

The New Testament Church
The Book of Jude #12 – Jude 1:22-25; (Pr. 27:6, 17)
Investing in Others
March 30, 2025 - Pastor Paul Jehle

I Review of Jude - **called to contend** as well as **continue** in the faith

- A. Book of Jude - a summary of truths preparing the early Church for a “test” of evil rising
- B. A review of lessons one through four – Jude 1:1-13
 - 1. **Called** to faith and family – first test in Kingdom manifestation – Jesus is our example
 - 2. **Contend** - opposition causes us to clarify our beliefs (apologetics) – for original gospel
 - 3. **Continue** - overcome sinful obstacles by living under authority – a **submissive attitude**
 - a. Walk in the way of the cross rather than the “way of Cain” – lust of flesh - **pleasure**
 - b. Embracing godliness with contentment rather than greed – lust of eyes – **power**
 - c. Cultivating God’s presence through humility vs. pride of life – **spiritual pride**
 - d. Protected from detours by koinonia – community, participation – **fellowship**
 - e. Seeking a walk with God that is prepared for the Lord’s return – **maturity**
 - f. Embrace the judgment of God who turns ashes into beauty – **the promises of God**
 - g. Build up Faith - praying in the Spirit – **in understanding and the mystery of tongues**

II Continuing in Faith – Investing in Others – Jude 1:22-25; Proverbs 27:6; 17); 1st Tim. 1:12-14

- A. v. 22-23 – ingredients - compassion (grace) and confrontation (truth) – spiritual immunity!
 - 1. We invest in God and one another to grow in faith – become like Jesus – Jn. 1:14
 - a. Our relationship with Christ deepens as we open up to His grace and truth
 - b. Investing in one another occurs when we can walk in grace and truth with each other
 - c. The faults we see so clearly in others we practice ourselves – Ro. 2:1
 - d. Consider those who have invested in your growth as an example to emulate
 - 2. Sometimes one attribute is emphasized over the other – quote Alcorn, pgs. 13-18
- B. v. 22 – *And on some, have compassion, making a distinction...*
 - 1. This is where grace is extended and truth is given gently but clearly
 - 2. “Faithful are the wounds of a friend,” (Pr. 27:6) “speak the truth in love” (Eph. 4:15)
 - 3. Faithful are the wounds of a friend – but the “kisses” of the enemy shallow - Pr. 27:6
 - 4. A friend is one with which we have an agreed covenant (bridge) – grace understood
 - 5. The wound is when the truth hurts but it also heals relationships and rebuilds trust
 - 6. We must check our attitude (meekness) when we approach one another – Gal. 6:1
- C. v. 23 - *others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire, hating... garment defiled by flesh.*
 - 1. This is when “iron sharpens iron” – a face to face relationship (Ex. 33:11; Pr. 27:17)
 - 2. Truth is given boldly in a spirit of grace (praying the bridge is strong enough)
 - 3. We pull people out of the fire because we care for people (only minimal relationship)
 - 4. It is often a confrontation that exposes sin – the transgression of the law (1st Jn. 3:4)
- D. v. 24 – *Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy...*
 - 1. He keeps us from stumbling – we’ve invested in His keeping power! (2nd Tim. 1:12-14)
 - 2. Blameless is not being responsible, but faultless is “without sin” – but none of us are!
 - 3. We need an “advocate” – the Spirit on earth, and Jesus in heaven - **perfect in Him!**
- E. v. 25 – The postscript in Jude - *To God our Savior, who alone is wise, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever, Amen.*