

SCRIPTURE: Jude

SINGING: 444:1-2 – 182:1, 2, 5-7 – 399:1 – 323:1-4

A. The Holy Spirit's reason for overriding Jude's intention in his letter: vs. 3
1. The heresy threatening the young church

2. The warnings to carnal Christians (Phil. 3:18-19)

B. The key exhortation in vs. 20-21: *Keep yourselves in the love of God*

THE HOLY SPIRIT'S EXHORTATION TO KEEP YOURSELVES IN THE LOVE OF GOD I. What does He mean? II. How is that done? III. What does that work?

I. WHAT DOES IT MEANT 'TO KEEP YOURSELVES IN THE LOVE OF GOD.'

A. To 'keep' is a key word in Jude: vs. 1, 21, 24

B. The meaning of *in the love of God*: our love to Him or His love to us?

II. HOW TO KEEP YOURSELVES IN THE LOVE OF GOD

A. By building up yourselves on your most holy faith

1. Not on your personal faith by which we rely on God's Word

2. But on the unshakeable foundation of God's unfailing testimony (vs. 3)

B. Who are to do this building: *the beloved*

1. God is the ultimate Builder of His Church (vs. 1)

2. God's children are to build up themselves on the foundation of truth
 - a. believers are responsible to *grow* (2 Peter 3:18)

C. How are we to *build up ourselves*?

1. Praying in the Holy Ghost (Rom. 8:26-27)

2. Grieve or Quench not the Holy Spirit (Eph. 4:30; 1 Thes. 5:19)

III. WHAT DOES SUCH A LIFE OF KEEPING IN THE LOVE OF GOD DO TO US?

A. Makes you ready and long for the marriage feast that is coming: Rev. 19:7

1. Experiencing communion with God always makes hungry for more

2. Living 'out of the love of God' will make fearful of His coming

a. Paul's confident longing:

- 2 Cor 5:8 *We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body and to present with the LORD, wherefore we labor, that whether present or absent we may be accepted of Him!*

- *For me to live Christ and to die gain* (Phil. 1:21)

B. The 'Gospel' word in Jesus' coming to fetch His saints: *mercy*

Application

A. Will you make *reflection* on today part of this week?

B. Will you make *reflection* on the day that is coming part of this week?

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that everyone may receive the things done in his body according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. 2 Cor. 5:10