



Epistle of Jude

Jude 17-19 – Contend by Recall of God’s Word

- We’ve just finished warnings against false teachers, or have we? But now let’s turn to the words of those who came before us!
- ***Jude 17,18 - But beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts.***
 - *beloved* is *agapētos* which reflects on a very special bond doesn’t it.
 - Wuest - ‘The word "beloved" does not refer to Jude's love for those to whom he is writing, but to the fact that the saints are beloved ones of God.’
 - Do we today *remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: how they told you (us)*



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that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts?

- *remember* is aorist passive imperative – what should we make of this verb tense, voice and mood?
- Who are the apostles, the 12 + Paul (*Matt 28:19,20*) or more broadly interpreted as those who followed to teach and spread the gospel (*Rom 16:7, 2 Cor 8:23, Phil 2:25*)?
 - It seems that the apostles here are the 12 + Paul in that those to whom Jude is addressing is reminding them of those who are contemporaries.
- Recalling the similarity of the epistle of Jude to the 2nd epistle of Peter, *mockers* is the same as *scoffers*.
 - » *2 Peter 3:3 - knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts,*
- When is the *last time*, just before the rapture or after the tribulation; and do you agree with Constable?
 - Constable – ‘The "last time" refers to the end of the historical period that encompasses the church age and the Tribulation. After this "last time" God will rule directly over humankind, first during the Millennium and then in the new heavens and new earth (cf. *1 Tim. 4:1; 2 Tim. 3:1; et al.*). It is the last time in relation to Jesus Christ's return to reign on earth.’



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- Ironside – ‘God is silent now, while men blaspheme His name and stumble over His word. Soon He will speak from heaven, when all shall know with whom they have to do.’
- *who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts*
 - In their current state, they have no choice, do they?
 - » *1 Cor 2:14 - But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*
 - But we have this privilege to remember and walk accordingly.
 - » *1 John 4:6 - We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.*
- ***Jude 19 - These are (be) sensual persons, (who cause divisions), not having the Spirit.***
 - How should we interpret *sensual* (*apodiorizō*)?
 - Only NT use - *disjoined, separated, literally animal-souled.*
 - Strong – ‘those who by their wickedness separate themselves from the living fellowship of Christians;’
 - But outwardly, as indicated by Jude, they did at one time take part in church ordinances.



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» *Jude 12 - These are spots in your love feasts, while they feast with you without fear, serving only themselves. They are clouds without water, carried about by the winds; late autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots;*

- Do they purposely cause *divisions*, or do they have any choice?
- What *sprit – pneuma*?
 - Remember the Greek word can be any one of the following:
 - The 3rd person of the Godhead
 - The principle by which the body is animated
 - A simple essence, devoid of all or at least all grosser matter, and possessed of the power of knowing, desiring, deciding, and acting
 - The disposition or influence which fills and governs the soul of any one
 - A movement of air
 - But Vincent and Alford say that it refers to man's human spirit.
 - Alford says: "not directly the Holy Spirit of God . . . but the higher spiritual life of man's spirit in communion with the Holy Spirit. These men have not indeed ceased to have *pneuma* (spirit), as a part of their own tripartite nature: but they have ceased to possess it in any worthy sense: it is degraded beneath and under the power of the *psuchē*, the personal life, to



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have no vitality of its own." Vincent says: "the higher spiritual life. So, the adjective *pneumatikos*, (spiritual), is everywhere in the N.T. opposed to *psuchikos*, natural.

» *1 Cor 15:44, 46 - It is sown a natural body; it is raised a **spiritual body**. There is a natural body, and there is a **spiritual body**. However, **the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual.***

–Wuest – ‘The present writer decided with Vincent, Alford, and Plumtre, on the basis of the contrast implied which is not between the *psuchikos* of man and the Holy Spirit, but between man's *psuchikos* and man's *pneumatikos*. Of course, **since these false teachers are devoid of the higher spiritual life and its accompanying sensibilities, it is clear that they do not have the Holy Spirit.**’

–Ironsides – ‘They are **unregenerate, natural men, attempting to act as ministers of Christ.** But their speech betrays them.’

» *James 3:15 - This wisdom does not descend from above, but is **earthly, sensual, demonic.***

» *Rom 8:9 - But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. **Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.***

- Here, I think this must be the Holy Spirit!

–Constable – ‘In refusing **the Divine Spirit** they had sunk to the **level of an animal life, immoral, and productive of confusion to the Church.**’

–It is only the Holy Spirit now who that directs our lives, not our own spirit!