

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for October 11, 2015

The Rescue
Jude 22-25

I. The Pursuit (Jude 22-23)

A. Our attitude toward the doubtful (Jude 22)

And have mercy on some, who are doubting;

-*diakrino*

- to be at variance with one's self, hesitate, doubt

-People at the beginning stages of contemplation

2 Corinthians 11:3

But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity

of devotion to Christ.

-Heretical teaching and lifestyles confuse people in the church

-Jude was identifying people who were doubting the commitment to Christ

as Lord and Master (Jude 4)

B. Our action toward the deceived (Jude 23)

save others, snatching them out of the fire;

-This is urgent!

-“save others” - People’s souls are at stake

-“snatch” - to take something forcefully and suddenly

-“fire” - final judgment

James 5:19-20 My brethren, if any among you strays from the truth and one turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

-Church Discipline

-Mat 18:15-20; 1 Cor. 5:1-5; 2 Thess. 3:6-15; Luke 17:3-4; Gal 6:1-2; 1 Tim 5:20; Titus 3:10-11

C. Our alertness in the delivery (Jude 23)

and on some have mercy with fear, hating even the garment polluted by the flesh.

-Flesh produces contaminating and polluting sin

Revelation 3:4 But you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their garments; and they will walk with Me in white, for they are worthy.

2 Corinthians 7:1 Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

-Jude’s command to be fearful is a warning of sin’s contamination

1 Corinthians 10:12

Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall.

Galatians 6:1 Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted.

-We must know that we are walking into a war zone

1 Peter 2:11 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul.

-These people think they can have *both* label of Christ *and* life of flesh

-This is not that different from the warnings of Jesus in His day

Luke 12:1 ... "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.

Matthew 23:2-3 saying: "The scribes and the Pharisees have seated themselves in the chair of Moses; therefore all that they tell you, do and observe, but do not do according to their deeds; for they say things and do not do them."

1 Corinthians 5:8 Therefore let us celebrate the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

II. The Praise (Jude 24-25)

A. The Actions of God (Jude 24-25a)

1. He prevents us from stumbling

Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling

Jude 1

"...kept for Jesus Christ"

Jude 21 "keep yourselves in the love of God..."

Jude 24 "Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling..."

-Other translations say "falling (away)" (NET, KJV, NLT)

-Context of letter says stumbling is apostatizing from the faith

2 Thessalonians 3:3 But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.

2. He presents us to stand

and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless

-Most biblical characters fell down in God's presence

Isaiah 6 - Isaiah said woe is me!

Daniel 10:7-10 - Daniel fell down before glorious angels

Ezekiel 1:28 - Ezekiel fell on his face before God

Matthew 17:6 - Peter, James and John fell on their faces before Christ in His glorious transfiguration

Acts 9 - Paul fell to the ground and was blinded by Christ

-He will certainly make us stand blameless in His presence

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass.

Philippians 1:6 For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 5:27 that He might present to Himself the church in all

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her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

Colossians 1:22 yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach--

1 Thessalonians 3:13 so that He may establish your hearts without blame in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.

with great joy,

-Our response in the moment that we meet God is joy

1 Peter 1:5-6 who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you greatly rejoice...

1 Peter 4:12-13 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation.

-God's response in the moment that we meet Him is joy

Zephaniah 3:17 The LORD your God is in your midst, A victorious warrior. He will exult over you with joy, He will be quiet in His love, He will rejoice over you with shouts of joy.

Luke 15 - 3 examples of divine rejoicing

3. He purposes to save us

to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord,

-God is our Savior (Titus 1:3; 2:10, 13; 3:4; 1 Timothy 1:1; 2:3; 4:10)

-Christ prevents us from stumbling

-Christ presents as blameless

-Christ is our Savior!

B. The Adoration of God (Jude 25b)

1. The details of the adoration

be glory, majesty, dominion and authority,

-glory=weight, esteem, respect

-majesty=greatness, preeminence

-Combination of glory and majesty=honorable position

-dominion=ruling power or sovereignty

-authority=right to exercise his rule and dominion

-Despite the apparent inundation of apostasy in the Church, God is still the only Sovereign King who is on His throne

2. The duration of the adoration

before all time and now and forever. Amen.

-These things (glory, majesty, dominion, authority) are not wished to God but they *belong* to God (Revelation 1:4; Hebrews 13:8)