

Series: The Gift of the Holy Spirit

Jude Part Two

May 14, 2023

Dr. Mary Craig (Message delivered by Stephen Craig)
Mary Craig Ministries, Inc.



[Click/tap to hear more from the live recording](#)

Let's review how the epistle of Jude begins:

NKJ Jude 1:1-4

1 Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ:

2 Mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

3 Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

4 For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

In Part One we looked at the first 13 verses in Jude. Jude 1:14-16 says:

¹⁴Enoch, the seventh from Adam, also prophesied about them: "Behold, the Lord is coming with myriads of His holy ones ¹⁵to execute judgment on everyone, and to convict all the ungodly of every ungodly act of wickedness and every harsh word spoken against Him by ungodly sinners." ¹⁶These men are discontented grumblers, following after their own lusts; their mouths spew arrogance; they flatter others for their own advantage.

Remember, Jude is addressing the issue of certain (unnamed) men who had slipped in alongside of others, unnoticed, ones about whom it has been written in God's book of judgment long beforehand. These had presently come to Jude's attention, and Jude, under the superintending influence of the Holy Spirit that these that they now have knowledge of, are for the purpose of entering into the condemnation, the ones who are distorting the grace of our God into indecent sensuality, even the one Master God and Lord of us Jesus Christ, while to their own detriment- denying.

So now, in this message, we continue in Jude, starting with Jude 1:17-19.

NKJ Jude 1:17-19

17 But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ:

18 how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts.

19 These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit.

We're in a war of words, and we are to remember the words spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. "Essentially, Jude is saying, I expect you beloved

believers to submit yourselves, not just intellectually to the Words of the Apostles; but in spirit, to receive the force of the Truth of God the Holy Spirit in this matter.

This is not an unusual expectation from the Lord.

Most of what we commonly refer to as “doing God’s Will” is actually obediently “receiving” His words on significant matters in faith, believing that God’s Spirit is capable to work out His truth in us, in order that we might accomplish it.” (Rev. Jim Craig)

“Mockers are individuals who engage in childish behavior. Children behave the way they do in large part because of what they lack internally at the time; namely, complete development. Their “immaturity” is often demonstrated by general self-centeredness, and occasionally by attempts of aggression in the form of mocking, and making fun of those they oppose. They work with what resources they have...These unbelievers tear apart the church; they are soulish ones.

In a similar fashion, the unbeliever is characterized by what they lack internally at the time; namely, the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit of God.” (Rev. Jim Craig)

²⁰But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. ²²And have mercy on those who doubt; ²³save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh. Jude 1:20-23 ESV

So what is the true believer called to do in this cosmic war of words? Jude calls those in Christ “beloved.” He exhorts:

1. Build yourselves up in your most holy faith.
2. Pray in the Holy Spirit.
3. Keep yourselves in the love of God; i.e., stay loyal to the One True and Living God with supreme loyalty and attachment.
4. Wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.
5. Have mercy on those who doubt.
6. Save others by snatching them out of the fire.
7. To others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

Jude refers only twice to the Holy Spirit within this short letter (v. 19 and v. 20, 21)

The false ones, says Jude, are the ones who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit. The word translated “sensual” here is the same word used in James 3:15. It refers to the natural man (1 Cor. 2:14). The natural man is without the Holy Spirit. Three apostles use this term for the unregenerate, those who stand in contrast to the spiritual man, or one that has received the Holy Spirit. The natural man lives according to reason; he has not received the Spirit of wisdom and revelation. The one who has not the Spirit is not Christ’s (Romans 8:9). The natural man, and I don’t care if he is 99 44/100 % pure, has not the Spirit. To have the Holy Spirit is to have Him occupy the heart of one He has regenerated and to whom He has revealed Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Without the Holy Spirit, one is dead. John 6:63. The Holy Spirit is the life-maker, the life-producer.

In verses 20, 21, Jude describes a life of fellowship with the Holy Spirit, a life of prayer resulting from that fellowship. Believers are to build themselves up, having all the objects of faith as a foundation. Believers are to be active in the process. To pray in the Holy Spirit is to be prompted by the heart of the Holy Spirit with the mind of Christ in order to do the will of the Father. It is to allow the Holy Spirit to govern our prayer life.

The Holy Spirit is the Paraclete, the One who comes alongside, the effective Helper. The words of Christ assist in the process. The believer is to assist in the process. We are to yield to the Holy Spirit's impulses, heed His strivings, submit ourselves unto His governing rule. We are to keep ourselves in the love of God. We are to build up ourselves on or in our most holy faith. Through the Spirit we mortify the deeds of the body, mourn over sin, turn away from it, and press to the high calling of Jesus Christ. Jesus died FOR our sin, in our place; we are to die TO sin. The emphasis is on the expectation to be conformed to the image of Jesus Christ. Find out what pleases the Lord.

As to "praying in the Holy Spirit" (Jude 1:21), A. W. Pink notes: "by His prompting and power. Now God discerns between the motions of nature, the lustings of the flesh, the longings of grace, and the desires wrought by the Spirit...Proverbs 16:2...That which the Spirit produces in the saint is, first, in accord with God's nature—spiritual and holy. Second, it is according to God's Word...Third, it is according to God's purpose, for the Spirit is fully cognizant of all the Divine counsels. Fourth, it is according to God's glory...the Spirit creates within us holy desires, the son presents them, the Father understands and approves them." (Pink, A. W. *The Holy Spirit*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1974. Page 146)

In Jude 1:22, 23 And have mercy on those who doubt; save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

Jude gives expectations for times when we "contend for the faith" and when we witness to others. He warns and cautions that we must have our guards up while having mercy with unbelievers, with those who doubt. We must guard ourselves while "snatching others out of the fire." We must hate sin and what it does to people clothed in unrighteousness and not clothed with the righteousness of Christ. So we show mercy with fear. Every believer is vulnerable; we must be strong in the Lord and always seeking Him and asking Him what He purposes to do, what is the mind of Christ, what is the heart of the Holy Spirit, and if He goes so far and no farther at the present time in someone's life, then obey and trust Him. When someone is "ripe fruit," He will make it very plain. We need to be fine-tuned as to our spiritual senses lest we become ensnared ourselves. So, may the Holy Spirit help us to persevere in the faith as we are being sanctified and prepared to stand in the presence of God's glory.

I. Let's be on guard, be aware, watch, and keep away from those things that might snag us. Pride goes before a fall, and a haughty spirit before destruction. We are never totally "well." We do better to remind ourselves of our vulnerability and fallen natures and the wiles of the devil.

II. Let's remember Jude's admonition about greed and Rev. Jim Craig's comments:

“In a biblical sense, greed is defined by or characterized by one’s dissatisfaction with the place they occupy, and so they each engage in rebellion against God in their individual ways, greedily seeking selfish gain at any cost.

The war-cry of the greedy might be, “Hey, that’s not fair!” or “That should be mine instead!” (Rev. Jim Craig)

III. Let’s thank the Living God that He is faithful, that He who calls us is faithful, who also will do it. Amen.

Doxology

²⁴Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, ²⁵to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time. [or before any age], and now and forever. Amen. Jude 24, 25 ESV

Mary Craig, D. Min.

© 2014-2023 Mary Craig Ministries, Inc. www.marycraig.org www.mcmtffr.org



Thank you for giving to MCM! Donate: Mary Craig Ministries, Inc., P. O. Box 4610, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33338-4610 or through PayPal® online at www.marycraig.org. Go to marycraig.org for the latest articles and words received. Take a look and see all that God is doing through this ministry, in world missions, in evangelism, the Barnabas Project, Craighouse® Christian Fellowship, home visitation, Kinetic Koinonia, media, and more. Worship with us 4:30 p.m. Sundays via teleconference. Reach MCM at 954-491-7270. Send in your prayer requests. Follow MCM Bible teachings and Rev. Jim Craig’s sermons; go to www.marycraig.org and click on “Audio Bible Studies” or “Divine Appointment” radio ministry; or go to www.mcmtffr.org for audio sermons, teachings, and handout sheets. Free. Go to www.marycraigverses.org for “Enjoying God for Life,” daily encouragement and growing in your faith. Go to www.marycraig.smugmug.com for some pictures of MCM world

missions.

Visit Mary Craig Ministries YouTube Channel:

www.youtube.com/@marycraigministries or www.mcmvideochannel.com. Subscribe for free.

Free books by Dr. Craig to download, print, or just open and use, here: www.marycraig.org/Catalog.htm .

Mary Craig Ministries, Inc. is a USA 501 (C) (3) nonprofit corporation founded in 1993. Federal ID 65-0429517