



Grace into Lewdness

Right before the words of prophecy written in the Book of Revelation, you will find one of the shortest books of the Bible called, The Epistle of Jude. I believe the chronological placement of these books (and the rest of the books in the Bible) were inspired by the Holy Spirit. These have been organized in such a prophetic way that we are seeing the events the apostle Jude so warned us about in his letter emerging today. And sure enough, the apostle Paul affirmed that in the latter times, the Great Apostasy would take place.

Jude 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.

At the beginning of Jude's letter, he reminds us of our common salvation as believers in Christ. He then proceeds to write the main idea of the entire letter – the call to contend earnestly (fight!) for the faith. Jude feels the needs to tell us to fight for the faith because something will begin to happen within the Church.

-What is this faith we as believers in Christ are exhorted to fight for?

Let me submit to you it is the gospel of grace that reveals righteousness by faith in Christ.

Jude 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.

Certain men who profess to be believers, talk like believers, act as believers, and even hold positions within local churches have crept in the Church and perverted the grace of God. As a result, they have so cunningly assembled a movement within the Church in order to establish the lewdness and heresy that it embraces. They have successfully infiltrated the Church, and if left unchecked, the faith we all know in the Word of God will be transposed into lewdness.

One of the words to translate *lewdness* in the Old Testament is the Hebrew word *Zimmah*, which means, “a plan, a purpose, so translated several times and then shading off into an evil plan; heinous crime, wicked purpose or device. In the New Testament is the Greek word *Aselgeia*, which means, “unbridled lust, excess, licentiousness, lasciviousness, wantonness, outrageousness, shamelessness, insolence.”

The problem is this exchange goes unrecognized because these leaders saintly advance this false reform by advertising it as moral uprightness and social justice. Much like the legalists, these lewdists also attest to self-righteousness, taking hypocrisy to new heights. At the end of the day, they interchange the grace of Christ with works, not by the works of the law but, this time, by the works of the flesh funneled through an ideology known today as **progressivism**.

A great man of God says it best in this manner:

- “Whatsoever begins in hypocrisy will end in apostasy.” - **Richard Sibbs**

The apostle Jude then proceeds to help us identify this pseudo-Christianity:

v.4: These deny faith in Christ as the only means to salvation by imposing universalist doctrines.

v.5: These, instead of looking to Jesus and the Word of God, have united with the State to increase the reach of its divergent social justice gospel by persecuting those who stand on the truth of the Word and desire to live godly in Christ Jesus. Their goal is impose their socialist and communist ideals and values.

v.6,7: These became dissatisfied with their own proper domain in regards to gender and sexuality, so they give themselves over to sexual immorality and every kind of sexual perversion. Their desire is make their lifestyle acceptable by trying to impose their homosexual ideology and distorted views of gender on a cultural level.

v.8: Lastly, these reject spiritual correction by undermining the final authority of Scripture and reject law and order by siding with groups who promote looting and anarchism in the name of protest. They defile themselves by abandoning Biblical views on marriage and life of the unborn.

It is evident that the gospel of grace is no longer being perverted by the legalist Pharisee but by the lewdist Pharisee. The answer still remains the same: hold fast to the truth of the Word of God and stand on the unqualified gospel of grace that reveals righteousness by faith in Christ.

A great man of God says in this manner:

- In looking carefully over the history of the times, and the movement of the times, of which we have written briefly, this fact is apparent: that where ministers and Christian churches have held fast to the truth that the Holy Scriptures have been given by God as an authoritative and infallible rule of faith and practice, they have never wandered very seriously out of the right way. But when, on the other hand, reason has been exalted above revelation, and made the exponent of revelation, all kinds of errors and mischief have been the result. - **Charles Spurgeon**

I believe what we are witnessing is the start of the Great Apostasy prophesied by Enoch in the Old Testament and Jude, Paul, and Peter in the New Testament. The way Jude comforted the Church in his letter is reminding us by saying, “Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousand of His saints...”, which alludes to the Rapture of the Church, and His second coming together with us.

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