

THE EPISTLE OF JUDE

Jude 1:20-25

TAPE NUMBER SM-497 JULY 27, 2003

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

**“WHAT EVERY CHRISTIAN
SHOULD KNOW”**

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Salvation, Assurance, Love, Perseverance, Faith

INTRODUCTION

to the text

Jude 1:20-25

Jude 1:20-25

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 on 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. 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.

**There is No Doubt
That the Christian faith is a faith of reality.**

It's a Practical Faith

2 Corinthians 13:5

Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?

WHAT EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD KNOW

1.) *We're to be Responsive to God*

vv. 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, PRAYING, KEEPING & LOOKING

Four (4) Very Real Life Functions of the Christian Experience

The Workout Routine of a Healthy Christian
BUILDING, PRAYING, KEEPING & LOOKING

We're to be Responsive to God

1a.) *We're to be Responsive – With an Active Love*

Verse 20

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

“But you, beloved...”

These words come like an oasis to our ears

It is in deep contrast to those
whom he has been warning us about

#1

(be) building yourselves up on your most holy faith,

How am I to Be Building Myself up? By Praying!

#2

(*be*) praying in the Holy Spirit,

How am I to Be Praying in the Holy Spirit? By Wanting “His Will” more Than Mine

Romans 8:27

Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit *is*, because He makes intercession for the saints according to *the will of God*.

Matthew 6:5-8

“And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. ⁶ But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who *is* in the secret *place*; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. ⁷ And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen *do*. For they think that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸ “Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.

We're to be Responsive to God

1b.) We're to be Responsive – With an Obedient Faith

Verse 21

#3

keep (*ing*) yourselves in the love of God,

Keeping Myself Where? In The Love of God!

It's Easier Than You Think to Experience This.
It Comes Down to the Choices We Want to Make.

??? What Am I Doing to Keep Myself in the Love of God ???

(I Don't Have to Do Anything to Keep God in Love With Me)

John 14:15

“If you love Me, keep My commandments.

If I Love Him, I will want to keep His Demands, Because I know that He loves me. And if He loves me – He wants the very best for me.

Keep Yourself in that Place of Receiving His Blessings

Revelation 2:4-5

Nevertheless I have *this* against you, that **you have left your first love.** ⁵ Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place—unless you repent.

**Leaving your first love happens
when you fail to keep yourself “in” the love of God...**

Notice

The Bible Says, “We Leave Him!”

He Doesn't Leave Us

John 15:4-9

Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. ⁵ “I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw *them* into the fire, and they are burned. ⁷ If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. ⁸ By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples. ⁹ “As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love.

We're to be Responsive to God

1c.) We're to be Responsive – With an Expectant Hope

Verse 21

#4

looking for **the** mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ
unto eternal life.

We're to be Looking forward to,
not getting what we should get – when he comes!

That's The Meaning of Mercy

Christian,
Your Jesus Coming for You is an Absolute Wonderful Thing!

Titus 2:13 CEV

We are filled with hope, as we wait for the glorious return of our great God and Savior
Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 9:28

so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him
He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

That When He Comes for Us

He will come with Mercy and Grace and Redemption

Imagine - To Change This Flesh!!!

1 Corinthians 15:50

Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. ⁵¹ Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

WHAT EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD KNOW

2.) We're to be Faithful to One Another vv. 22-23

...And on some have compassion, making a distinction; ²³ but others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire, hating (*as it were*) even the garment defiled by the flesh.

We're to be Faithful to One Another

2a.) We're to be Faithful – To Those in The Battle

Verse 22

...And on **some** have **compassion**, making a **distinction**;

Our Christian Faith
Is not a solo faith, it's a communal faith

This is the Collective Ministry of a Church.
A Church at Work

On Some,
Have **Mercy (compassion)** Upon Those Who are **(in Doubt)**

Galatians 6:1-2

Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who *are* spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. ² Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

It's Best When We Challenge One Another to Grow in Faith

- We All Fight **Discouragement**
 - We All Fight **Weakness**
- We All Fight **Temptations of Doubt**

We're to Encourage One Another

1 Corinthians 12:12-14 BSB

The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. ¹³ For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body — whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free — and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴ Now the body is not made up of one part but of many.

Hebrews 3:12-13

Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; ¹³ but exhort one another daily, while it is called "*Today*," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

We're to be Faithful to One Another

2b.) We're to be Faithful – To Rescue the Fallen

Verse 23

...but **others** save with **fear**,
pulling *them out of the fire*, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

...but **others** save with **fear**,

The word fear is the word Caution. We are to be very cautious when reaching out to a backslidden brother or sister

We can get hooked by Satan just like they were

pulling *them out of the fire*,
hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

This is the Verse that gave us this often stated truth...
“God loves the Sinner, But He Hates the Sin.”

Only God Can Hate Perfectly Sin
And Love Perfectly the Sinner

God Hates with a Perfect Hatred

Those things that are dangerous and harmful and destructive to Your Life.

The Picture Here is that of Sodom and Gomorrah

Genesis 19:15-17

When the morning dawned, the angels urged Lot to hurry, saying, “Arise, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be consumed in the punishment of the city.” ¹⁶ And while he lingered, the men took hold of his hand, his wife’s hand, and the hands of his two daughters, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city. ¹⁷ So it came to pass, when they had brought them outside, that he said, “Escape for your life! Do not look behind you nor stay anywhere in the plain. Escape to the mountains, lest you be destroyed.”

WHAT EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD KNOW

3.) We’re to be Happy

vv. 24-25

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. *(and all of God’s people said) Amen!*

Jude’s Grand Crescendo

3a.) We’re to be Happy about – Our Security

Verse 24a

Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling,

“Now to Him”

We’re to be SO Happy about – Our Security

(We are to be dependent upon Him for what is coming)

Him - “who is **able to keep** you from **stumbling**”

stumbling

Stumbling / Falling 679. ἀϋταίστος ἀταίστος, *ap-tah´ee-stos*;

To err or veer off course and crash. To lose your way. To hold you up - so as not to let you fall down.

Protection against falling.

“who is able”

My God is Able

Ephesians 3:19-21

This is my prayer for you

That you might “know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. ²⁰ **Now to Him who is able...** to do **exceedingly abundantly above all** that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, ²¹ to Him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Him - “who is **able to keep...**”

1 Peter 1:3-6

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials,

2 Timothy 1:12b

I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

His Ability to Keep Us Is all powerful & perfect

WHAT EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD KNOW

We're to be Happy

3b.) We're to be Happy About – Our Joy

Verse 24b

And to **present you faultless** Before the presence of His glory
with exceeding joy.

There could be no greater joy, no greater pleasure,
Then to come to the end of your life and know with absolute
certainty that your eternity is 100%

The Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ and The Father
Have this agreement regarding those who have trusted Him...

**That When We Die
We will be Completely, Totally Faultless before Him in
Heaven**

We will not be shy,
we will not be scared,
we will not be afraid

We Will be Filled With “Exceeding” “Joy”

Exceeding Joy *ajgalliaꞥw agalliao, ag-al-lee-ah´-o;*

To jump or to skip because of the over abundance of joy – a glad heart!

To react to something beyond ones expectations

1 Corinthians 2:9

But as it is written: *“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”*

If You Could Go Any Where You Wanted To, Where Would You Go?

It would be a dump in comparison

2 Corinthians 12:2-4

I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a one was caught up to the third heaven. ³ And I know such a man—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— ⁴ how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

John 17:13

But now I come to You Father, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.

John 15:11-12

“These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and *that* your joy may be full. ¹² This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

His Joy in Us
Should be Intoxicating and Contagious

3c.) We’re to be Happy About – Our Ending

Verse 25

To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, *Be* glory and majesty,
Dominion and power, Both now and forever.
(*and all of God's people said*) Amen!

2 Peter 1:10-11

Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; ¹¹ for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:6

So *we are* always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. ⁷ For we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸ We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord. ⁹ Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

How The Book Ends Up!

Revelation 22:21

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be with you all.*
Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

It's True – It's True How Will You End Up?

Where will you be in Eternity?

WHAT EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD KNOW
THE PERSONAL APPLICATION