

The Call to Persevere

Jude 17-23

Remember the Warning (v.17) What was Jude warning them about? Verse 18 basically shares this. Think about the warning throughout this letter. These false teachers, creeping in to take over the church for their selfish gain. Jesus stated this exact thing. Matthew 7:15-20 ***“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. 16 You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? 17 So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. 18 A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.”***

Recognize the Ungodly (vv.18-19) Listen to what Peter tells us recorded in 2 Peter 3:2-3: ***“that you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles, knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires.”***

Remain in Love with God (vv. 21-22) This command we see in these verses reminds us of the Great Commandment (Matthew 22:34-40) to love God and love people. The number one gauge to how much do you love God is how much you love people? Feed your love for Christ through His Word, the fellowship of the Church, and through serving Christ. You remain in love with your spouse through communication, intentionally sharing and spending time together. You do the same with God!

Redeem Time for Ministry (v. 23) Why should we redeem time for ministry? Because Christ redeemed us! Sharing the gospel, evangelism, is a sure sign that you are born again! We were made to reproduce. The parable of the Sower and the seed clearly talks about this as bearing fruit! I love the action of this verse. Snatch people out of Hell through the gospel!

Charles Spurgeon said, “If sinners be damned, at least let them leap to Hell over our dead bodies. And if they perish, let them perish with our arms wrapped about their knees, imploring them to stay.”

How can we redeem time for ministry?

- a. The most loving thing that you can do is share the gospel! If you don't share the gospel with a person, do you really love them?
- b. Go after those who follow and teach false teachings.
- c. Have mercy on false teachers, by sharing the truth in love.