

# **SPIRITUAL TERRORISTS IN THE CHURCH**

## **(THE BOOK OF JUDE)**

### Part 5

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What a future we have as believers! Because of the mercy and grace of our loving God, we are assured of a heavenly home one day; and nothing, or no one, can take that away from us.

However, these days on earth present some difficult tests and trials. We are daily seeking to live a righteous life while being surrounded by every kind of evil. We are also in the midst of a "religious" climate that is very popular, yet filled with apostate false teachers. Every conceivable "brand" of false teaching is promoted even in our own city; and to stand on the authority of Holy Scripture causes many to declare "war" on us.

Yes, these are dangerous times. The truth of Scripture is under fierce attack. The war for truth is raging. As believers, we must be engaged in this war or we will succumb to the enemy. We have to be diligent "spiritual soldiers."

# OUR COMMAND AS CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS

## Jude 17

- Jude begins his exhortation to believers with an **urgent** command.
- The word used means to **recall** or remember something already **learned**.
- It can also mean, "to bring to memory so you can **respond**," or to "**fill** the mind" with previous information.
- Jude's command is in the **passive** voice and would be stated this way; **allow** yourselves to be reminded!
- In other words...be open and **available** to the Holy Spirit's teaching ministry so He can fill your **minds** with the Scriptures you need in this **war** for truth.
- Do not **quench** the Holy Spirit, which leads to reception of all kinds of error.

# APOSTOLIC WORDS TO BE REMEMBERED

## Jude 17

### Peter's Words

- II Peter 1:15 = Remember these **things**.
- II Peter 2:1 = There will be **false** teachers among you.

### Paul's Words

- Acts 20:28-30 = Speaking **perverted** things.
- II Corinthians 11:13-15 = Transforming **themselves** into apostles of Christ.

- I Timothy 4:1 = In latter **times** some will fall away.
- I Timothy 6:20-21 = **Guard** what has been entrusted to you.
- II Timothy 3:1, 5, 7-8 = Difficult times will **come**.

## JUDE'S SPECIFIC WORDS TO REMEMBER

### Jude 18

- Jude's statement is a **requote** of II Peter 3:3.
- The term "**mockers**" is used only here and in Peter's statement.
- It means to deceive, mock, dance, make fun by mocking, jeer, scorn or **play**.
- These apostate false teachers play at **preaching** and teaching as they scorn the truth.
- They are driven to do what they do by their own strong **fleshly** desires. (They seek to be rich, famous and sexually fulfilled.)
- Jude warns us so we...
  - won't be **surprised** by this.
  - will be prepared to **stand** for truth.
  - won't buy into their interpretation or **application** of Scripture.

## JUDE'S PROFILE OF THESE FALSE TEACHERS

### Jude 19

- False teachers not only leave a trail of destruction, but can be spotted by a certain "**profile**."

- They always...
  - 1) Force division and **cause** separation in the body of Christ:
    - by displaying a “spiritually **elite**” attitude.
    - by forming “**cliques**” of those they can easily seduce.
  - 2) Operate in a “**soulish**” or natural way, ignoring the laws and standards of Holy Scripture:
    - by focusing on the “**physical**” aspects of life (as opposed to spiritual).
    - by always appealing to the **emotions** rather than to the mind and will.
  - 3) Are not Christians because they are not **indwelt** by the Holy Spirit;
    - They do not “**possess**” the Holy Spirit.
    - Romans 8:9 clearly states that one who does not have the Holy Spirit **indwelling** is not saved.

**Note** - This is referring to the actual false teachers. Many Christians are **deceived** by their tactics, however.

- As believers, we must demand certain information before we submit ourselves to the teaching of anyone.
  - Are they following God assigned **roles** in teaching?
  - What do they believe? - **Doctrinal** statement
  - How are they **accountable**, and to whom?
  - Are they in submission to a local **church**?
  - How are they **paid**?
  - Who monitors the **finances**?
  - Are there examples of biblical **results** in their ministry?
  - Do they have a “**reverence**” for the Word of God?
- As believers, we must learn to “**profile**” all teachers and preachers so that we will not be misled and seduced to **tolerate** sin.

## PERSONAL APPLICATION

1. Are you actively engaged in a faithful study of Scripture?
2. Are you a candidate to be seduced by false teachers because you are lazy spiritually?
3. What "theology" is part of your belief system that has been taught to you by false teachers?
4. Are you a diligent soldier in this "war for truth"?