Being A Christian!

Study Outline – Grace Bible Chapel Epistle of Jude Study – Jude 20-21

June 2nd, 2024

Context: After Jude has gone into extreme detail to explain & warn of the dangers of apostasy to the church, he now presents his second admonition beginning with "but beloved." These verses connect back to "contend for the faith" (vs 4). "Building yourselves up" has directly to do with taking in God's truth. There is no other means to build one up in faith – knowing God's Word is essential. Secondly, "praying in the Holy Spirit" means to not merely go through the motions of prayer, but to be truly engaged in thought and reliance upon God, conforming to His will, and trusting His strength.

The third offensive action is "keep yourselves in the love of God" (vs 21). The idea is to know God's Will and to practice it. Stay in the sphere of obedience. By this true love for God is demonstrated. It is the same idea as "abide" in John 15. The "waiting anxiously" is a reference to focusing our perspective and hope on God's future promises. These four commands are essential to provide stability in our Christian walk, and personal victory from the effects of apostasy.

Broad outline of the Epistle of Jude (underlined is the immediate context).

- II. Call to Awareness (1-4)
- III. Challenge from History (5-7)
- IV. Church warned & instructed (8-23)
 - A. Character of Apostasy (8-13)
 - B. Coming judgment on Apostasy (14-16)
 - C. Challenge from Apostasy (17-19)
 - D. Contending Actions (20-23)

Key Words (20-21)

- building
- praying
- keep yourselves
- waiting anxiously



