

Pastor Dave – Sunday Sun 125th August

A study in the book of Jude – Verses 5 - 20

Contending for The Faith.

Jude 5-20 Christian Standard Bible

Apostates: Past and Present

⁵ Now I want to remind you, although you came to know all these things once and for all, that Jesus^[a] saved a people out of Egypt and later destroyed those who did not believe; ⁶ and the angels who did not keep their own position but abandoned their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains in deep darkness for the judgment on the great day. ⁷ Likewise, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding towns committed sexual immorality and perversions,^[b] and serve as an example by undergoing the punishment of eternal fire.

⁸ In the same way these people—relying on their dreams—defile their flesh, reject authority, and slander glorious ones. ⁹ Yet when Michael the archangel was disputing with the devil in an argument about Moses's body, he did not dare utter a slanderous condemnation against him but said, "The Lord rebuke you!" ¹⁰ But these people blaspheme anything they do not understand. And what they do understand by instinct—like irrational animals—by these things they are destroyed. ¹¹ Woe to them! For they have gone the way of Cain, have plunged into Balaam's error for profit, and have perished in Korah's rebellion.

The Apostates' Doom

¹² These people are dangerous reefs^[c] at your love feasts as they eat with you without reverence. They are shepherds who only look after themselves. They are waterless clouds carried along by winds; trees in late autumn—fruitless, twice dead and uprooted. ¹³ They are wild waves of the sea, foaming up their shameful deeds; wandering stars for whom the blackness of darkness is reserved forever.

¹⁴ It was about these that Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied: "Look! The Lord comes with tens of thousands of his holy ones ¹⁵ to execute judgment on all and to convict all the ungodly concerning all the ungodly acts that they have done in an ungodly way, and concerning all the harsh things ungodly sinners have said against him." ¹⁶ These people are discontented grumblers, living according to their desires; their mouths utter arrogant words, flattering people for their own advantage. ¹⁷ But you, dear friends, remember what was predicted by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ They told you, "In the end time there will be scoffers living according to their own ungodly desires." ¹⁹ These people create divisions and are worldly, not having the Spirit.

Exhortation and Benediction

²⁰ But you, dear friends, as you build yourselves up in your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,

Jason Jimenez – Hijacking Jesus Book Progressive Christianity Movement and how it is hijacking Jesus.

Focusing in on six areas.

1. Divinity
2. Virgin Birth
3. Miracles
4. Atonement
5. Resurrection
6. Second Coming

Reference, he uses – writing the questions.

Quote he gives – from book – Living the Question

The wisdom of progressive Christianity = where two leaders of the progressive church David Felton and Jeff Proctor-Murphy write this way...

“Christians who want to take Jesus seriously need to take his humanity seriously, for Jesus has revealed what it means to be fully human. By living into the fulness of his humanity Jesus demonstrated in a way of being that could be only described by his followers as divine.

As Athanasius suggested even in the 4th century, he became what we are to make us what he is. Felton and Procter Murphy make it sound as though they're fighting to keep Jesus at the centre of Christianity, which quite frankly Can and does confuse Christians. Progressive Christians can pepper Jesus' humanity with majestic language all they want but, in the end, still consider him only a human being not the second person of the godhead.

Jason Jimenez is highlighting imposters in the Christian Church.

- Shrewd and secretive enough to make it sound like Christianity, but they are not.
- Others are much more blatant in their attacks on Christianity.

Jude wants to remind the saints that there is judgment in store for those who claim the name of Christ.

One Pastor described apostates this way...

“He said heretics are those who say that they believe something but live differently”.

They tend to do that in a very secretive way apostates, don't even put on the show anymore.

- They don't even put on a show anymore.

Jude is talking about – stand for teaching how they live.

- Having a get out of jail free card.
- Jesus not the ruler of their lives – they...

Jude wanting to remind them that these imposters will be judged by God – as he has judged imposters in the past.

First thing to see - The judgement of the adversaries.

Jude giving Old Testament examples.

1. The Israelites – Verse 5 – Jude in that statement saying that Jesus is God. Confirming the divinity of Christ. Jude says Jesus brought them out – Why – because Jesus is God.

[Jude 5-7 Christian Standard Bible](#)

⁵ Now I want to remind you, although you came to know all these things once and for all, that Jesus^[a] saved a people out of Egypt and later destroyed those who did not believe; ⁶ and the angels who did not keep their own position but abandoned their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains in deep darkness for the judgment on the great day. ⁷ Likewise, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding towns committed sexual immorality and perversions,^[b] and serve as an example by undergoing the punishment of eternal fire.

2. later destroyed those who did not believe;

- Referring to the Book of Numbers.

Numbers 14:36-45 Christian Standard Bible

³⁶ So the men Moses sent to scout out the land, and who returned and incited the entire community to complain about him by spreading a negative report about the land— ³⁷ those men who spread the negative report about the land were struck down by the Lord. ³⁸ Only Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh remained alive of those men who went to scout out the land.

Israel Routed

³⁹ When Moses reported these words to all the Israelites, the people were overcome with grief. ⁴⁰ They got up early the next morning and went up the ridge of the hill country, saying, “Let’s go to the place the Lord promised, for we were wrong.”

⁴¹ But Moses responded, “Why are you going against the Lord’s command? It won’t succeed. ⁴² Don’t go, because the Lord is not among you and you will be defeated by your enemies. ⁴³ The Amalekites and Canaanites are right in front of you, and you will fall by the sword. The Lord won’t be with you, since you have turned from following him.”

⁴⁴ But they dared to go up the ridge of the hill country, even though the ark of the Lord’s covenant and Moses did not leave the camp. ⁴⁵ Then the Amalekites and Canaanites who lived in that part of the hill country came down, attacked them, and routed them as far as Hormah.

- They constantly complained.

Totally forgetting that they were slaves.

- Beaten by the Egyptians.
- Never trusting God through any of this.

They didn’t believe in the God promised them victory in the promise land.

- God who entered a covenant relationship with them.

Hebrews 3:16-19 Christian Standard Bible

¹⁶ For who heard and rebelled? Wasn’t it all who came out of Egypt under Moses? ¹⁷ With whom was God angry for forty years? Wasn’t it with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? ¹⁸ And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, if not to those who disobeyed? ¹⁹ So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.

- This affirms what Jude is saying.

Example 1 – Those who are unbelieving that will be judged.

Example 2 – The angels who fell.

We learn about the angels that rebelled against God and God casts them out along with Satan.

We learn about that in Ezekial Ch 28 – Revelation 12 tells that.

2 Peter and Jude – seem to be connecting these fallen angels with Genesis Ch 6:1-4.

Jewish understanding of this passage.

- That these were fallen angels and Jude is connecting that.

[Jude 6 Christian Standard Bible](#)

[⁶and the angels who did not keep their own position but abandoned their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains in deep darkness for the judgment on the great day.](#)

We see a correlation as we see scripture to interpret.

These specific angels have a judgment that has already been given to them. They are kept in chains.

- When interacting with Jesus what do they ask him what he is there to do?

Are you there to torment us in the abyss?

Many scholars are referring to judge of these particular angels – are you going to do to us what you did to them? As Jesus casts them into the swine.

This goes back to the nature of these false teachers.

- Angels that fell under perverted lusts – those things unnatural and God judged them.

3rd – Old Testament Example.

- Sodom and Gomorrah

Jude 7 Christian Standard Bible

⁷ Likewise, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding towns committed sexual immorality and perversions,^[a] and serve as an example by undergoing the punishment of eternal fire.

- Perversion – another...
- Went after other flesh.

Reference made to Genesis 19

They were judged on their sexual immorality.

- Wanting to love who they wanted to love.
- Homosexuality.
- Reading God and His standards
-

Imposters having turned the grace of God into sexual immorality.

These imposters are designated for this judgement.

- Serve as an example of going under the punishment of eternal fire.
- Reminding the saints that these imposters are going to be Judged by God.

God will deal with them!

Point # 2 – The Character of These Adversaries.

Jude 8-16 Christian Standard Bible

Apostates: Past and Present

⁸ In the same way these people—relying on their dreams—defile their flesh, reject authority, and slander glorious ones. ⁹ Yet when Michael the archangel was disputing with the devil in an argument about Moses’s body, he did not dare utter a slanderous condemnation against him but said, “The Lord rebuke you!” ¹⁰ But these people blaspheme anything they do not understand. And what they do understand by instinct—like irrational animals—by these things they are destroyed. ¹¹ Woe to them! For they have gone the way of Cain, have plunged into Balaam’s error for profit, and have perished in Korah’s rebellion.

The Apostates' Doom

¹² These people are dangerous reefs^[a] at your love feasts as they eat with you without reverence. They are shepherds who only look after themselves. They are waterless clouds carried along by winds; trees in late autumn—fruitless, twice dead and uprooted. ¹³ They are wild waves of the sea, foaming up their shameful deeds; wandering stars for whom the blackness of darkness is reserved forever.

¹⁴ It was about these that Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied: “Look! The Lord comes with tens of thousands of his holy ones ¹⁵ to execute judgment on all and to convict all the ungodly concerning all the ungodly acts that they have done in an ungodly way, and concerning all the harsh things ungodly sinners have said against him.” ¹⁶ These people are discontented grumblers, living according to their desires; their mouths utter arrogant words, flattering people for their own advantage.

These people!

- Defile their flesh.
- They reject authority
- They slander the glorious ones.

Relying on their dreams.

- Using their dreams their spiritual insight as an excuse to do what they are doing wrong.

Justified by...

“I had a vision from God”.

- Not going to the word of God.
- Saying – “My visions supersede the word of God”.

Pastor Dave has been interacting with some folks recently who were very clearly not following the word of God as it is taught – with some of the things they were practising.

When confronted with this – “The word of God says this – how do you reconcile what it is that you are doing and teaching with the word of God”.

Their response – ‘Well I pray to the Lord and the Lord tells me this and so that is what I do’!

Rejecting the authority of the word of God.

- They slandered the glorious ones.

With those who have studied this out there is still some questions as to what is meant by this phrase.

It could be that this ties into what comes next.

- Downplaying the ministry that the angels had.
- Mocking demonic activity like it was a joke – not taking it seriously.
- Mocking anything to do with God.
- Rationalising it and excusing it away – saying “I had a vision from God”.

This is character of the adversaries here.

[11 Woe to them! For they have gone the way of Cain, have plunged into Balaam's error for profit, and have perished in Korah's rebellion.](#)

He pauses.

- They defile their own flesh.
- They deny authority.
- They are dangerous reefs.

He pronounces three woes on them.

- They follow after the way of Kane.

Question – What is the way of Kane?

First born son of Adam and Eve.

Kane and Abel bring sacrifices before the Lord.

Abel's sacrifice acceptable to the Lord – offering a Lamb.

- Consistent with the Old Testament scriptures – worship of the OT saints.

Kane as a farmer he offered vegetables – God rejected his sacrifice.

- Thinking that his sacrifice was acceptable - being self-righteous – acceptable to God – but it wasn't what God commanded of him or what was required of him.

When God confronts him – he gets angry and kills his brother!

Unrepentant – The idea of the way of Kane – Self Righteous – Religion devoid of saving faith – and unrepentant for his sin!

Following after the error of Balaam.

Numbers Ch 22 – 24 – is where you would learn about Balaam.

A diviner – a soothsayer – spoke for the demonic idols of the lands.

Imposters are greedy.

To see what they could get out of it.

Balaam leveraged his influence as faith leader as a prophet – for the Gods and Idols.

- Think about the gravity of who these characters are.

Lastly, they are guilty of their rebellion of Korah.

Korah the son of Levi – prominent Israelite men.

Numbers 16:2 Christian Standard Bible

²two hundred fifty prominent Israelite men who were leaders of the community and representatives in the assembly, and they rebelled against Moses.

³They came together against Moses and Aaron and told them, “You have gone too far! Everyone in the entire community is holy, and the Lord is among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the Lord’s assembly?”

- He must protest too much! – Shakespearian phrase!

The one who is guilty is guilty of what he is accusing the other of.

“Hey Aaron – hey Moses – e think you are exalting yourselves too much – we think we should be the leaders”.

God says to Moses – tell those guys to come to tent of meeting.

Paraphrasing...

God says to Moses “Just step over a little bit”!

Because God appointed Moses and Aaron to the leaders of the people. These people were rebellious and wanted to have it themselves.

Same idea as these imposters in the church – they wanted to be the leaders – they rejected authority – they thought they should be running the show.

Jude goes on Verse 12

¹² These people are dangerous reefs^[a] at your love feasts as they eat with you without reverence. They are shepherds who only look after themselves. They are waterless clouds carried along by winds; trees in late autumn—fruitless, twice dead and uprooted.

Stealthily causing destruction in the church.

When the church celebrated communion – these people were eating a meal with believers – passing themselves off like they are like everybody else in the church.

- All the while undermining the church and causing descension.

Then taking part in communion like everyone else – making themselves out to be super reverent. Trying to look like the believers who were taking the Lord’s supper seriously.

- Selfish Shepherds who only look after themselves.

All they wanted to do, was have positions of prominence in the church.

Question - Why? – For personal gain.

- Waterless clouds – having nothing to offer.
- Fruitless trees – dead – no fruit to bear.

Uprooted trees.

Wild Waves –

Isaiah 57:21 Christian Standard Bible
21 There is no peace for the wicked,”
says my God.

- Stir up junk.
- No peace.
- No contentment.

Wandering stars.

- Helping us to understand the judgement to come.
- Their destiny.
- Judged by God.
- Will go to Hell.

14 It was about these that Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied:
“Look! The Lord comes with tens of thousands of his holy ones 15 to execute judgment
on all and to convict all the ungodly concerning all the ungodly acts that they have done
in an ungodly way, and concerning all the harsh things ungodly sinners have said
against him.”

- In what they say and do.
- Demonstrating how ungodly they are.

16 These people are discontented grumblers, living according to their desires; their
mouths utter arrogant words, flattering people for their own advantage.

This is the character of the imposters.

Part # 3 – He calls the believers to contend with these adversaries.

Contending is in a few different ways.

- They are called to be mindful and alert.

Verses 17-19

¹⁷ But you, dear friends, remember what was predicted by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ They told you, “In the end time there will be scoffers living according to their own ungodly desires.” ¹⁹ These people create divisions and are worldly, not having the Spirit.

A) Be Mindful and Alert.

- Then ungodly people will be in our churches.

It would be ignorant for us to think that at times through the course of the life of TLC there haven't been people here who have been trying to stir up trouble – teaching things that are unbiblical.

Important to share – That recently there have been a few occasions where we have had Mormon missionaries that have come into our service and sat with our people and have engaged with them before and after the service, about Mormonism.

Joseph Smith said this...

We have imagined and supposed that God was God from all eternity, I will refute that idea. And I will take away and do away the vale, so that you may see.

The fifth president of the LDS said this...

As a man is, God once was, as God is man may become.

We need to be mindful of those who say things that sound right, but that are not based on the word of God.

B) We need to be growing.

If we are to catch what is false is if we know the truth – we need to be growing.

What does Jude say here?

Exhortation and Benediction

²⁰ But you, dear friends, as you build yourselves up in your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,

As you! – that sense of ongoing.

“Hey folks you need to be in the word of God, you need to be building up you most holy faith”

This is why we have bible studies outside of Sunday mornings

- If we think that we are going to be built up by coming to one service once a week we are sorely mistaken!
- If with the little bit of time that we have on a Sunday morning to be taught the word of God, we just don't get into it. We often reflect on things like – “This passage is too deep” to get into everything about it in one sitting.

Is studying the Word of God at least 4 days a week. In the lives of people who do this...

- Divorce is low, low, low.
- Children living for Christ is high.
- Depression and anxiety are low.

The flip side!

One day a week.

- Divorce high – that of the world around us.
- Children not living for Christ or walking away.
- Depression and Anxiety are high.

Reality – we as followers of the Lord Jesus Christ are blessed and grow and benefit from being in the word of God on regular basis.

- Then we are not prone to fall to those that come at us and sound a lot like Christianity – if we are growing and building ourselves up in the most holy faith.

We are commanded to pray in the spirit.

- Being people of prayer – on our knees.

What makes Satan scared is when a believer is on their knees in prayer – seeking what God wants.

Keep yourselves in the love of God.

- Living in such a way that we are expecting Jesus Christ to come back at any moment.
- Living in obedience to the Lord – bowing our knee to Jesus saying...

“You are the master and lord of our life – what you say goes”.

C) We to be engaging.

[Jude 22-23 Christian Standard Bible](#)

[²² Have mercy on those who waver; ²³ save others by snatching them from the fire; have mercy on others but with fear, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.](#)

3 groups of people engaging.

- Mercy on those who are doubting.

You need to be communing with your church to know who is wavering.

[²³ save others by snatching them from the fire; have mercy on others but with fear, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.](#)

Those who have embraced some of this error.

- Snatching them out of the fire.

Helping them to see who the Lord Jesus Christ really is.

[Zechariah 3:2-5 Christian Standard Bible](#)

[² The Lord^{\[a\]} said to Satan, “The Lord rebuke you, Satan! May the Lord who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Isn’t this man a burning stick snatched from the fire?”](#)

[³ Now Joshua was dressed with filthy^{\[b\]} clothes as he stood before the angel. ⁴ So the angel of the Lord^{\[a\]} spoke to those^{\[d\]} standing before him, “Take off his filthy clothes!” Then he said to him, “See, I have removed your iniquity from you, and I will clothe you with festive robes.”](#)

⁵ Then I said, “Let them put a clean turban on his head.” So a clean turban was placed on his head, and they clothed him in garments while the angel of the Lord was standing nearby.

Joshua being redeemed rescued from his sin.

Verse 23b - have mercy on others but with fear, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

We really need to know our stuff if we are going to engage these people.

- They prey on people who don't know!

D) Lastly – We Need to be Worshipping.

Jude 24-25 Christian Standard Bible

²⁴ Now to him who is able to protect you from stumbling and to make you stand in the presence of his glory, without blemish and with great joy, ²⁵ to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord,^[a] be glory, majesty, power, and authority before all time,^[b] now and forever. Amen.

We need to be worshipping Almighty God in spirit and in truth – focus and obey the only one who is able to protect and present us blameless.

Praise Him constantly for His greatness – His Glory – Splendor and all things sufficient and good.

Majesty – the impressive greatness of the King of Kings.

Power – He has dominion – He has sovereignty over all things – God is the one who is ultimately in control and all powerful.

God can deal with the imposters – He can save the lost.

Authority – the ability to do as He wills, and we need to submit to that.

Challenge – Christian - Are we being mindful, are we growing, are we engaging, are we worshipping? We need to be!