

# No Spirit, No Truth

Jude 17-19

## Jude

a study of the epistle

# A Change of Pace

“With these verses Jude turns from burning denunciation of the apostates to provide loving guidance and encouragement to the faithful amid apostasy.”

- D. Edmond Hiebert



## Jude 17-18

**17** But you, beloved, ought to remember the words that were spoken beforehand by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ, **18** that they were saying to you, “In the last time there will be mockers, following after their own ungodly lusts.”

# “beloved” - ἀγαπητοὶ

- As believers, we are specially objects of God’s love.
- **And as believers, we are called to “remember the words that were spoken beforehand by the apostles.”**
- If you love Him, you will love His Word.



# “remember” - μνάομαι

- Remembering in the Scriptures does not merely involve mental recollection.
- Remembering means that one takes to heart the words spoken, so that they are imprinted upon one's life.
- It is also the first imperative in Jude.

## Genesis 8:1

1 But God **remembered** Noah and all the beasts and all the cattle that were with him in the ark; and God caused a wind to pass over the earth, and the water subsided.



# 1 Samuel 1:11 – Hannah’s Prayer

**11** She made a vow and said, “O Lord of hosts, if You will indeed look on the affliction of Your maidservant and **remember** me, and not forget Your maidservant, but will give Your maidservant a son, then I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life, and a razor shall never come on his head.”

## Psalm 105:8

8 He has **remembered**  
His covenant forever, The  
word which He  
commanded to a thousand  
generations



## **“the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ”**

- The apostles were provided the foundational teaching of the early church, having learned the truth from Christ, Himself.
- I would argue that no other faith has this kind of foundation.

## Ephesians 2:19-22

**19** So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, **20** having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, **21** in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, **22** in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.



## Parallel: 2 Peter 3:2

**2** that you should remember the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior spoken by your apostles.

# The Words of the Apostles

“In the last time there will be mockers, following after their own ungodly lusts.”

Is this consistent with what we hear from the Apostles in Scripture?



# We Heard it from Jesus First

**Matthew 7:15** “Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. **16** You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes nor figs from thistles, are they? **17** So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. **18** A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit. **19** Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. **20** So then, you will know them by their fruits.”

## Acts 20:29-30

**29** I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; **30** and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them.



# 1 Timothy 4:1-3

**1** But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons, **2** by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron, **3** men who forbid marriage and advocate abstaining from foods which God has created to be gratefully shared in by those who believe and know the truth.

## 2 Timothy 3:1-5

**1** But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. **2** For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, **3** unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, **4** treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, **5** holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.



# “In the last time”

- And yet, Jude says,  
“they were saying to you.”
- So, the question is:  
When and what is “the last time?”

# For the NT Christian

The “last days” dawned with the life, death, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

But it’s been almost 2,000 years!

- 2 Peter 3:8 –

“But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day.”



## Peter Quotes Joel 2:28 in

**Acts 2:17** ‘And it shall be in the **last days,**’ God says, ‘That I will pour forth of My Spirit on all mankind...’

## Hebrews 1:2

**2** in these **last days** has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world



# Paul Shares Jude's View

In 1 Timothy 4:1 (“in later times some will fall away from the faith”) and 2 Timothy 3:1 (“in the last days difficult times will come”), Paul understood these predictions to be fulfilled by the entrance of false teachers into the church at Ephesus.

**“mockers” (or “scoffers”)**

**Psalm 1:1** How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of **scoffers!**



## Jude 19

**19** These are the ones  
who cause divisions,  
worldly-minded, devoid  
of the Spirit.

## Another Set of 3 for Jude

- These are the ones who:
  1. “cause divisions”
  2. “worldly minded”
  3. “devoid of the Spirit”



# 1. “cause divisions”

- Remember that earlier Jude compared “these” men to Balaam and Korah, two men who sowed discord in the people of God.
- **Factions within the body of Christ are nothing short of cancerous.**
- Paul addressed this very issue at the church in Corinth.

## 1 Corinthians 11:18-19

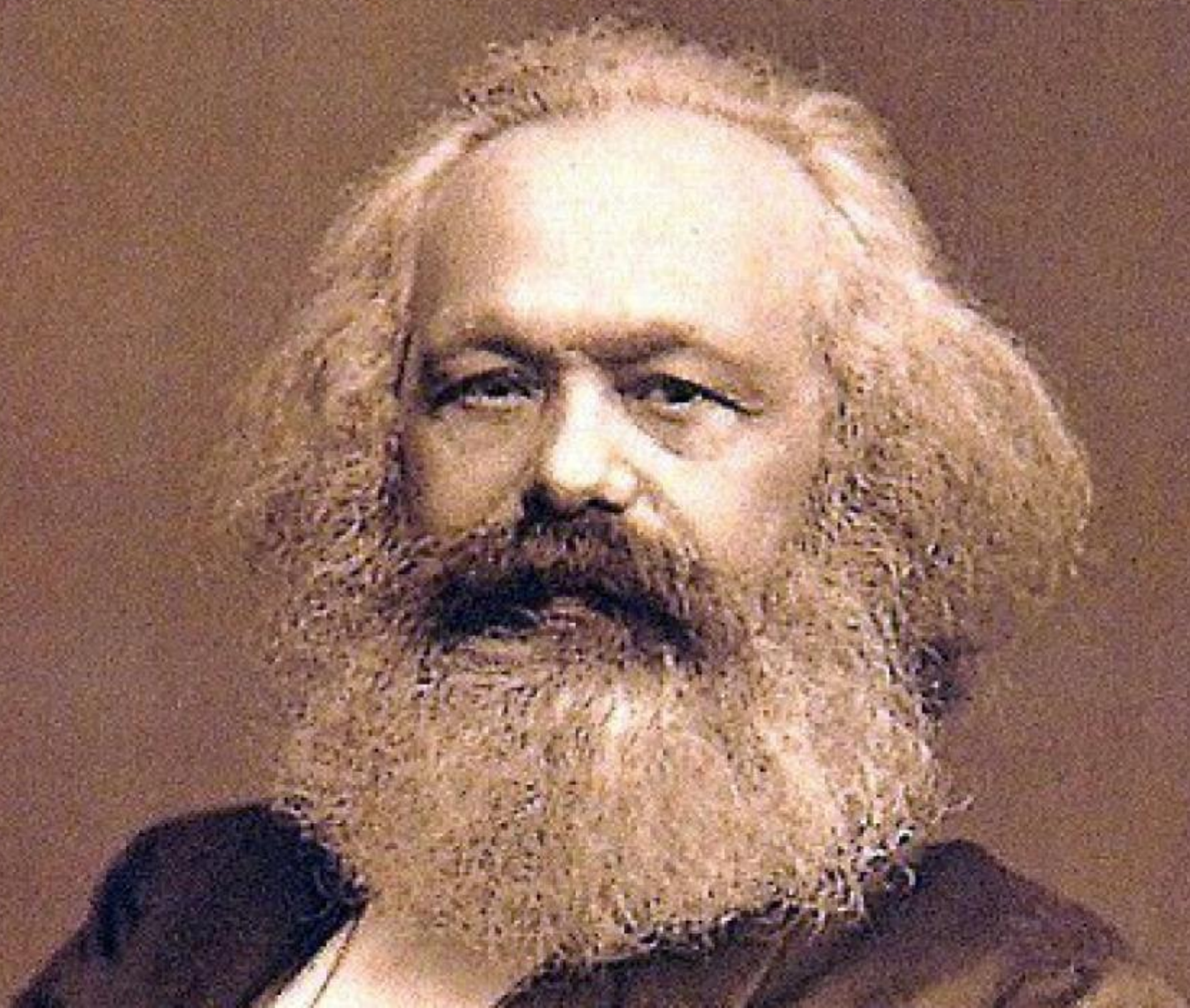
**18** For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that divisions exist among you; and in part I believe it. **19** For there must also be factions among you, so that those who are approved may become evident among you.



## Galatians 5:19-20

**19** Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, **20** idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, **dissensions, factions...**







## 2. “worldly minded”

- ψυχικός (*psychikos*)
- KJV: “sensual”
- Paul helps us understand in 1 Corinthians 15:44 –

“it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.”

### 3. “devoid of the Spirit”

- Romans 8:9 –

“However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.”



# Jude Does Something

That the majority of churches in  
America refuse to do.

He says unequivocally that these  
false teachers do **NOT** possess the  
Holy Spirit, and therefore, they are  
**NOT** saved.

## 1 Corinthians 2:14

**14** But a natural (*psychikos*) man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.



## James 3:15

**15** This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural (*psychikos*), demonic.

## **“These” Men**

**“Cause divisions” because they do not belong to God at all, because they are “worldly minded” and “devoid of the Spirit.”**

**Unsaved people usually act like unsaved people.**



# For Us

Don't be surprised that so many false teachers are increasingly prevalent in the church.

Foreseeing their arrival, as the prophets and apostles did, should strengthen the faith of the church since it confirms the truth of the faith and the Word of God that was once and for all given to us!

# No Threat

- Can be considered a genuine threat to the truth since it has all been foreseen and predicted.
- **The apostles promised opponents to the gospel, and they have arrived.**
- We will continue to stand on the truth and reject all ungodly philosophies that stand against the gospel.



# And We Can Do It Confidence

**Ephesians 5:27** That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

**Matthew 16:18**...and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.



**Next  
Week:**

**“Keep  
Yourselves in  
the Love of  
God”**



