

Having Compassion And Making A Difference

General Purpose: Motivation towards Evangelism

Connections:

Angle: A fresh word from God can make the difference in your walk

Purpose: To encourage people to notice those around them and influence their lives

Context: *The book of Jude has a strong warning against false teachings that crept into the church*

Jude 1:16-25 - A Call to Persevere - ¹⁶ These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling *words*, flattering people to gain advantage. ¹⁷ But you, beloved, **remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ:** ¹⁸ how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. ¹⁹ These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, **not having the Spirit.**

Maintain Your Life with God - ²⁰ But you, beloved, **building yourselves up** on your most holy faith, **praying in the Holy Spirit,** ²¹ **keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy** of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. ²² **And some have compassion, making a distinction;** ²³ but others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

Glory to God - ²⁴ **Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling,** and to present *you* faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, ²⁵ To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, *Be* glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever. Amen.

Written A.D. 67,68 probably in Jerusalem

The Spiritual thought: He is able!

Context of the book:

- Jude describes **false teachers who deny the Lord and give a license to sin.**
- He points out **their principles and practices** and gives O.T. illustrations of **sins leading to apostasy.**

Apostasy, the total rejection of Christianity by a baptized person who, having at one time professed the Christian faith, publicly rejects it.

- Israel's-unbelief
- Angels-rebellion
- Sodom and Gomorrah-immorality
- Cain-self will
- Balaam-covetousness
- Korah-rejection of God's authority

Summary: Jude sums up the awfulness of their sins and concludes that - ¹⁹ These are sensual people, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit.

- ***Believers are strongly encouraged to recognize their calling.***

The Name "Jude" means "he shall be praised."

Intro Thought:

Jude 1:17 - But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Contend for the Faith – Jude 1:3 - Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

Remember the words of the Apostles:

- **Earnestly contend:** Like an athlete who strives to victory
- **The Faith:** The sound doctrine, the truth of the gospel
- **Delivered:** The gospel that was approved and authorized by the apostles

Maintain Your Life with God – Jude 1:20-21 But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹ keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Building yourselves on your most holy faith: This is a reference to the freshness of doctrine, not the fruit of the Spirit. ***"Building" is a community effort.***

Christ Our Cornerstone – Eph. 2:19-22 Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, ²¹ in whom the whole

building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord,²² in whom **you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God** in the Spirit.

- Looking for mercy: Stand watch, be sober.
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A. THE SPIRIT WORKING WITH YOU MAKES THE DIFFERENCE:

Mark 16:20 - Then **the disciples went out** and **preached everywhere**, and **the Lord worked with them** and **confirmed his word** by the **signs that accompanied it**.

Seed Thought: *When we read the word of God and study out the gospels, there were 12 ordinary men who were trained and disciplined under the wing of Jesus.*

- They took the gospel message of saving grace, “**Having compassion.**”
- Within them and shook the world around them “**Making A difference.**”

1. **the disciples went out** = How did they get the passion?

Acts 1:9 - **Jesus Ascends to Heaven** - Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

- **(We need to receive our glimpse of glory)**

2. **Preached everywhere** = *That was their lifestyle*, that is **what was taught by Jesus himself**.

3. **The Lord working with them** = To be a fellow worker, **We’ve got the power, use your prayer tool** - **“In the name of Jesus”**

- In the name of Jesus, **you can bind that Spirit.**
- In the name of Jesus, **you can command that spirit to come out.**
- In the name of Jesus, **you can receive your miracle.**
- In the name of Jesus, **be healed.**
- In the name of Jesus, **receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit.**
- It’s in the name of Jesus, **we receive the forgiveness of sins.**
- **It’s in the name of Jesus that makes all the difference!**

4. **Confirming the word with signs following** = **Miracles will follow!**

Personal Application: We have the opportunity and are given the ability to make a difference in those that are around us.

B. TIMOTHY MAKES A DIFFERENCE:

1 Timothy 4:12 - Take Heed to Your Ministry - Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

1 Timothy 4:16 - Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.

- **In Word:** The doctrine
- **Conversation:** Behavior/lifestyle
- **In charity:** Love and how you treat others.
- **In Faith:** Your commitment to the work of God
- **Purity:** Holiness

Take heed (Take a hold) of the doctrine and make a difference in teaching and winning souls!

C. GOD PRESERVES, MAKES THE DIFFERENCE:

Jude 1:1 – Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James,

To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ:

The definition of the Greek word for sanctified means “to love in a social or moral sense.”

Jude 1:1 NIV To those who have been called, who are loved by God the Father and kept by Jesus Christ:

If you're tired of your life hitting a dead-end street, your sins shackled around your feet, trying to break that drug habit, let the Spirit of God move on you.

- **It will make all the difference in your life!**

Personal: I'm standing here years later, I haven't had drink, smoked any dope, or done any drugs. *It's the Spirit of God working in my life that keeps me “preserved”*

D. THE SPIRIT WORKING WITH YOU MAKES THE DIFFERENCE:

Having Jesus in your life makes all the difference:

- **You'll have a relationship that can never be abolished.**
- **A righteousness that can never be tarnished.**
- **An acceptance that can never be questioned.**
- **A standing that can never be shaken.**
- **A justification that can never be reversed.**
- **A seal that can never be broken.**
- **An inheritance that can never be alienated.**
- **A wealth that can never be depleted.**
- **A possession that can never be measured.**
- **A strength that can never be weakened.**

Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

E. WHAT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE IN A CHURCH SERVICE?

Instructions for the church:

There is a difference between religion and a relationship with God!

- Coming to church for prayer and having a prayer meeting, hearing a sermon, or hearing the preached word of God is one thing.....

BUT Having the fire, the power, and anointing makes all the difference - between having dry, dull, boring church or having the flood gates of heaven pouring out the Holy Spirit and having revival!

Ps 134:2 - Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the LORD.

Ps 107:1 - O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

Ps 47:1 - O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph.

Ps 100:1 - Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands.

Ps 149:3 - Let them praise his name in the dance: let them sing praises unto him with the timbrel and harp.

Ps 56:4 - In God I will praise his word, in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me.

F. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Luke 3:16 - *John answered, saying to all, "I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.*

1. He was ***"The man sent from God."***
 2. He would have ***the spirit and power of Elijah.***
 3. He preached ***"Repent, the kingdom of heaven is at hand."***
 4. He preached ***"And all flesh shall see the salvation of God."***
 5. He preached ***"He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and fire."***
- **HE HAD THE BOLDNESS OF ISAIAH, THE PASSION OF JEREMIAH AND THE ANNOINTING OF ELIJAH**
 - **HE WAS A VOICE, NOT AN ECHO, MAKING A DIFFERENCE!**

G. CLOSING THOUGHTS:

Jesus has compassion!

- **On the crowd with no shepherd:** Matt 9:36
- **All that were sick** among the crowd: Matt 14:14
- **The crowd that had no food:** Matt 15:32
- **The healing of the 2 blind men** Matt 20:34
- **The leper with the withered hand:** Mark 1:41
- **The man with the legion of demons:** Mark 5:19
- **The widow whose son died:** Luke 7:13

Jesus made the ultimate difference at Calvary by going to the cross and dying for our sins.

Having Compassion And Making A Difference!

- **A fresh word from God can make the difference in your walk.**

The book of Jude has a strong warning against false teachings that crept into the church.

Let's notice those around us today and influence their lives for Christ!