

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

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

### Chapter 7- The Profile of the Heretics **Jude 10** 92 The Profile of the Heretics Part 8

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WOSM Thursday 03/13/08

Welcome again my beloved in Jesus Christ. We are continuing our verse by verse “Journey” through the Epistle of **Jude** and today I want to continue to examine what Jude taught about “The Profile of the Heretics”. So, let’s read verse 10 of Jude together:

**But these men revile the things which they do not understand; and the things which they know by instinct, like unreasoning animals, by these things they are destroyed.**

Now when you read verse 10 right after you observe the godly behavior of the arch angel in verse 9- you can clearly see that most of the self appointed prophets and teachers of today do not have any idea what they are talking about. They are children trying to play with serious adult subjects. And the people who “bind the devil” or try to cast our demons may well be very sincere- but Scripture proves that this kind of power and authority is never given to novices and it is not given to frivolous and silly people who do not walk with God and who don’t have some seasoning under their belt.

The seducers that Jude is talking about here in his Epistle, were contemptuous men, who would rail out against things that they didn’t know anything about. These heretics are guilty of two great sins:

1. Pride
2. Wickedness

They are guilty of pride in that they condemn or speak evil about the things that they don’t understand, and they are also guilty of great wickedness because they abuse the knowledge that they do have.

In Man's ability to reason and in what the Puritan, Thomas Manton called, "the upper part of the soul"- man is like the angels. But in his appetite and senses- the same Man resembles a beast. Man can be both polite and crude; generous and selfish; nice and evil; rash and patient; kind and cruel. Man has the potential to reach to the stars and also to sink to the lowest ebb. Man can build bridges and he also can stick needles in his arm and live in trash cans. Man can discover new lands and he can invent pornography. Man is capable of finding cures to diseases and he is also capable of making war. He can use technology to make life a blessing for cripple people and he can also use technology to develop new and creative ways to sin.

The difference is in his heart. So when Jesus Christ rescues Man from sin- He doesn't just forgive the man- but He instills within that fallen man and new nature; a divine nature; a nature that craves the Presence of God; a nature that loves the things of God; a nature that desires to obey God; and a nature that is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Therefore- those who do not have this new nature are not saved- no matter what they did or how they prayed. It is impossible to be saved and not have the new nature. The Apostle Paul said it like this in **2 Corinthians 5:17:**

**Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.**

And this word that our English Bibles translated here as "creature" literally means "creation". So Paul was saying that everyone- not some- but if *anyone is* in Christ; all men; every single person who comes to Christ and is born and again and is saved has become a brand new creation.

So it isn't about "going down front"; it isn't about "joining the Church"; it isn't about "praying the prayer"; it isn't about "feeling better"- it is about being a new creation. If you are not changed- then you are not saved and if you are not saved- you are still lost and you are on your way to hell.

Salvation is not about being a "better person"; it isn't about being a "more improved" individual; it isn't about being an improved version of the same old man- no, it is about being re-created; it is about being born again; it is about being regenerated; it is about being

resurrected from the dead; it is about receiving a new divine nature that hates the things you used to love and loves the things you used to hate. It is about being translated from one kingdom to another kingdom. It is about being alive instead of being dead; it is about seeing instead of being blind; it is about hearing instead of being deaf.

Salvation is not something that you do right at the end of the Sunday service right before we all go out and eat pizza. No, Salvation is the single most radical, unbelievable; transforming; supernatural; miraculous event in the history of the universe.

Salvation is so radical a change that it will not only affect you-but will also affect everyone around you. It will cause your friends to hate you. It will cause you to be persecuted and maligned and driven out and talked about and lied about and chased down and threatened and beat up; it will cause those who have known you the longest to not want anything else to do with you. And it will cause people that you never knew to embrace you and stand by your side. It will cause your family to be very disturbed at what has happened to you. It will cause you to be disowned; unloved and unwanted.

Three things will happen to every single person on earth as they really and truly get saved and follow Jesus all the way:

1. They will hate you
2. They will cast you out
3. And Jesus will stand by your side

But you will be able to fellowship with the Creator of the Universe. You will be loved by all those who have gone through the same thing. You will find a remnant of the Lord's despised few and that combined with Jesus being close is all that you need.

My brothers and sisters, the soft gospel that is being preached today that says that when you come to Jesus you will have more friends and everyone will love you and you will have wealth beyond your wildest dreams and everything will start going your way and you will hit more home runs and your clothes will be whiter and brighter is a lie and is not the Gospel of the Bible.

When the Church of Jesus first started it was against the law to be a Christian and people had everything they owned stolen from them and they were beaten and they were killed and they were chased

down and they were persecuted and you would think that would have been a terrible hindrance to getting people saved- but it wasn't. The Joy and the Peace and the Love and the Glory and the Magnificence of being saved is so great that thousands upon thousands of new converts were lined up outside the Church doors trying to get in.

The same thing is true in an opposite fashion with the heretics that go further and further into their lies and seductions. Instead of becoming more and more godly in Christ- they go more and more into sin. Instead of rising- they fall; instead of soaring they crawl and creep; instead and looking to the hills from whence comes their help- they look to the pit where they came out of; instead of getting stronger- they get weaker; instead of loving God's Truth- they hate God's Truth and they mock it and they marginalize it and they try to hinder it and they malign it and they twist it and they change it and they try to destroy it.

Our job as believers and as saints of God and as Christians and as followers of Jesus and as those who delight themselves in the Lord is to study to find out what God's Will is. We are to study to show ourselves approved unto God. We are to investigate; we are to research; we are to seek; we are to knock; we are to ask; we are to discover; we are to find; we are to uncover; we are to comprehend and to understand the Truth of God's Word so that we can apply that objective propositional Truth to our own personal lives.

Our job is not to formulate an agenda and then try to find one or two Scriptures that vaguely confirm that thought. We are not to periodically peruse the Bible. We are not to spend all of our time with shallow devotionals or Precious Promise cards that have been sanitized to take all judgment out. We are not to pick one verse and build our lives around it. We are not to take Scripture out of context because it justifies what we are doing.

No, God said that we are to study this Book. And this word "study" means to have dedicated, consecrated, consistent and uninterrupted times of research so that we may fully grasp what God is saying; so that we may comprehend with all saints what is the depth and the height and the breadth of the Glory of God; so that we may know the Will of God; so that we may know the peace of God; so that we may see clearly that which God the Holy Ghost put into the pages of this Book and when that great moment of supernatural revelation comes to us

through the illumination of the Spirit of God- we are then to rejoice because we see and we are to then bow our knees to the authority of the inspired inerrant, and infallible Word of God and we are to yield to the preeminence of Jesus Christ and we are to do what God has just spoken to us through this Book.

The heretics are just the opposite. They won't study this Book. They won't get into the reality of what it says. They want to deceive you; they want to fool you; they want to destroy you. So, they say God has spoken to them a new revelation that no one has ever gotten before; They will tell you about seeing angels and of having great elaborate dreams and visions and about how the angel showed them this and how the vision taught them that and how God spoke the understanding directly into their ears.

These people will tell you that if Jesus would not have been available to die that day that any of us could have died in His place and God would have accepted it. They will tell you that Jesus had to be born again just like we do. They will tell you that Paul was a loser or else he would have gotten rid of that thorn in his flesh and he wouldn't have spent so much time in jail. They will tell you that Jesus took a cross up a lonely dark hill so that we could all be millionaires and ride around in new cars and live in fine homes. These snake oil salesmen will try to get you to buy their goods that promise you everything- but produce nothing.

These false prophets will never tell you to repent or to pick up your cross daily and to deny yourself and to walk away from sin and to weep between the porch and the altar- no, they will tell you that Christianity is all about feeling better about yourself and being rich and fulfilling your dreams.

Jude says that these heretics cry out against what they don't know. These apostates despise the straight and narrow path; they mock Christians who have given up this world's goods; they look down their noses at those who have forsaken all to follow Jesus.

And Jude says that what they *do* know, they corrupt themselves in it, just like brute beasts. These people have been so wrong for so long that they have reverted back to the animalistic urges. The seducers are not being led by God's Spirit- they are led by their sensual desires. But they are so lost that they call their sensual desires the Spirit of

God. These heretics are not walking in the supernatural- they are more carnal and more earthy; more fleshly; more sinful; less spiritual than anyone else- they just call what they do being spiritual.

The silliest, most embarrassing; most foolish, unscriptural; ungodly; unholy activities that can be imagine come forth from these people. They make the Spirit of God out to be a clown and they portray the genuine and the glorious move of the Spirit to be a carnival.

When Jude says that the heretics that creep into the Church disguised as teachers and prophets and apostles and seers and when they bring in their new revelations and their angelic visitations and their new books and their new writings- they are acting like “**unreasoning animals**”.

Now Jude was not simply calling these people names here. No, the Holy Spirit that inspired these words has a much more serious job that to simply mock these people. Jude was saying that these people have reverted to acting like animals and have reverted to following their sensual and animalistic urges and not the Spirit; being led by their own human impulses- and not God’s Truth; being motivated by their instincts- not God’s Word; held captive by their lustful and earthly and carnal and sensual hearts instead of walking in the glorious liberty of the children of God.

I tell you that Jude has given us a wonderful profile of the heretics and we need to examine who we are listening to and we need to watch who we are following and we need to use discernment about what we are reading and we need to make our calling and our election sure and we need to earnestly contend for the Faith that was once and for all delivered to the saints. Well, I’m out of time for today- so 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.