

McCoy Memorial Baptist Church

Date: August 16, 2020

Summer Quarter: Zealous for the Truth

Title: "A Call to Arms: Contending for the Faith"

Scripture: Jude 1-9

INTRODUCTION:

Jude writes a letter of concern from a heart of love & understanding. While written to first-century believers, the message of the book, as with all the Scriptures, transcends time. Christians in every age need to contend for "the faith," avoid the doctrinal and moral pitfalls that Jude warns about and live distinctively Christian lives.

THE _____ OF FALSE TEACHERS (Jude 1-4)

1. The letter writer (vv. 1, 2)
 - A. He is "the brother of James."
 - B. Jude's letter is NOT written to a specific church. It is among the nine General Epistles.
 - C. Jude's greeting (v. 2)
 - D. Jude's _____
 - 1) A call to arms (vv. 1-7)
 - 2) Meet the apostates (vv. 8-16)
 - 3) You don't have to stumble (vv. 17-25)
2. The _____ (vv. 3, 4)
 - A. Jude's initial subject (3a).
 - B. His subject, however, changes. He exhorts them to "contend for the faith once for all entrusted to the saints" (3b).

"the faith" = the body of truth that the Scriptures teach. Paul warned that some would abandon the faith (1 Tim. 4: 1). The apostles had a definitive role in delivering the faith through their teaching, preaching & writing. God in grace &

wisdom has provided thru special revelation a distinct body of truth, which we embrace by personal faith.

Four things are said about "the faith" . . .

- 1) It is something which is delivered to us.
- 2) It is something "once for all" delivered to us.
- 3) It is something that is entrusted to the saints.
- 4) It is something that must be fought for earnestly.

- C. The _____ Jude is compelled to change his subject (4)
Certain men have secretly slipped into the fellowship with a different kind of Christianity. This infiltration poses a serious danger to doctrinal and moral purity in the church.

"they are godless men"

"they change the grace of God into a license for immorality"

"they deny Jesus Christ our only sovereign and Lord"

THE _____ OF FALSE TEACHERS (Jude 5-7)

Compare vs. 4a: "for certain men whose condemnation was written about long ago" (or, "certain men who were marked out for condemnation"). "The reference may be to OT denunciations of ungodly men or to Enoch's prophecy (14-15). Or Jude may mean that judgment has long been about to fall on them because of their sin (NIV text note and 2 Pet. 2:3, which may be a clarification of this clause here).

1. The first example is taken from Israel's history (5).
An entire generation of Israelites fell in the wilderness after having been delivered from Egyptian bondage.
2. The second example is that of fallen angels (6).
The judgment of the angels in Gen. 6:1-4, when they broke rank & stepped lustfully beyond their prescribed abode to cohabit with human women.
3. The third example is that of Sodom & Gomorrah (7).
The men of Sodom & Gomorrah engaged in a form of sexual relations that was unnatural to them, homosexuality. The term "strange flesh" means "different flesh" (see Rom. 1:26, 27).