

The Methods of False Teachers

Jude 16-19

I. FALSE TEACHERS MURMUR AND MOCK

- a. A sin which God hates
 - i. Grumbling “is to insult the God who gives us all things; it is to forget that whatever befalls us, nothing can separate us from His love, nor deprive us of that most priceless of all treasures, the Lord’s presence in our lives.”
(Green)
 - ii. Murmuring was alluded to in v. 5. In the Bible, complaining is a sign of unbelief. See Hebrews 3:8-12. When we fail to trust God, and that He will work all things together for good we become like these false teachers.
 - iii. The Christian virtue which is opposite to complaining is contentment.
“Whatever my lot thou hast taught me to say it is well..”
- b. Murmuring and complaining and griping can destroy a church. If a Christian hears someone murmur, he or she should try to put a stop to it right away. -
illustr- Gainsaying of Core- v. 11- rebellion and backbiting
- c. They mock godliness, and biblical holiness- v. 17-18
 - i. The Bible tells us about the scorner/scoffer and warns us to avoid them and beware lest we become like them. - Psalm 1:1.
 - ii. Those who live according to their own ungodly lusts love to mock those who want to please God. (ex. Drinkers, worldly music/CCM, dress standards, etc.) Jude wants Christians to expect this kind of mocking, so they won’t be surprised by it

II. FALSE TEACHERS ARE SENSUAL

- a. They are not spiritual
 - i. They are carnally minded. They are insensitive to the Holy Spirit

- ii. Sensual in this context refers to more than just sexual immorality. It describes the person who lives only for the physical senses. His motto is, "If it feels good, do it" or, "How can it be wrong if it feels so right?"
 - iii. We live in an age where Satan is bombarding our senses! Man is always finding new ways to indulge the flesh. We must learn how to navigate through this without becoming like these sensual false teachers. We cannot coddle and pamper our flesh!
 - iv. Sensual people are selfish people!
- b. Flattering people: These certain men knew how to use smooth, flattering words to get an advantage over other people. They would say anything – good or bad – to get an advantage. They seek man's approval more than God's.
- c. Many false teachers are great orators, but they are preaching poison! Illustr- TD Jakes, Joel Osteen.
- d. Unfortunately, many Christians today would rather have a flatterer than a preacher that would give it to them straight! They are like the people in Isaiah's day that said, "Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophecy deceits:"
- e. They walk after their own lusts
 - i. The Bible has a lot to say about lust. Here in our passage it is mentioned twice
 - ii. Lust is a strong desire. Some desires are good- Philippians 1:23
 - iii. Usually though, the word refers to sinful lusts- James 1:14-15
 - iv. I Peter 2:11
- f. This is the natural way of life, our instinct.
- g. v. 10- "brute beasts" -they operate in the flesh like animals!
- h. Separate themselves- they cause divisions. Doctrine does not divide, it reveals the division that is already there. We are standing on God's word, it is the false teachers that have separated themselves.

- i. When you look at the history of the Church in the past century, Liberalism swept through all the mainline denominations and corrupted churches. They took over the church and blamed fundamentalists for dividing it. Fundamental Christians were the ones still holding on to the great doctrines taught by Scripture and was once affirmed in those churches! Today “New Evangelicals” are playing too closely with these apostates when we should be separating! “come out from among them...”

III. FALSE TEACHERS DO NOT HAVE THE HOLY SPIRIT

Illustr- Moody was to have a campaign in England. An elderly pastor protested, "Why do we need this 'Mr. Moody'? He's uneducated, inexperienced, etc. Who does he think he is anyway? Does he think he has a monopoly on the Holy Spirit?" A younger, wiser pastor rose and responded, "No, but the Holy Spirit has a monopoly on Mr. Moody."

- a. The contrast between sensuality and spirituality. (This is an important distinction when we look at modern Christianity!)
 - i. Psuche vs. pneuma= soul vs. spirit
 - ii. Man is a trichotomy (body, soul, spirit)
 - iii. Psuche/psukikos is the emotional seat of man- intellect, emotion, and will. This is where “the flesh” pulls and influences. Not just our outer man!
 - iv. Pneuma- is the spirit- our capacity to interact with God. That’s what makes him different from animals!
 - v. This is where the Holy Spirit indwells when we are saved!
 - vi. What are the implications of following your soul (heart, will)?
 - vii. See I Corinthians 15:42-46
- b. Not having the Spirit: Sadly, this same description could be written over many churches, church ministries, or even individual Christian lives! The church and the world truly need genuinely spiritual men and women today!
 - i. They are not indwelt, and thus are not saved

- ii. Romans 8:5-9
- c. They have a spirit, but not the Holy Spirit!
 - i. There are many spirits- I John 4:1
 - ii. But there is only one Holy Spirit
 - iii. Are you indwelt/saved?
- d. Galatians 6:7-8- Are you sowing to the spirit or the flesh?

Conclusion: To sum it all up, Jude says that these false teachers are religious, but lost- having not the Spirit. So, we must take our stand against all religious error – Romanism, liberalism, ecumenism, new-evangelicalism, the seeker-friendly movement, etc. This concludes Jude’s denunciation, and condemnation of apostates, and next he will shift his focus on what true believers ought to be doing.