

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**

94 The Profile of the Heretics Part 10

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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 on the last broadcast we examined this verse and today I want to continue to expound on exactly what this verse means.

You see, dear friends, you basically have two kinds of minds today. You have those minds which have been girded up and have been overwhelmed by the Mind of Jesus Christ and you have those minds that are carnal fleshly and earthly. The mind that has been renewed and girded up and transformed is the mind that is spiritual. This is the mind that can bring all thoughts into captivity of the Spirit of God, and this is the mind that dwells on things above. This is the mind that feeds on the things of God and the things that will edify and the things that will bring forth godly fruit.

But the other mind is not converted. This other mind is the mind that dwells on sin and lust and filth and the things of this life. This is the mind that imagines evil things and that caters to the whims of the flesh. This is the mind that feeds on the things that promote flesh and sin and carnality, and this is the mind that is enmity to the things of God. Let’s look at **Romans 8:5-8**:

5 For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

6 For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace,

7 because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able *to do so*,

8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Those who are lost; those who are not saved; those who are not unregenerate; those who are not born again; Paul says here that these people think or “mind” the things of the flesh. The flesh is all that these people have. They are concerned about themselves and the things of this life and the things that are temporary.

Now on the other hand, those who are saved; those are born again; those who have experienced supernatural regeneration these people think or “mind” the things of the Spirit- because the Spirit is the most important thing in their life. They are concerned about God and the things of Heaven and the things that are eternal and everlasting.

Now you might think that this is simply a choice and that each one- those of the flesh and those of the spirit- are both good in their own way and that some saved people simply choose the way of flesh while others choose the way of the spirit. But that is not true. Look at what the next verse says:

For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace,

So, we see here that the Bible says that for a person to be “**set on the flesh**” and for him to “mind” or for him to tend to or to place a priority on the things of this life is death. The Bible clearly says that it is death. But if your mind is renewed; if your mind has been regenerated; if your mind is girded up; if your mind is fed by the Word- then you will have both life and peace.

Now there is a reason for this. God has a very wise and certain Plan that is working in the earth, and we need to examine what God is telling us about our minds by looking at the very next verse:

because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able *to do so*,

Now the word that was translated here into English as “hostile” is the Greek word, *echthra* (ek-thra), which means “hateful”. Nelson’s New Illustrated Bible Dictionary says that this hostility is:

“A deep seated animosity or hatred. The Apostle Paul declared that the human mind in its natural state is in enmity against God. This enmity can only be changed through the redemptive power of Jesus Christ.”

So, the mind that thinks or dwells or continues on the things of this life; the things of earthly significance; the things of sin; and the things of carnality is a mind that has not been converted by the shed Blood of Jesus Christ. In other words- this person is lost. Now notice what the Bible says about this unconverted mind:

... it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able *to do so*,

The Bible says here that the unconverted mind is not subject, and it is not in submission to the Law of God. So, in its hostility- it fights against the Law of God; it hates the Law of God. There is a deep seated animosity toward the things of God inside the mind like this. And it does all of this precisely because it has no ability or no power to do otherwise.

This mind of sinful and lost people is not subject to God’s because it *cannot* be subject to God. The mind of the unsaved simply does not have the power or the ability to be subject to God. That’s what it means to be lost.

This is why I tell you that a human being does not have the power or the capacity to *think* himself to be spiritual. You cannot confess positive thoughts and make those thoughts to become reality- that power belongs to God alone. Only God can create. Man cannot create anything. Satan cannot create anything. Angels cannot create anything- only God is the Creator and only God has the power to make His thoughts to be reality.

Now I realize that some very popular and influential people teach this stuff today- but what they are teaching, dear friends, is false. This false teaching that gives Man the power to create is not a revelation from God, dear friends- it is simply the ancient heresy of the Socinians that we studied earlier.

But the Bible does not teach that. A human being cannot project his thoughts. All of that garbage is witchcraft. The mind of lost people is carnal because they are lost. Once you get saved- your mind will be spiritual.

A mind that is lost cannot stand to be in the Presence of the Lord. A mind like this can find the time to do anything under the sun except go to Church; except read the Bible; except pray; except fast; except sing praises; except mediate on God; except testify to others about Jesus; except lead other people to God; except endure Sound Doctrine.

The Bible says that people who have a mind like this are not saved. They are lost; they are yet in their sins. This is true because there is no such thing as a person being saved and not loving the things of God. Loving the things of God is part and parcel of the new nature that *everyone* who is born again has.

A lady came to me once to talk to me about her husband. She said her husband never wants to go to church; he never wants to read his Bible; he never wants to give anything to God; he never wants to testify to anyone about Jesus; he doesn't want to pray; and he doesn't ever want to sing to God. Then she told me- "*I know that he is saved, but he is just weak.*" I told this dear soul, "*Your husband is not weak- dear lady- your husband is not saved. He is lost. He has not been converted. He has not experienced the new birth. He has not been regenerated. He is not a new creature.*"

I told that dear soul that I have absolutely no reason to believe that her husband was saved at all because his mind is still in hostility toward God. His mind is still hostile to the things of God. His mind is still alienated from God. His mind is still distant from the things of God. His mind is still in hatred towards God. That is what this verse means.

I hear people say all the time- "*You don't have to go to Church in order to be saved*". I agree. I wasn't saved in Church. But after you are saved- out of a grateful and humble heart towards the Lord who saved your wretched soul- you will bow your knees to the authority of Scripture, and you will go to Church. And those who don't are in rebellion to the Word of God. Some have told me that they have received a new revelation from God that showed them that they can stay home and be just as spiritual as they could if they went to

Church.

These people haven't got a revelation from God at all. They are simply in rebellion towards the things of God in their minds and they want to justify what they are doing and make the sin that are in look spiritual, so they say it is a revelation.

It is true that you can be saved anywhere. I was saved at a football stadium on a Friday night when I was half drunk. But after you are saved; after you have been born again- you no longer belong to yourself, and you follow Jesus. Your mind is no longer hostile toward God. Your mind has become renewed and your mind and your heart and your soul craves the Presence of God; it desires to fellowship with other Christians; it desires to give; it wants to study the Word; it yearns to pray; it thirsts to lead others to Christ; it hungers to obey God.

When Jesus spoke the word, "Church" He was using the Greek word, "ekkleesia". In Thayer's Greek Lexicon, "ekkleesia" is defined as:

An assembly of the called out and chosen people who leave their individual homes and gather together in a public place for the purpose of worshipping God and to edify one another.

That is the Church. And so those who think that they can stay out of Church and still serve God are wrong and they need to repent and submit themselves to the authority of Scripture and gather with their brothers and sisters in the Church. People tell me that the reason that they don't go to Church is because there are hypocrites in Church. I am quick to tell these people that there are hypocrites at Wal-Mart too, but that doesn't stop them from going there.

Friend, if you are using that excuse and you are staying out of Church because there are hypocrites in Church- you don't need to fear- come on to church anyway- because we have room for your hypocrisy too.

Some don't go to Church today because they say that they got hurt in Church. Well join the crowd. Every single person who is in Church now and who has ever been in Church for the last 2,000 years has been offended by someone else in Church. That is because the church is made up of people who don't always do what they are supposed to do. But you know what? You don't always do what you're

supposed to do either. Every single person who has been offended by some one else has also offended someone else by what they did. And one of the ways that you are offending a lot of people is by staying out of Church. The truth is that you and I are both the offended and the offender so get over that lame excuse and submit to the authority of Scripture and get into the House of God.

This is all part of having a spiritual mind, beloved, and this is what Jude was talking about. The heretics that will creep into the Church when the leadership is asleep will teach and peach those things that puff up and build up and edify and encourage the carnal mind that is in enmity against God.

Their gospel is not the Gospel of the Bible. They will never tell you to pick up your cross daily and deny yourself and follow Jesus even to the point of death. You will never hear these liars teach that godliness with contentment is great gain. You will never hear these false teachers say that the love of money is the root of all evil. You will never hear these snake oil salesmen teach that having bread and raiment we should be content. You will never hear these pillow prophets say that we are to turn away from those who say that gain is godliness. You will never hear these false prophets say that to really serve Christ may cost you everything that you own including your reputation and your possessions- even your life- but to be able to stand in God's Presence washed and clean and pure and holy is worth it all.

The heretics teach that every Christian should have a new car- not a new nature. They teach that God wants you to feel god about yourself- even when you are still in sin. These apostates teach that if you pray the right payer at the right time of the day and pray it over and over, that you can twist God's Arm enough to get whatever your lustful heart craves- but the Bible doesn't teach that.

Beloved, make no mistake about it- the Bible is clear- God wants you to prosper and He wants you to be in good health- but God wants these things in you and about you in proportion to how your soul is prospering.

Prosperity and Health- yes- but only to the extent that your souls is right with God; only to the extent that your health and your prosperity will not corrupt you; only to the extent that your prosperity will not make you sin and backslide and lust after more of this world's goods and as long as you can serve God; as long as you can worship in

Spirit and in Truth; as long as you can remain faithful to God; faithful to fast; faithful to pray; faithful to give; faithful to love; faithful to serve; faithful to go; faithful to study; as long as you can remain faithful and as long as your prosperity will not effect your faithfulness, then God is all for you being blessed.

But for these self absorbed people to get up and teach that it is God's Will that every single believer is supposed to be financially well off is a lie and it is a distortion of what the Bible does teach about finances, and it is a false doctrine to teach that God will heal everyone based upon nothing but that person's faith- regardless of the will of God.

I tell you that it really means something to serve Jesus Christ. It is the greatest thrill and the highest honor that can be bestowed on anyone to be able to carry the great and mighty Name of Jesus. And we need to lift that Name high; and we need to honor that name by walking with God and we need to exalt that Name by actually serving God and we need to magnify that Name by obeying what Scripture teaches and we need to glorify that great Name of Jesus by earnestly contending 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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