

(vv1-13) the Holy Spirit compelled Jude to write this letter and ‘...*exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.*’ Ungodly men had secretly slipped into the church and introduced sexual immorality among other sins. God wants us to know that all apostates will be eternally condemned: ‘*For there are certain men crept in unawares...ungodly men...destroyed them that believed not...are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire...Woe unto them...to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.*’ God wants us to make contending for the faith a priority because many will follow these false pretenders into eternal destruction **2 PETER 2:1,2.**

(vv14-18) ‘*But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ; How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts.*’ God’s desire for us is to always remember what the Bible says, the Apostles have warned us of the infiltration of Satanic men into the church:

Paul: **ACTS 20 (vv17-32)** ‘...*shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.*’ The Holy Spirit through Paul gives us the way of victory over apostates: ‘*So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace...*’ God’s grace is His undeserved favor which He has given each believer in Jesus; this grace allows us to look at what God has done for us and continues to do, and if we keep this in our hearts we will be free from those who try to collapse our faith. **EPHESIANS 1 (vv3-20)** all spiritual blessings, sealed with the Holy Spirit, eternal inheritance. **EPHESIANS 2 (vv8,9,18)** saved by faith alone, access to the Throne of God. **EPHESIANS 3 (vv11,12, 19-21)** to know the love of Christ. Before we attempt to live this life in Christ, comprehend what God’s grace has done already. **1 TIMOTHY 4:1-6; 2 TIMOTHY 3:1-9** God warns us through Paul of false teachers; watch for them.

Peter: **2 PETER 2:1-18; 3:1-4** ‘*Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts.*’

John: **1 JOHN 2:18,19; 4:1-6** ‘...*because many false prophets are gone out into the world.*’

(v19) ‘*These [apostates] be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit.*’ Jude gives us three more conspicuous traits these ungodly men (women) have:

1. ‘*separate themselves*’ (cause divisions) we need to be on constant guard against those who cause divisions based on their own feelings, not on the Word of God. **1 CORINTHIANS 11:17-19** ‘*For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you.*’ We must always come back to the Bible and what it says in all matters of faith. **3 JOHN 1:9-11** Diotrephes is an example of an apostate; he loved to have the preeminence over the church. Instead God commands that Jesus alone have that place of honor: **COLOSSIANS 1:18** ‘*And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.*’ Our attitude should be humbleness: **PHILIPPIANS 2:3; 3 JOHN 11.** What an eternal difference when we live God’s way.

2. ‘*sensual*’ (worldly-minded) the Greek word is ‘*psychikos*’ - of or belonging to breath; the sensuous nature with its subjection to appetite and passion.

3. ‘*having not the Spirit*’ an apostate never has become a child of God no matter how public or prominent their confession of faith is. **1 CORINTHIANS 2 (vv1-14)** ‘*natural man*’ is again ‘*psychikos*’ in the Greek manuscript; in Jude, the word is translated ‘*sensual.*’ (vv15,16) ‘*But he that is spiritual...*’ the Greek word is ‘*pneumatikos*’ – a person with the Spirit and controlled by Him. ‘*But we have the mind of Christ.*’ This is a truth that is operational every moment of every day.

Jude exhorts us to contend for the faith...because ungodly men have crept into the church...they are consumed with desires of the flesh and the world. **1 JOHN 2:15,16** ‘*Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.*’

As we look at our relationship to God through Jesus, we have the truth of being indwelt by the Holy Spirit, as opposed to those who do not have the Spirit. The believer’s relationship with God:

- baptized by the Spirit **1 CORINTHIANS 12:13**
- we can cry Abba Father **GALATIANS 4:6**
- sealed by the Holy Spirit **EPHESIANS 1:13,14**
- led by the Spirit **ROMANS 8:14**
- indwelt by the Spirit **JOHN 14:17**
- taught by the Spirit **JOHN 16:13**

An apostate knows nothing of these things, Jude reveals concerning them: ‘*having not the Spirit.*’ Walk in Jesus with a renewed mind for ‘*we have the mind of Christ!*’