

Contend Earnestly For the Faith Which Was Once For All Handed Down to the Saints

An Expository Study of the **Epistle of Jude**

Chapter 11- The Gainsaying of Core **Jude 11** 120 The Gainsaying of Core- Part 2

WOSM Tuesday 04/22/08

Welcome again my beloved in Jesus Christ. We are continuing in our Journey through the Epistle of Jude and today I want to see what Jude meant when he pronounced an everlasting and eternal condemnation upon the heretics who bring in false doctrine and ungodly teaching into the House of God. So, let's read verse 11 of Jude again together:

Woe to them! For they have gone the way of Cain, and for pay they have rushed headlong into the error of Balaam, and perished in the rebellion of Korah.

Now on the last broadcast, we began to see just exactly what the rebellion or the gainsaying of Korah was, and we began to see what kind of man that Moses was and we began to see just what ministry is all about.

Unfortunately, today, we have people going into the ministry to make a name for themselves or to become wealthy off the backs of God's people. This is a professional ministry- Jesus called them hirelings. These people do not minister out of a deep sense of worship towards God; they do not love the sheep; they do not desire to feed the people of God; they have little inclination to get dirty with the problems of the sheep; they have or no concern about whether or not the people are actually walking with God or even if they are saved.

Far too many of the men who stand in our pulpits today want to be liked; they have as their goal to pastor huge churches and to acquire the fame and prestige and the notoriety that comes with those things. Many pastors today fear the people who sit on the pews but do not fear God who sits in Majesty. They cannot and they will not

preach on certain topics for fear that those who have power in the Church will fire them or those with money will be offended and leave taking their money with them. So, the ox is muzzled and the edge of the sword is dulled and people are not confronted with their own sinfulness and we are all poorer because of it.

Many pastors today are trapped in religious systems that man invented, and which pay their salaries and hold their 401k plans and which give them bonuses and which provide them with insurance, but which do not allow them to preach God's Word. So, in order to keep the packages; in order to maintain the status quo- the Gospel is altered and the people die.

Our culture is rocked every so often as another ministry is caught up in some scandal that is usually about either money or women that brings reproach to the Name of Jesus. This is directly attributable to ministry after ministry leaving the Biblical standards and leaving the Biblical qualifications and going their own way in order to make a name for themselves.

Moses didn't do this. Moses did many things about ministry that are an example to us today. And we should learn from Moses about what ministry really is and what ministry is all about.

I hear reports all the time about someone going into ministry for every reason under the sun- except the right reason. One man came to me several years ago to tell me that he believed that God had called him into the ministry. When I asked him how he knew that he told me that the reason that he wanted to "try" the ministry was because nothing else seemed to work out for him.

Beloved, that is the wrong reason to enter the ministry. No one should ever go into the ministry unless they are called by God to do so. Ministry is a calling- not a job. True godly ministry will not puff up your head- it will enlarge your heart. Ministry is not about you getting up and pontificating something that you just found out last Thursday. In fact, ministry involves much, much more than most people can imagine. Ministry involves forgotten things like suffering; bearing reproach; and loving people –even when they hate you. Ministry involves us faithfully expounding God's Word so that men can come into a place of confronting their own sinfulness so that they may believe and repent and be saved.

Ministry involves many, many lonely hours of dedicated and uninterrupted times of serious, deep, thorough study of God's Word so that God's Word can be accurately portrayed to the people and so that God may approve the man as a skilled and trained master craftsman able to rightly and correctly and properly dissect and interpret the Scriptures so that men can hear clearly and understand what God has said so that they may apply what God has said to their own lives.

Ministry is about being faithful to God first and then being faithful to the people that you serve. Ministry is about loving people enough to tell them when they are wrong regardless of how they receive it. Ministry is about being willing to risk relationships that you have had for 30 years as you sit down with people that you love and tell them that they are in sin and that God 's Word says that He is not pleased with what they are doing and as you faithfully with tears plead with them to repent.

Ministry is about actually living what you preach and actually taking it home to your family so that your wife and children actually live the life too. Ministry is about doing whatever you have to do to meet the Biblical qualifications to stand and proclaim God's glorious Word.

Ministry is about being faithful to the God Who called you so that you can never dull the edge of the sword- but you preach God's rightly, fully and fearlessly with absolutely no regard for the consequences. The reason for doing this is not to beat people up or to slam anyone- but it is because we all are inherently sinful creatures and that the only way for us to escape the wrath of God that is certain to be revealed from heaven against all unrighteousness and all ungodliness of men is to be saved and born again and to be regenerated and to be faithful.

And the only way; the one single way that anyone knows if he is saved is by how obedient he is to the Word of God. Every single saved person on earth today and throughout all history have received a new divine nature within themselves and that new nature is created in righteousness and true holiness. That new nature loves to serve and obey and follow Jesus Christ. That new nature is both the will and the ability to do God 's good pleasure and if you have that new nature- you *will* love Jesus; you *will* follow Jesus; you *will* obey Jesus; and when you do fall short and sin- it will break your heart and you will

quickly repent and return. If you do not have that new nature- then you are not saved and you are not going to Heaven and you will try to act like a Christian on Sunday, but you will not care about the things of God and you will not love to follow Jesus and you will see no purpose in praying and the Bible will bore you and you will endure the sermon and you will be willing to do anything with your money except give it to God and you will go through the motions, but it won't be real.

Being saved is not based upon what someone told you; it is not because you "prayed the prayer" or because you "walked down the aisle" or because you "shook hands with the preacher" or because you were baptized. Being saved is not based upon what you feel. It isn't about you feeling goose bumps on your arms or because the hair on the back of your neck stands up or because you fall down on the floor. Being right with God is not based upon whether or not you have been prophesized over or because you speak in tongues or because you feel good or because you sing in the choir or even because you preach the Gospel.

We are saved by the Blood of Jesus Christ, period. We are redeemed by His Blood alone. We are justified in God's sight by a supernatural miracle of Mercy from a Sovereign God. We are saved by Grace alone through Faith alone in Christ alone without any human participation at all- salvation is not of any human works, We are not born of human ingenuity or human intelligence or human power and or through man- made programs and the personality of clever phrases and sentences that rhyme- or human bloodline- we are born of God and that new birth is a miracle and that new birth will radically revolutionize your life and that new birth is permanent and that new birth is certain and that new birth is glorious and that new birth is so glorious that you will *never* get over it and you will *never* tire of telling people about it and you will *never* become weary of it and we are going to spend the first million years in Heaven just standing in God's Presence saying, "*Thank you, thank you, thank you*" over and over and over again. And any attempt by any man or any group or any religious society or organization to add any other requirements to Salvation or to add any other ways to get into Heaven other than by Jesus alone is a false man or a false group or a false

organization that is operating in rebellion to the Word of God and we should cry out against them and flee from it.

Beloved, going to mass everyday may qualify you as being religious, but it does not wash your sins away. Saying the rosary may cause you to be disciplined but it cannot make you right with God. Praying to dead human beings is an affront to Jesus Christ and I assure you that traveling to Medgegorjie or Guadalupe or Lourdes or Fatima or Brownsville or Toronto, or even Rome itself will not bring you one inch closer to Salvation.

Keeping the dietary laws of Moses or obeying the teachings of Ellen G. White or following the teachings of Brigham Young or Joseph Smith or Charles Taze Russell or traveling to Jerusalem or being baptized in the river Jordan or praying on the Mount of Olives or getting a bottle of oil from Gethsemane will not in any way assist you as you stand before God to be judged of your sins.

The faithful minister will preach the faithful Word and he will preach it faithfully. When the Word is preached; when the Word is honored; when the Word is heard; when the Word is taught; when the Word is loved; when the Word is obeyed; when the Word is in authority- that is when God speaks to His people.

But when the pope is in charge or when the bishops are in charge or when the pastor is in charge or when the deacon board is in charge- then Man speaks to the people.

The Church is a living organism and is the creation of God. The Church did not create the Bible- the Word of God created the Church. The Bible did not flow out from the Church- the Church flows out from the Word of God. Peter was not given total authority in the Church- the Divine revelation that God gave to Peter that Jesus Christ is the Son of the living God- that is the authority in the Church.

Man does not and can not and should not run the Church based upon his own intelligence or by the curse of pragmatism or by inviting modern Wall Street financial techniques or by employing Madison Avenue marketing techniques. Jesus Christ established His Church; Jesus Christy builds His Church; Jesus Christ maintains His Church Jesus Christ adds to the Church; and Jesus Christ will keep His Church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against the living, breathing Church of Jesus Christ. We have to remember, dear

friends, that we are not professionals- we are bond slaves of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Rome made a horrible mistake when they substituted the authority of the pope for the authority of the Word of God. I pray that they will repent and come home. The Episcopal Church made a horrible mistake when they added tradition and history to the Word to formulate their Doctrine- I pray that they will repent and come home. Other Churches have made horrible mistakes as they have taken God's Word and made it secondary- I pray that they too will repent and come home.

The Word of God is supposed to have preeminence in the Church so that Christ may have Preeminence. God used to speak to the fathers by the prophets under the Old Covenant. God used to speak through dreams and visions and by signs and wonders to give us Truth and to give us Doctrine and to establish Divine order in the earth. But in these last days, God speaks through His Son- and all Divine Truth; all Doctrine; all Heavenly Order is found in the pages of God's Word.

Korah fought against this very premise. Korah rebelled against the authority of God's order for the congregation. Korah rebelled against the absolute authority of God's Word and said, **“all of God's people hear from God.”** Beloved we live in a day just like this. We have many Korah's running around today making up new Doctrine; saying that they had heard from God through dreams and visions and that they have heard from Heaven. They have rebelled against what God has already revealed through Scripture and they go about to create their own Doctrines and whether they mean to or not- they are attacking the authority that Scripture should have in our hearts and in our mind and in our Churches.

I tell you that we must be careful that we are not following cunningly devised fables that are the invention of Man. We must take heed to ourselves that we are not impressed with the personality of the pastor rather than what he is saying.

Beloved, we need the Word put back into its rightful place in our hearts and our homes and in our churches and we need to submit to the authority of that Word and we need to study and teach and preach and comprehend that Word carefully and rightly and fully so that we may please our wonderful Savior and we need to reject the rebellion of

Korah and we need to earnestly contend for the Faith that was once and for all delivered to the saints. Well, I've got to stop right here. But please join me on the next broadcast as we continue our Journey through the Epistle of **Jude**. May God help us all.

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The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen. Be watchful and quicken your pace. Soli Deo Gloria. For the Glory of God alone.