

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

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

Chapter 9- Going the Way of Cain **Jude 11**

105 Going the Way of Cain Part 7

WOSM Tuesday 04/01/08

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 were talking about how that "going in the way of Cain" causes us to have a very low view of sin and I want to continue to look at that on today's broadcast.

Having a low view of sin or "going in the way of Cain" means that we look at sin as being bad only to the extent that we are personally harmed or inconvenienced by it. But that is not the way that the heroes of the Bible looked at sin.

For example- when King David committed adultery with Bathsheba- he went into the temple and confessed his sin before God- and I want to look at just how David prayed by **Psalms 51:4:**

Against You, You only, I have sinned And done what is evil in Your sight, So that You are justified when You speak And blameless when You judge.

Notice the great contrast between how David talked about his sin here and how Cain talked about his sin in **Genesis**. Cain was

not personally offended by his sin- Cain was only offended that God had the audacity to judge him in a way that Cain viewed to be way too harsh.

David however was broken over the fact that he knew that he had sinned against God and had offended God's holiness and righteousness and David prayed about the fact that he knew full well that he was guilty and that whatever judgment that God was going to give him would be just and right and good and David would take it without so much as a murmur.

So it is today with those who "go in the way of Cain" and those who are after the heart of God like David. Those who really love God may well periodically sin- but when we sin- we know that we are wrong; we know that we are guilty; we carry the guilt without complaint; we shoulder the shame without murmur; we sorrow after offending God- and not about our penalty of our sin. We don't feel sorry for ourselves- we feel remorse that we have hurt God.

Those who follow after Cain desire no personal shame over their sin. They reject any guilt at all concerning their actions and they refuse to sorrow at all because they really don't care whether God was offended or not.

So, I ask you these questions:

"When you repent, do you grieve over hurting and offending God with your sin, or do you only grieve over how the penalty of your sin affects you? Does sin break your heart because it hurts God or does sin break your heart because it hurts you? Do you sorrow over your sin because you let God down, or do you sorrow over the judgment that God gave to you? Are you willing to turn from your sin so that you may honor God, or is the only reason you desire to turn from your sin is because of all the hot water you're in?"

And precisely how would you feel about your sin if you *hadn't* got caught; if nobody ever found out or if your secret was safe? Would you still deem it to be evil? Would you still grieve over it? Would you still feel the weight of the guilt of your sin? Would you still repent?

Now please understand that when I talk about guilt and shame and sorrow here- I am *not* talking about you and me paying the price for sin. You and I cannot pay the price for sin. The only payment for sin that God accepts is eternal damnation in hell. So don't get the notion that since you have sinned- you must now go through penance for your sins- that is not Biblical Christianity. The payment for sin can only be accomplished by the shed Blood of Jesus Christ. Your blood; your service; your action are not good enough to God to relieve the guilt of sin. We have to know, dear friends that Jesus paid for sin and He paid for all sin and His payment is sufficient. God fully and eternally accepts Jesus' payment for sin. Please don't think that you are going to add anything to what Jesus paid and you cannot possibly be so arrogant to think that you could ever take anything away from what Jesus did.

Beloved, please hear me. You can't pay for your own sin. Your payment isn't good enough. Brothers and sisters, we have got to know that all man-made attempts at paying for sin is wrong and hinders the true work of God in Salvation. For example- the Roman Catholic Rite of Penance is an ungodly and unbiblical human concept that is counterproductive to genuine Christian repentance and forgiveness. There is no such thing as any of us paying for our own sins. Repeating certain prayers over and over; walking on our hands and knees over glass; or some other human act of humility that is designed to try to pay for sins like serving in a leper colony or giving up pepperoni pizza for 40 days or spending 2,000 years in Purgatory doesn't have the power or the ability to pay for sins. Nothing but the Blood of Jesus can atone for sins.

There is no such thing as the Treasury of Merit. There is no such thing as venial and mortal sins. There is no such thing as Purgatory. There is no such thing as obtaining an indulgence for sin- all of those things are man made and are not found in Scripture and are false and base attempts at solving the mystery of God providing payment for our sins.

Listen, it is good to be against sin. But as you are against sin- be careful that you don't add human requirements to obtain forgiveness that the Bible does not teach because you can't help

God in saving you. He doesn't require or need your help. He can save us all by Himself. Adding unbiblical things or placing unscriptural requirements on people so that they can obtain forgiveness is evil and is the enemy of the Cross of Christ.

Jesus Christ alone has that ability and power to save as well as forgive those who are saved and who sin and as we sorrow after a godly sort and after we genuinely grieve over offending God and after we carry the weight of the shame of our transgression, we are then led to the foot of the Cross, where we fall on our face and beg God to cover us and wash us and cleanse us and we are bathed in a river of pure Blood that is the only ingredient in heaven and earth that can wash away sin. And that sin will be forgiven.

Now notice that after God's rejection of Cain's sacrifice- rather than repent and beg God for forgiveness- Cain went out to slay the one whom God *did* receive and accept. Then when God judged his murder- Cain again refused to repent- but began to complain about the harshness of God's punishment.

Jude is teaching us here that this is the way that it is with the heretics. Every false teacher and every soul who follows false teaching does not repent. Repentance is the last thing on their minds

You see, genuine Biblical repentance is always seen by heretics as being cruel, harsh, mean spirited, old fashioned, barbaric, unnecessary, and even unchristian. But in reality, genuine repentance is the arch enemy of heresy.

I never thought that I would live to see the day when repentance would be considered to be wrong in the House of God. I never imagined in my wildest dreams that people would be so foolish to think that things like our liberty in Christ; and our authority in Christ; and the glorious infilling of the Holy Ghost would ever be given as a reason to minimize or eliminate repentance from the mind and heart and soul of the Church. I never ever thought that the Church of Jesus Christ would move the altars out and build huge game rooms and cancel prayer meetings and substitute weight loss classes for Bible Studies and sit and laugh at comedians while sin is destroying our lives and our homes and our nation and our civilization.

Do you think for one minute that Jesus wants His people to be ignorant of His Word? Do you think for one minute that Jesus wants His people distant from prayer? Do you think for one minute that Jesus wants His Church to be vacant of His Spirit and filled with the world?

It is the day in which we live. Those of you who still think that Biblical Doctrine is unnecessary- to what do you attribute our falling away? Those who still believe that Sound Doctrine is bad for the believer; or that it will quench the Spirit; or that it will remove godly love from the Church- compare how we live today with Christians of 100 years ago. Compare the preaching today with the preaching of 100 years ago. Compare the lack of power; the lack of discernment; the acceptance of sin; and the lack of ability today with that of 100 years ago.

That is why it is extremely important to raise up a culture of genuine repentance in the Church again. That is why we need to hear more preaching and teaching about our responsibilities than we do about our authority. We need to hear a whole lot more teaching about our obligations and our duties than we do about how to get more wealthy. We need to hear about how to overcome sin a lot more than we need to hear about how great we are.

You see, when a person is subjected to the Presence of God on an ongoing basis- he develops a very healthy sense of his own unworthiness. And we need to know that it is unnatural for men to come and stand in the Presence of God and not be convicted of sin. It is a perversion of why God's Spirit comes down to move among men for us to be exposed to His Presence; His Word; and His Glory and remain unbent, unbroken, and unbowed. The only vehicle that God has provided for us to change and be right with Him is that He periodically visits with us through His Word or by His Spirit or through some other means and we see ourselves in comparison with Him and we are immediately overcome with a sense of our own extreme wickedness and sinfulness and God graciously convicts us and shows us where we are wrong.

We then cry out to God for forgiveness and cleansing and we readily and willingly confess our sins and we are marvelously washed and cleansed and forgiven and we then receive

supernatural Holy Ghost power to overcome that evil so that we may not sin against God.

That is the reason that God's Spirit fills the room. It is not simply to make the hair stand up on the back of our necks. It is not to make goose bumps pop up on our arms. It is not so that we may fall down on the floor, or laugh uncontrollably; it is not to pop our necks or to shout or to walk the backs of the pews or to scream and holler.

God's Wonderful Presence comes down so that we may have the glorious gift of seeing ourselves as He sees us and when we do, our eyes are opened and our ears are unstopped and we then can see where we have fallen short so that we may have the wonderful opportunity to repent and change.

Every time God moved like that in the Bible, this is what God's people did. Isaiah and Daniel and Paul and Moses, and Abraham and Peter and Job and many others had unbelievable times with God and in every single recorded case- their time with God was spent being deeply convicted of their own personal sin. This gave these men the most precious thing on earth- the supernatural and miraculous ability to see themselves as God sees them so that they may repent and be transformed into the Image and likeness of Jesus Christ.

None of these people sought after God so that God would tell them how great they were. No, our Scriptural examples sought after God so that they could see where they were failing; so that they could see where they were wrong; so that they could see how to serve God better and how to overcome sin and how to get more power so that they could walk more holy.

Unlike many today, every one of these men knew that sacrifice was worthless without a clean and pure heart. They knew that lifting their hands and their prayers to the heavens with unrepented sin in their lives was an abomination to God. They didn't seek after God so that God would grant them a new chariot or a new home or better clothes or fancier television sets, no they sought after God so that God would reveal sin in their life. Oh may God help us to bring the altars back into the House of God again. May God give us the desire to pray again. May God bring to us the urgency of studying and knowing and loving and obeying

His Word. May God grant to us a revival of repentance in the Church of Jesus Christ and may we all 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.

© 2007- 2023 by Enjoying God Ministries, Inc. All rights reserved. Printed in the United States of America
Enjoying God Ministries, Inc. PO Box 147 Saucier, Mississippi 39574 www.covenantofpeace.net

Scripture quotations, except those noted otherwise, are from *The New American Standard Bible* © 1995 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.

This is a single transcript in a larger series of teachings taken from a verse- by- verse Journey through the **Epistle of Jude**.

You are free to reproduce it and distribute it as the Lord leads you- without cost or reimbursement to us with the stipulation that you may not add anything or take anything away from this transcript without the express written permission of The Covenant of Peace Church and that this complete copyright statement be at the end of all copies.

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.