. He goes, Man, if you gave me a million bucks. Even if you gave me a million bucks, I can't curse them. Hint. Hint. Bling bling. For profit. He'd be willing to turn against what God has called him to do.

Pastor Ray (00:36:44) - And we know the story. And that he's on his way. He's on his donkey. They're going through a narrow path. The donkey sees the angel of the Lord freezes, presses and he's jamming him up against the the wall. And the bailiff is like, What are you doing? Starts beating the donkey. And then the donkey talks to him. True story. And says, Why are you beating me up just a good donkey. I've always been good to you. Why are you beating me? Because. Well, because you're not doing what I'm calling you to do. And I always look at that and you just go, man, you know, you are like, you are in a whole nother realm seeing, you know, he's seeing dollar signs and he can't even really. I'm talking to a donkey and the donkeys talking to me. Now, here's the thing about Balam. He's we just read for profit. He's going to turn against the things of the Lord for profit. And I just sit and I go, Man, you could had the best of both worlds.

Pastor Ray (00:37:42) - You could have blessed Israel, not cursed them, and you could have made \$1 million, taken your donkey on the road show, and then you'd make \$1 million of everybody go on. It's a donkey, a talking donkey. So greed blinds him. So what does he do? He can't curse them. So he tells Balak, I can't curse them. But here's what you can do. Numbers 20:25 helps us out with these stories in 24. Get some of your women, have them go dance in front of the men. The men will follow and God will have to bring a judgment against them. You know, and there's just times. It's our sin that brings the punishment. It's not. God has the discipline as kids He does. But there's just so many things that we would go, you know what? If I just stick to the word of God? They intermarried. They went where they weren't supposed to. All these type of things. They just kept themselves in the love of God, which is keeping himself in the Word of God.

Pastor Ray (00:38:50) - Israel would have never found themselves in this position, but God had to bring this judgment upon them, this chastisement better said. And then he goes on and he speaks of Korah, who was one of the Levites, and his thing we read in number 16. His sin, his big thing in the rebellion. It's envy. What's envy? I'm just not content what you have me being. And so again, he's making the picture of these false teachers and they're going to come because, you know, they want money or greed or they're self righteous. I know better. And part of the and then envy. I'm not content. I want more. I want people to respect me. I want my name to be in lights and all these type of things, even if it's inside the small church, whatever it may be. And so Korah comes and he said, Moses, who made you king? Moses is like God. He made me the leader. He goes, Well, I think I should be leader.

Pastor Ray (00:39:47) - So Moses is like, okay, well, let's just do this. You stay in front of your tent, mean air, and we'll stay in front of ours and we'll see what the Lord decides. At the end of the day, at the end of the 15,000 of Corps, they get sucked into the earth and they get destroyed. And everybody knows, yeah, God's call is on Moses. And it's just a great fitting

picture of us for all of us. Hey, be content. Be content in your workplace. Be content in your marriage. Be content in your ministry. Be content with what? Discontentment will suck you in and take you down. Go to work tomorrow. Be the best worker that you can be. And if God chooses to move you through the realm and rise you up, then praise him for the promotion. But if not, it doesn't matter who gets promoted before you. It doesn't matter if they do half the work that you do. You work for Jesus and you let Jesus promote you.

Pastor Ray (00:40:44) - If you start moving into envy, it will suck your life away. And it's the same with ministry as we see here with these teachers. Then he's going to go in verse 12 and 16 and he's going to. Talk about. They're just clouds. They don't have any substance. He's going to talk about rain. Rain was vital. And if you had clouds, you needed rain for crop. And if there was no rain, you just go, well, this was a letdown. And that's what he's going to speak and that's what we got to go. Remember the clouds when any of these people come and we see them and they say all these great things, but it doesn't produce harvest in a godly way. Verse 12, These are spots in your love feast. Love feast was communion. They so there crept in among them. They're part of communion. The word spots there means hidden rocks. It was. It was a word. It was. Hey, be careful for the spots when you're coming into in the port.

Pastor Ray (00:41:42) - And what it meant was you're out there on your ship and you're coming in. Be careful for the hidden rocks because they'll sink you. And that's what the Jude is saying. They'll sink you. And so they come. They're hidden rocks. They're. They're clouds without water. They look like they promise something, but they leave you dry in the ultimate. They're late autumn trees without fruit. Any tree, any fruit tree in autumn should have had fruit. And so they look like trees with leaves, but they bear no fruit. And so he's talking about that. He leaves. No, he takes the gloves off two times dead. They can't. They're two times dead, twice pulled up by the roots, meaning they're fruitless and therefore they can't produce fruit. And this is what you see so many times, these type of false teachers, these people who creep in, it's the only fruit they bring is bring me the fruit that I can partake for myself. And so this is what Jude's just telling us, to be on guard.

Pastor Ray (00:42:38) - But he's also given all of us. Make sure you don't get brought into it yourself, because all of us have this garden decision that we could find ourselves wanting the same verse 13 Raging waves of sea, foaming up their own shame, wandering stars for whom his reserved the blackness of darkness forever raging waves with foam, lots of motion, but no energy come And wandering stars are like shooting stars. They flash for a moment, but they don't bring anything that last and reserved blackness and darkness forever. Meaning they're going to hell. And the only thing they can do is replicate and do the same. And they rob and they destroy. Yet they were inside the church. They crept in among them. And Jude had to write to say they're among you Recognize them? 14, 15 and 16. Now, Enoch the seventh from Adam. He's making sure we knew which Enoch of the Bible. We're talking about Enoch, who walked with God and was not prophesied about these men also saying, Behold, the Lord comes with 10,000 of his saints to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them.

Pastor Ray (00:43:50) - All the ungodly deeds think he's going to make the point their ungodly, which they have committed in an ungodly way, and all of the harsh things which the ungodly sinners have spoken against him. Capital H. Speaking of the Lord, they are grumbling, complainers, walking according to their own lust, and they mouth great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage. Jews. Right. And. To say they're walking among you there in your love feast. Be careful about the flattering lips. It should produce something of substance. And if they don't, then recognize it. And I think. I mean, there's a time for church that you have to be on guard. Those who want to come in and see opportunity. But you know, what I'm really talking about is, man, it is. It is just filled and flowing through the United States of America. Pastors who are getting up and will not teach the Word of God. And they are embracing everything that the world social media says to embrace for envy, for profit, for gain, because selfish self-righteousness thinking they know better.

Pastor Ray (00:45:10) - And here's another way we recognize them. Remember the critiques verse 17 through 19? But you beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ? How the They told you there would be mockers in the last time? Who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. These are sensual persons who caused the vision, not having the spirit. And so here's here's just a great thing. And it's just a reminder it God speaks to you and encourages you as we believe Jesus Christ is coming soon. We believe there's a second coming of Christ became the first time. There has to be a second time. We believe that there's going to be a moment that God's going to say, Enough, come home and he's going to take us out called the Rapture and we're going to get taken out of here. We are going to be in heaven while all hell breaks loose on Earth. Well, he's saying in the last day there's going to be come. They're going to be mocking things.

Pastor Ray (00:46:09) - In the last day, they're going to be saying those who say such things, they're out there, they're crazy. They're conspiracy theorists and stuff like and yeah, there are some of those. But this is speaking specifically of what they would say in the last days. And here's the point for all of us to remember is when they can no longer or they have no basis for an intellectual challenge to what you believe. They cannot counter the Word of God. The Bible was the anvil that broke all the hammers that come against it. Then they have to resort to mocking. Because they don't have a case. And this is what you'll find because this is what I know everyone that I speak to who has come and tried to debate me about things of the last days and then try to take a hammer against the Bible and the anvil at the end as we go through the whole thing. And when we finally get to the end, if it would just come to and I go, well, you really don't have you haven't proven anything, right? We can agree that.

Pastor Ray (00:47:16) - So now can I just ask you one question? What sin is it that you love that you don't want to repent of? That's why you do this. If you can tear down the word, you think then that you can have some type of appeasement. And that's what you'll find in all of them. Any of them who come against the Word of God come against that. This is what the word of God says is because and you see it and you know, you can start filling in the blanks. All the things come to the prophecy update and we'll see all the things. It's because there's a sin that they love and they don't want to repent of. Well, he's going to say, remember his completeness.

And that's the point I make of the garden decision. We do not have to be deceived by any of the culture. May we not follow the cowards in the shirkers? May we stay and be the generation. Verse 20 and 21. But you beloved, build yourselves up in the most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit.

Pastor Ray (00:48:17) - Keep yourself in the love of God, looking for the mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ. On to eternal life for things we see there. Building yourself up in the most holy faith. The faith. It's Romans 10:17. Faith comes by hearing here and by the word of God. What's the apostles have spoken? How do I stand? And whether against all these type of things. And you know what, parents, I feel for you because I'm with you as a parent. Our kids are coming home and they're saying, but this is what my other friends are saying. This is what teachers are saying. This is what I heard on social media. And now you got the majority coming against you as a minority. I know it. I know it's hard. And that's why we can't waver. We can't cower. That's why we need to pray in the spirit. And he says praying in the Holy Spirit is praying in the Holy Spirit. Some will say it's praying in tongues, but that's a gift of the Holy Spirit.

Pastor Ray (00:49:13) - And not everybody gets the gift. So Jude can't write to something that doesn't apply to everyone. Praying in the Holy Spirit is when you and I take the Word of God and pray it because the Word of God is the Spirit. Father, I pray that you would build me up in the faith. Lord, that's my prayer for you right now. And you know what? You can be sure God's going to answer that. Lord Faith comes by hearing, hearing by the Word of God. Lord, I pray that you would teach me your word today. Fill in the blanks. Keep yourself in the love of God. Verse 21. Lord, I pray that my brother will keep himself in the love of God. The world is going to come. It's going to try to draw them away. But would you keep him in the love of God that he sees? He's got a garden decision moment and he needs to make a decision. What does your word say? That's what praying in the Holy Spirit is.

Pastor Ray (00:50:07) - And we all get to pray in the Holy Spirit. It's not something that any of us don't have the power praying in the Holy Spirit, keeping yourself in the love of God. The garden decision. And here's for us why we do the prophecy Update monthly Looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ On to eternal life. He's coming back. We keep looking for him. We know and we can rest in that. And that's why I made my points today. Remember, that's how I win. That's how we continue on. That's how we keep this faith. Guard. The faith can tend to faith. We just keep remembering our calling. We remember our culture. We remember what these false teachers look like, whether they're on social media, in the mainstream media or in our very church. And then we remember his compassion because I know what I said can all sound so harsh. And it's not meant to be harsh. Remember his compassion, verse 22 and 23 and on some have compassion making distinction upon another save with fire, pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

Pastor Ray (00:51:16) - If we come as Cain with anger, if we come with, you know, as the devil contended, trying to contend with Michael there, and we try to get into strong contention, we're never going to win anybody. And the Lord speaks to us, have compassion. And there's a place, though, he says, hating the garments defiled by the flesh. We have to be strong against

that. Word. There, I believe, is really an application to Leviticus 13. When a person had leprosy, their garments were to be burned, you know, and there's a sin in this world and there's these things, Look, I love you, but I can't let these garments around me into my home, around my kids. And sometimes there's just a place that you're deceived and there's a judgment and hells to come. You know, and I talk about the mockers in the last days and I talk about. I by no means want to see anyone perish, but I surely prophecy updates when I will be specific with names when I teach through the Bible.

Pastor Ray (00:52:21) - Someone might be reading this ten years from now. If I use specific names, they'll be like, Who is that? What was that all about? But you know what's what's happening next week there's a pastor and I'm closing down here. There's a pastor who's having a pastor's conference. He's inviting not a pastor. He's having a conference for parents whose children are for parents with children who are LGBT. Q And so this pastor has 40,000 people that come to his church every week, every week. This pastor has been known to be in the top ten most influential pastors in America Top ten. His church is in the top ten. At one time, it was the largest church in America. But now he comes and he presents what he feels is a new revelation, a deeper revelation. Two of his speakers at this conference, gay pastors who are married and they're going to speak to a volume of church members, go on live stream to hundreds of thousands, and they're going to say what the billboard says. God's okay with this.

Pastor Ray (00:53:43) - It's a leading people to destruction, but they're going to come with swelling words. They're going to sound so powerful to go, That is love. No, that's not love. It leads to destruction. But the point that I make and I can speak that I don't wish ill I don't want to see anybody be destroyed. But I have a love and a compassion. But then we have this place that we have to say that's not the word of God, and that's what we take home with us as we talk to whoever you go into the workplace. That's not the word of God. That God's word is perfect. It's protect and provide. It doesn't matter how big and swelling and wonderful the speaker may be. It's not from the heart of God. But if we come with the anger, we come with, you know, like an attitude of Cain or we get into what could have been Michael the Archangel and go face to face, contentious people are never going to receive us. That's why he says, have compassion on them.

Pastor Ray (00:54:37) - Then he says these beautiful words and this is where we close. God bless you. 2425. I just read it. It's just a beautiful ending as the beginning was. Now to him, who is able to keep you from stumbling, present you faultless before the presence of his glory, of his glory, with exceeding joy to God, our Savior, who alone is wise, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. You remember our Christ, and none of these things will touch us. We will come. We will be kept from stumbling, even when we see all the things pressing in. But, you know, parent, mom, dad, grandma and grandparent, the cowards and the shirkers, they're all gone. We're here and we're the ones that are going to tell our generation, our kids knew this is not what God's word says. We're going to defend, contend, protect the faith by keeping ourselves in the love of God. Let's have worship come back. And, Father, I thank you for the word and the blessing and the depths of it.

Pastor Ray (00:55:48) - We see so many things around us in the days that we live in the world and they're saying, this is right. They're saying that your word has changed. Your word is the anvil that breaks all the hammers. 2000 years later, the faith has not been destroyed. And Lord, you've given us a calling to carry it into our homes and into conversations. And I thank you, Lord, that we have a place to come, a training ground, a proving ground, a remembering ground that we're in this together. And, Lord, as we look around the room, all your people were in this together. We're not alone. Not to mention you're with us. You give us that anointing of your spirit, but we stand together. And Lord, should you, Terry, we will contend, we will defend. We will keep the love of God. And so, Lord, you're worthy to be worshiped here. Our Worship, One last song, and I pray this in your name. Amen.