

Series: Jude

Message: How to Contend

Scripture: Jude 17-25

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Date: 7/8 November 2015

Jude 17-25

17 But you must remember, beloved, the predictions of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ.

18 They said to you, "In the last time there will be scoffers, following their own ungodly passions."

19 It is these who cause divisions, worldly people, devoid of the Spirit.

20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit,

21 keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.

22 And have mercy on those who doubt;

23 save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

24 Now unto him who is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

25 To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

I. Remember the predictions of the apostles (17-19)

There will be scoffers

They will follow their own ungodly passions

They will cause divisions

They will be worldly people

They will be devoid of the Spirit

"Love for God cannot thrive when believers devote all their attention to the deficiencies of others."

– Thomas Schreiner

II. Keep yourselves in the love of God (20-21)

Build yourselves up in your most holy faith (20a)

1 Corinthians 15:10

¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.

Philippians 2:12-13

¹² Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Pray in the Holy Spirit (20b)

Wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ (21)

Waiting on the Lord (Dan 12:12; Mic 7:7; Hab 2:3; Tit 2:13)

III. Extend mercy to “the called” who have been effected by the false teachers (22-23)

Have mercy on those who doubt (22)

Snatch others out of the fire (23a)

“Oh, my brothers and sisters in Christ, if sinners will be damned, at least let them leap to hell over our bodies; and if they will perish, let them perish with our arms about their knees, imploring them to stay, and not madly to destroy themselves. If hell must be filled, at least let it be filled in the teeth of our exertions, and let not one go there unwarned and unprayed for.”

– Charles Spurgeon “The Wailing of Risca” December 9, 1860

Show mercy with fear to those entrenched in sin (23b)

IV. Now unto Him (24-25)

Who is able to keep you from falling (24a)

Who is able to present you faultless before the presence of his glory
with exceeding joy (24b)

To the only wise God (25a)

Our Savior (25b)

Be glory and majesty (25c)

Dominion and power (25d)

Both now and forever. Amen (25e)