

Jude 1:17-25

REVIEW...

- **PREPARE TO FIGHT...**
 - Jude WARNED us – we NEED to FIGHT for THE [τῆ] FAITH [πίστις]
 - Because FALSE teachers had CREPT into the church – with a DESIRE to deceive...
 - These FALSE teachers INTERPRET - the GRACE of God as a license to SIN...
 - They TEACH - there are OPTIONS on how to get to HEAVEN...
 - They do not TEACH - Jesus is the BOSS [κύριος] – the one who OWNS us!
- **DEFINING FALSE TEACHERS...**
 - Jude looked BACK to the Old Testament – to define what FALSE teachers look like TODAY...
 - They LOOK like Israel – who refused to OBEY the Lord and enter the LAND...
 - They LOOK like Angels – who rebelled against God thinking there was another way to heaven...
 - They LOOK like Sodom – who sinned thinking there were no consequences – were destroyed!
- **FATE OF FALSE TEACHERS...**
 - Jude used NATURE – FIVE descriptions – to tell us what will happen to FALSE teachers...
 - And concluded by giving us the Prophecy of ENOCH – SECOND coming...
 - Jesus is coming and JUDGE these FALSE pastors...
 - Because they are GRUMBLERS – COMPLAINERS – LUSTFUL – and SELFISH!

RESPONDING TO FALSE TEACHERS...

- **1ST – REMEMBER... VS. 17-19**
 - 1st – The WORD... vs. 17
 - But you beloved – remember!
 - In light of WHAT – the FALSE pastors teach – THREE false doctrines...
 - Because of WHO – the FALSE pastors are – example from OT...
 - Considering WHERE – the FALSE pastors will go – destined to be JUDGED...
 - BELOVED [ἀγαπητός] – we who have received the LOVE of God – the TRUE church...
 - FIRST – we must [imperative] REMEMBER – it is IMPORTANT that we stop and THINK!
 - When we see the questionable teachings on TV and YOUTUBE...
 - When we hear the ODD message that is being taught in some churches...
 - It CAUSES [passive] us to REMEMBER – the WARNING - we must FIGHT for the ONE faith...
 - How do we FIGHT – we REMEMBER the WORD!
 - The words which were spoken before!
 - We must [imperative] remember the WORDS that we SPOKEN [perfect]
 - Because the best way to combat a LIE – is the with the TRUTH!
 - There is only one TRUTH – and that is Jesus – **John 14:6**
 - And Jesus gives us the TRUTH – through His WORD – **John 17:17**
 - Just because a pastor says something – does not mean it is TRUE...
 - We need to REMEMBER - the Bible has ALL the answers – ONLY the Bible is TRUTH...
 - And we should be going back to the TRUTH – to verify anything a pastors says!
 - **Acts 17:11** - “Search the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things are so.”
 - By the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ!
 - JUDE is specific as to which WORDS [Bible verses] we are to REMEMBER...
 - We are to REMEMBER the WORDS spoken to us by the APOSTLES [ἀπόστολος] of Jesus...
 - The APOSTLES gave us TWO warning about FALSE pastors!

o 2nd – MOCKERS... vs. 18

- How they told you that there would be mockers!
 - The APOSTLES – constantly [imperfect] TOLD us that there would be MOCKERS...
 - Quoting from the APOSTLE Peter - **II Peter 3:3**
 - MOCKERS [ἐμπαίκτης] – 2x in NT - the noun form of the verb to MOCK...
 - MOCK [ἐμπαίζω] - 13x in NT – all but two of them in relation to crucifying Jesus...
 - The gist of the word being someone who MOCKS those who believe in Jesus...
 - Going on to quote from Peter – they MOCK those who believe Jesus is coming back!
 - **II Peter 3:4** – “Saying - Where is the promise of His coming!”
 - It has been 2000 years since Jesus walked the earth – and He still has NOT returned...
 - The argument is if He has NOT come yet – then maybe He NEVER will!
 - As Jesus drew near the Jerusalem for the final time - He wept over it - **Luke 19:41**
 - Israel was expected to recognize Jesus as the promised Messiah because...
 - Because they had even been told THE EXACT DAY He would arrive – **Daniel 9:25**
 - 173,880 days after the command to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem - **Nehemiah 2:1**
 - The Jews were all very religious - they all went to church every week...
 - But very few of them actually knew their Bible – so they missed Jesus!
 - We are NOT waiting for the RETURN of Jesus – we are waiting for the RAPTURE...
 - BEFORE the TRIBULATION – BEFORE the SECOND coming of Jesus...
 - The CHURCH must be RAPTURED [ἀρπάζω] - **I Thessalonians 4:14-17**
 - No one KNOWS the day or hour of - only the Father in heaven - **Mark 13:32**
 - But we can see the SIGNS of the times – and KNOW we are close...
 - The question is – are we READY!
 - **I John 3:3** – “Everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself...”
- [Because we are] in the last time!
 - The LAST TIME [χρόνος] – synonymous with the term LAST DAYS...
 - Which began when the Holy Spirit was poured out on Pentecost - **Acts 2:17**
 - And will continue right up to the rapture of the church – **I Thessalonians 4:16**
 - In between these TWO events are the LAST DAYS – when HARD times will come!
 - **II Timothy 3:1** – “In the last days [VIOLENT] times will come...”
 - Satan knows his time is SHORT – so he is trying his hardest...
 - He has become VIOLENT – hold nothing back – to try and keep people from God...
 - We need to KNOW – not underestimate the dangerous times we live in!
- [Because these MOCKERS] walk according to their own ungodly lusts!
 - The MOTIVE of these MOCKERS – is to walk after their own ungodly LUSTS [ἐπιθυμία]
 - In other words those who MOCK the coming of Jesus – are not trying to HELP ...
 - MOCKERS do NOT want Jesus to return – because they only live for themselves!
 - **Philippians 3:17-19** - “They are enemies of the Christ. Their future is eternal destruction. Their god is their appetite... all they think about is this life...”

o 3rd – Divisive... vs. 19

- These [men] cause divisions!
 - The SECOND thing the APOSTLES told us FALSE pastors do – is cause DIVISION...
 - We do not have a specific verse that we can point to that Jude is quoting from...
 - DIVISIONS [ἀποδιόρίζω] – only appears here NT – means to DRAW boundaries!
 - The idea being FALSE pastors DIVIDE by DRAWING lines between denominations...
 - The church across the street believes THIS – but we believe THAT...
 - Therefore we cannot cross the LINE – and cannot have fellowship together!
 - Satan knows that a house that is DIVIDED cannot stand...

- If there is DIVISION in the Body of Christ – we lose our WITNESS...
- Rather than represent the LOVE of Jesus – we instead display CONTEMPT...
- Therefore FALSE pastors try and sow DIVISION into the CHURCH!
- **Matthew 12:25** – “Every kingdom divided against itself... will not stand.”
- [Because they] are sensual - not having the Spirit!
 - SENSUAL – [ψυχικός] – to be governed by the NATURAL mind...
 - Where we get the word PSYCHOLOGY - the study of the psyche – natural mind [ψυχή]
 - But NOTE – those who look for answers in the NATURAL [ψυχή] – do not have the SPIRIT!
 - **I Corinthians 2:14** – “The natural man [ψυχικός] does not receive the things of the Spirit of God - for they are foolishness to him...”
 - There is a HUGE moment in the church today to run to PSYCHOLOGY for answers...
 - When someone is depressed – or has anxiety – or relational problems...
 - They are encouraged to go to COUNSELORS – trained PSYCHOLOGISTS...
 - The problem is PSYCHOLOGY tries to answer the PROBLEM – without the ONLY solution!
 - Almost EVERY challenge we can face in life stems from ONE source – our SIN...
 - And the ONLY answer for our SIN – is Jesus...
 - When someone suggests we can get help through a PROGRAM – or MEDICATION...
 - They are trying to solve a SPIRITUAL problem – with NATURAL [ψυχικός] solution...
 - They are FALSE pastors – and DIVISIVE – because they keep us from Christ!

● 2ND – REBUILD... vs. 20-21

o 1st – Holy Faith... vs. 20

- But you – beloved - building yourselves up on your most holy faith!
 - But you BELOVED [ἀγαπητός] – for the SECOND time addressing TRUE believers...
 - We must not only REMEMBER – the TWO words spoken by the APOSTLES...
 - SECOND - we must also make sure our FAITH is BUILT on a SOLID foundation...
 - BUILDING [ἐποικοδομέω] our house – upon the HOLY [ἅγιος] faith!
 - When we build a HOUSE – we want to make sure it has a good FOUNDATION...
 - That way if a TYPHOON happens to blow through – we KNOW it will STAND!
 - In the same way we want to make sure our FAITH has a good FOUNDATION...
 - That way when the STRONG winds of FALSE pastors come blowing through...
 - We are NOT moved – because we built upon the ROCK!
 - **Psalms 62:6** – “[Jesus] only is my rock and my salvation... I shall not be moved.”
- Praying in the Holy Spirit!
 - How do we BUILD our foundation on the ROCK...
 - PRAYING [προσεύχομαι] - to come and share our heart with God...
 - NOT just an occasional PRAYER – it is CONTINUAL [present] PRAYER...
 - PRAYER for God to give us His GRACE – so we can be STRONG in our FAITH!
 - When Paul gave his final teaching to the Ephesian elders at Miletus...
 - He turned them over to the GRACE of God – which could BUILD them up!
 - **Acts 20:32** – “I commend you to God and to the word of His GRACE - which is able to build [ἐποικοδομέω] you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.”
 - FAITH is the KEY that opens up the door to the GRACE of God...
 - But what is the GIFT [χάρις] that God gives to us by FAITH – His SPIRIT...
 - We PRAY for the HOLY Spirit to come and FILL us – so we can stand up for Jesus...
 - If we are struggling to live for Jesus – PRAY to the father and ask for the SPIRIT – **Luke 11:13**
 - He is the one who gives us the POWER – to live a HOLY [ἅγιος] life!

o 2nd – Love of God... vs. 21

- Keep yourselves in the love of God!

- You who are in the LOVE [ἀγάπη] of God – MUST [imperative] be on GUARD [τηρέω]
- We are SAVED – we have been given the LOVE of the Father...
- But we still LIVE in a fallen world – and wake up every day in a SINFUL body...
- So there are CONSTANT temptations – that try and DISTRACT us from Jesus...
- We need to GUARD ourselves – so we do NOT walk away from the LOVE of God!

▪ Looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life!

- The way we GUARD ourselves – is by LOOKING for MERCY...
- LOOKING [προσδέχομαι] to eagerly EXPECT a promise to be fulfilled...
- God has PROMISED us MERCY [ἔλεος] – NOT getting the JUDGEMENT we DESERVE...
- Because although we are going to make MISTAKES – there is FORGIVENESS!
- CONVICTION is GOOD - the work of the Spirit telling us to REPENT – look to Jesus...
- CONDEMNATION is BAD - focusing on our failures – looking to our sin...
- When we are FOCUSED on our mistakes - we are NOT looking to Jesus...
- We are CONDEMNING ourselves - even though God says we are NOT guilty...
- We just NEED to get our eyes off ourselves - and put them back onto Jesus...
- LOOKING to the MERCY of God – so we can be BUILT up in His LOVE!
- I John 3:20 - “If our heart condemns us - God is greater than our heart.”

● 3RD – RESCUE... vs. 22-25

o 1st – Have compassion... vs. 22

▪ Helping others...

- THIRD – we are also to come along side of our BROTHERS and SISTERS in the FAITH...
- Because we are CALLED to come along side BELIEVERS who are struggling – Galatians 6:1
- HOW we help – depends on the HOW the person is STRUGGLING!

▪ On some have compassion - making a distinction!

- On SOME – we are to have MERCY [ἔλεος]
- Meaning we do NOT give them what they DESERVE...
- But we need to DISCERN – we JUDGE [διακρίνω] - how we can best HELP!
- We should not RUSH in to JUDGE others for their SIN...
- We should show them the same MERCY we have received from God...
- Because we are NOT to seek JUSTICE – we are called to live in LOVE!

o 2nd – Pull from the fire... vs. 23

▪ But others save with fear!

- On OTHERS – we do not give MERCY – we give them FEAR [φόβος]
- The FEAR of God – the FEAR of sin – the FEAR of ending up in Hell!
- I was getting Hallel ready for school the other morning - playing around with her...
- She was having fun and did not want to stop – so said somewhat playfully...
- Mom said I did NOT have to go to school...
- I noticed – the moment she said it – she had to back away from me!
- When we chose to SIN – the instant effect is it causes us to back away from our FATHER...
- We KNOW what we did was WRONG – and it separates us from Him...
- The solution is simply – REPENT – we immediately are comfortable coming back to Him...
- That is why - if someone is STRUGGLING with SIN – then we need to WARN them...
- Because SIN will HARDEN our hearts – SEPARATE us from God – Hebrews 3:13
- And if we do NOT repent – we can get so HARD – we are in danger of being JUDGED!
- Hebrews 10:31 – “It is a fearful [φόβος] thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”

▪ Pulling them out of the fire!

- This is an INTERESTING phrase – it might mean one of TWO things...
- FIRST – the word PULLING [ἀρπάζω] – is the word RAPTURE – I Thessalonians 4:17

- When we bring the FEAR of God to someone – and they REPENT...
- We allow them to be RAPTURED – so they do NOT have to go through the FIRE [Tribulation]
- SECOND - when we bring the FEAR of God to someone – and they REPENT...
- It PULLS them out of the FIRES of HELL – saved from ETERNAL judgment!
- Either intercession serves to give us proper motivation – we NEED to reach out to others...
- We do NOT want anyone to go through the TRIBULATION...
- And we certainly do NOT want anyone to go to HELL...
- Ignoring SIN – is NOT the solution for SIN – we are CALLED to HELP...
- When we see a brother or sister caught up in the world – not living for Jesus...
- It is our responsibility to come alongside them to WARN them!
- **Galatians 6:1-2** – “If a man is overtaken in any trespass - you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness... Bear one another burdens - and so fulfill the law of Christ.”
- Hating even the garment defiled by the flesh!
 - We HELP – but we are CAREFUL...
 - HATING [strong word] the SIN – that could also DEFILE [σπιλόω] us!
 - Often when people are caught up in sin - they are not comfortable coming to church...
 - They think everyone knows - and is talking about what they did - so they stay away...
 - It is our responsibility to GO to them – REACH them where they are...
 - If they are WANDERING around the plaza - WANDER with them!
 - We do need to be careful - we do not want to get caught up in the sins of others...
 - We do NOT get sucked what they are doing - but go and share Jesus with them!
 - **Galatians 6:1** – “Considering yourself lest you also be tempted...”
- o 3rd – One solution... vs. 24
 - Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling!
 - WHAT do we give to those who are STRUGGLING with SIN...
 - We point them to the ONE – who has the POWER [δύναμις] – to KEEP [active] them...
 - ONLY Jesus can keep people from STUMBLING [passive]!
 - We ALL like to be the HERO – swoop in when a FRIEND is in trouble...
 - It FEELS nice to be the solution to their PROBLEM!
 - Men would much rather look to someone they can touch and see...
 - Therefore they are much more inclined to TRUST in a MAN than GOD...
 - The PROBLEM is we are LIMITED – we cannot keep people from STUMBLING...
 - We CANNOT change desires – we CANNOT transform the HEART...
 - We are a VERY poor substitute for Jesus – He is the ONLY answer!
 - And to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy!
 - Jesus does not just have the POWER to help NOT stumble...
 - He is also the ONLY one who can CAUSE [active] us to STAND [ἵστημι]
 - FAULTLESS [ἄμωμος] - without SPOT – in His GLORIOUS [δόξα] presence...
 - With EXCEEDING Joy [from the root ἄλλομαι] – to JUMP a LOT!
 - We will ALL stand before God one day – WHITE throne – **Revelation 20:11**
 - SADLY for many – it will NOT be a GOOD day...
 - But for those who came to Jesus – even if they STRUGGLED...
 - They will find they are FORGIVE – NO spots – through the CROSS of Christ...
 - And there will be a LOT of LEAPING – because HEAVEN is our DESTINATION!
- o 4th – Our GOD... vs. 25
 - To God our Savior [through Jesus Christ our Lord]
 - JUDE concludes his SHORT epistle – by telling us EXACTLY why Jesus is the ANSWER...
 - Depending on the translation you are READING – there are some VARIATIONS here...

- The difference are between the TR and NU [MGNT] texts!
- The ONLY [μόνος] God – there is NO other answer to our problem of FALSE pastors...
- He is ONLY [μόνος] one who can SAVE [σωτήρ] us from our SINS...
- He does it through Jesus Christ [NU] – who is our Lord [κύριος]!
- Who alone is wise!
 - WISE God [TR] – He is the source of all WISDOM [σοφός] – no PROBLEM is too HARD!
 - We are NEVER going to face any LIE – or and SIN – that is TOO much for God...
 - It is a guarantee – when we go to Him – point others to Him – He has the ANSWER!
- Be glory and majesty - dominion and power!
 - Jesus is our GLORY – He is the ONLY one who allows us to SHINE [δόξα]
 - Jesus is our GREATNESS [from root μέγας] – we will only do GREAT things if we are in Jesus...
 - Jesus is our POWER [κράτος] – He is the source of ALL of our POWER
 - Jesus is our AUTHORITY [ἐξουσία] – He is the one who REIGNS over ALL!
- [Before all ages] - now and forever. Amen!
 - When is Jesus the RIGHT solution to EVERY problem...
 - BEFORE all ages [NU] – Jesus has been the ANSWER since BEFORE time began – **Genesis 1:1**
 - NOW – Jesus is the ANSWER today – no matter what the PROBLEM might be...
 - FOREVER – Jesus will ALWAYS be the ANSWER...
 - To which JUDE finishes up by saying – AMEN [ἡνῶν] – this is the TRUTH!