

***“The Last Time”***  
***Jude 17-19***

**Introduction:**

1. Please Head Back With Me In Your Bibles:
  - To The Letter Of Jude!
    - Where We Have Been Learning How To Identify:
      - Those In The Church Who Are False Members & False Teachers Within It!
  - Jude First Warns Us About Them:
    - In Verse 4 - Where He Says:
      - “There Are Certain Men Crept In Unawares!”
  - And We Need To Be “Aware” Of Them!
    - So That We Can Continue Our Work Found In Verse 3:
      - “That Ye Should Earnestly Contend For The Faith Which Was Once Delivered Unto The Saints!”
2. So How Can We Be “Aware” Of Them?
  - We Need Be On The Look Out For Their Character:
    - Of Unbelief & Rebellion!
  - We Need Be On The Look Out For Their Conduct:
    - Of Immorality And Other Sins!
      - As Jesus Told Us - “Wherefore By Their Fruits Ye Shall Know Them!” (Matthew 7:20)
  - And Last Week, We Learned Of Their Conclusion:
    - That Is - What Will Happen To Them:
      - They Will Ultimately Receive The Just Judgment Of God At The Great White Throne Judgment!
  - And God Has Been Warning Us All:
    - About His Final Coming In Judgment:
      - Since Even Before The Flood! Through Enoch!
3. But Many Will Think:
  - That The Judgment Of God:
    - Is Just So Far Off!
      - Peter Even Describes What They Might Say In 2 Peter 3:4 - “Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation!”
  - So Why Even Worry About Things Like This?
    - We Have Plenty Of Time To Get Things Right!
      - Well - Jude Addresses This Attitude As Well In Verses 17-19 - Where He Tells True Believers That It Is “The Last Time!”
  - Jude 17-19:
    - “But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ; / How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts. / These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit!”
4. It Is The “Last Time!” It Is The “Last Time!”
  - And The Return Of The Lord:
    - To Judge Us All - Is Coming!
      - And Will Come Sooner Than You Think!
  - How Often Do We Live Our Lives:
    - Thinking That “All Things Continue As They Were From The Beginning Of The Creation!” (Peter)
      - Jude Wants Us To Know - Even As Christians:
        - That It Is The “Last Time!”
  - And Instead Of Living Our Lives:
    - As If Everything Will Continue As It Has Been:
      - We Need To Be “Looking For And Hasting Unto The Coming Of The Day Of God!” (2 Peter 3:12)
  - Last Week - We Were Warned:
    - To Be Ready!
      - For The Day Of God’s Final Judgment!
  - This Morning - We Need To:
    - Be Watching & Looking For The Coming Of The Lord!

- Because It Is The “Last Time!”

5. Let’s Look At What Jude Wants Us To Know About:

- The “Last Time!”

- First:

1. ***The Solution For The Time!***

- The “Last Time” Is A Time That Will Be Filled:

- With Turmoil & Upheaval!

- We See It Going On Right Now In The World!

- And It Will Continue To Get Worse & Worse & Infiltrate The Church Even More & More!

- Paul Tells Us In 2 Timothy 3:1 - “This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come!”

- So, How Can Christians Be Ready To Live During This Difficult Time?

- In Jude Verse 17 - We Are Told To Remember Something:

- “But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ!”

- In These Times Of Turmoil & Upheaval, Jude’s Solution Is For Us To “Remember The Words” Of The Lord!

- The Great Solution For Us:

- To Live Through The “Last Time” Is The Word Of God!

- And What The Word Of God Is All About:

- The Lord Jesus Christ & His Gospel!

- We Need To Remember That:

- The Word Of God Is Clear!

- And That It Can Help Remove Much Of The Confusion:

- Of The Times In Which We Live!

- We Are To “Remember”:

- “The Words Which Were Spoken Before!”

- The Things That Are Going On Now:

- And The Things That Will Take Place:

- Do Not Take God By Surprise!

- Everything Is Known By The Lord!

- Everything Is Observed By The Lord!

- And Everything Is Controlled By The Lord!

- And Whenever A Prophecy Is Given In God’s Word - It Is Something That Will Be Fulfilled!

- So - We Don’t Need To Be Surprised By What We See Going On In The World & In The Church Today!

- And Even More - We Do Not Need To Be Overwhelmed!

- In John 16:33, Jesus Said - “These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world!”

- But We Also Need To Remember That:

- The Word Of God Is Consistent!

- The “Last Time” Is Not Just Mentioned By Jude!

- No - It Has Been Spoken About:

- By The Apostles & Even By The Lord Jesus Christ Himself!

- The “Last Time” & The “Last Days”:

- Were A Very Common Theme!

- The Apostle Peter Spoke Of The “Last Days!”

- 2 Peter 3:1-4 - “This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: / That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour: / Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, / And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation!”

- The Apostle John Spoke Of The “Last Time!”

- 1 John 2:18-19 - “Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. / They went

out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us!”

- The Apostle Paul Spoke Of The “Last Days!”
  - 2 Timothy 3:1-5 - “This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. / For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, / Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, / Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; / Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away!”
- If The Apostles Believed That It Was Close To “The End” Then:
  - Then Think How Much Closer To “The End” We Must Be Now!
    - And We Must Keep Our Minds Filled With & Fixed Upon The Message Of God’s Word!
  - Because Things Are Not Going To Get Better During This Period Of Time!
    - 2 Timothy 3:13 - “But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived!”
- But We Must Not Fear! Because:
- The Word Of God Is Comforting!
  - Romans 15:4 - “For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope!”
  - And Jude Tells Us To:
    - “Remember Ye The Words Which Were Spoke Before Of The Apostles Of Our Lord Jesus Christ!”
  - You See - The Apostles Are Simply Sharing With Us The Message They Received From Jesus Himself!
    - And No Matter What We See Or What We Face During The “Last Time” - We Know That It Is In Preparation For The Coming Of Our Lord Jesus!
  - And The More We Learn From Scripture!
    - And The More We Look For The Lord!
      - The More Comfort & Hope We Can Have During Times Like These!
- Jude 17 Can Apply To So Many Of Life’s Overwhelming Concerns & Circumstances!
  - So In Times Like These:
    - Don’t Just “Remember” The Words Of The Lord!
      - But “Rely” Upon Them As Well!
  - Especially As:
    - “The Coming Of The Lord Draweth Nigh!” (James 5:8)
  - Remember - “It Is The Last Time!”

\* But We Can Also Learn From Jude:

## 2. ***The Significance Of The Time!***

- Jude Verse 18 Gives Us The Specific Message Of The Apostles:
  - “How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts!”
    - Again - A Major Theme Of The Messages Of The Apostles Was The “Last Time!”
      - The Period Of Time That Began When Jesus Left This World & Will End When The Final Judgment Is Given!
  - The Apostles Were In This Period Of Time!
    - And So Are We!
      - They Were At The Very Beginning!
      - We Are Close – So Very Close – To The End!
  - But This One Simple Phrase Reminds Us That:
    - God Has A Mission In This World!
      - It Reveals:
- The Progress Of God’s Mission:
  - It Is The “Last” Time!
    - Which Implies That There Was A “Beginning” Of Time!
  - In Fact - All Time Is In Service To God:
    - To Accomplish His Plan In Time!
  - There Was A Beginning Of Time:

- When God Created This World & Universe & Set It In Motion!
- Genesis 1:5 - "And The Evening And The Morning Were The First Day!"
  - God Created Time!
- There Was The Fulness Of The Time!
  - Galatians 4:4-5 - "But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, / To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons!"
  - God Used Time To Prepare For The First Coming Of The Lord Jesus To Redeem Us From Our Sin!
- There Is The Last Time!
  - In Which God Will Wrap Everything Up!
    - And This Is The Time In Which We Now Live!
- God's Mission In This World / With This World:
  - Continues Its Progress!
    - **IE:** The Older You Get, The Faster Time Seems To Go! Imagine How Fast It Must Be For The Lord, Who Is The "Ancient Of Days!"
- We Further See:
- The Preparation For God's Mission:
  - Are You Ready For The Completion Of God's Mission:
    - For This World?
      - How Can We Be?
  - 1 Peter 3:11-13 - "Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, / Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? / Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness!"
    - We Are To Live:
      - In Holiness!
      - And In Hope!
- Don't Live Your Life As If:
  - "All things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation!" (2 Peter 3:4)
    - Too Often Christians Live The Same Way As The World Does!
  - No - It Is The "Last Time!"
    - And Time Itself Is Rapidly Drawing To Its Close!
      - The Time That This World Has!
      - But Even The Time That Your Life Has!
  - So Live Your Life The Way Paul Lived His:
    - "For To Me To Live Is Christ, And To Die Is Gain!" (Philippians 1:21)
  - Because: "It Is The Last Time!"
    - And To Help Us Further Understand This Truth, Jude Gives Us:

### 3. ***The Signs Of The Time!***

- **IE:** Signs Help Us Get Where We Are Going:
  - And Help Us See If We Are Getting Closer & Closer To Our Destination!
    - Driving Back From Colorado, I Kept Looking For The First Sign That Showed Me Where Home Was! Indianapolis!
  - There Are Signs Of The "Last Time":
    - That Will Help Us Along Until The Lord Takes Us Home!
- In Verses 18b-19 - "There should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts. / These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit!"
  - Here Is A Final Description Of The:
    - False Teachers & False Members That Will Be In The Church!
      - Apostates!
  - And Their Very Presence:
    - Is The Sign Of The Time!
- The Demeanor Of The Apostates:
  - "Mockers!"
    - Often We Think Of Someone Mocking Someone With Their Words!

- But This Describes Someone Mocking Through Their Life!
- Comes From A Word That Was Used To Describe Children At Play!
- And It Describes Someone Who Does Not Take The Lord Seriously In His Life!
- How Do They Mock?
  - “Who Should Walk After Their Own Ungodly Lusts!”
  - God Is Not In Their Thoughts / Motives / Desires / Even When It Comes To Things Going On Within The Church!
- When A Person Is Living This Way:
  - They Are Living A Life Of Mockery Before God!
  - Which Is Far Worse Than Just Mocking With Your Words!
- This Is A Sign Of The Time!
  - And It Is The “Last Time!”
- The Division Of The Apostates:
  - “These Be They Who Separate Themselves!”
  - They Create Un-Biblical Divisions Within The Church!
  - They Separate Themselves - “From The Pure Doctrines Of The Gospel . . . And Make Divisions & Separations Among The Churches, For Worldly Ends, And Through Pride . . . As If They Were More Knowing, More Holy, And More Spiritual Than Other Men!” (Gill)
  - This Is A Sign Of The Time!
    - And It Is The “Last Time!”
- The Desires Of The Apostates:
  - “Sensual!”
    - Controlled By Their Own Appetites And Passions!
    - Impulses Of The Flesh!
  - They Live Their Lives Like:
    - “Natural, Brute Beasts” (Verse 10)
    - Like Animals!
    - “If It Feels Good, Do It!” Philosophy!
    - No Self-Control!
  - This Is A Sign Of The Time!
    - And It Is The “Last Time!”
- The Depravity Of The Apostates:
  - “Having Not The Spirit!”
    - There Is No Self-Control:
      - Because There Is No Spirit-Control!
  - They Do Not Have The Spirit Of God Within Them!
    - They Are Not True Members Of The Church!
    - They Are Not Believers!
    - 2 Timothy 3:5 - “Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away!”
  - This Is A Sign Of The Time!
    - And Really, Their Depravity:
      - Is The Source Of All Of The Other Signs!
- And It Is The “Last Time!”
  - The Other Apostles:
    - Add Other Signs To Show Us That It Is The “Last Time!”
  - But Keep Looking For These Signs:
    - Even As Jesus Said In Luke 21:28 - “And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh!”

### **Conclusion:**

1. We Must Remember Today That:
  - “It Is The Last Time!”
    - And There Is More & More Evidence & Signs Out There For Us To See:
      - If We Have The Eyes To See!
  - What Are You Doing With Your Time?
    - Are You Learning From The Lord:
      - More And More:

- From His Word!

- Are You Living For The Lord:

- In This World?

- And Are You Looking For The Lord:

- And His Coming?

2. This Is How We Are To Live:

- As Jude Tells Us Next:

- In Verses 20-21 - "But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, / Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life!"

- And May I Add:

- "And So Much The More, As Ye See The Day Approaching!" (Hebrews 10:25)

- Because "It Is The Last Time!"

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