

I. Dealing with Real Problems (v 3a)

- A. What Jude wanted to write about
- B. What Jude had to write about instead
- C. Further Reflections for Application
 - 1) Love knows what is going on
 - 2) Love does not insist on its own way
 - 3) There will always be problems
 - 4) Problems have to be dealt with
 - a) When do we cover in love?
 - b) When should we not let offenses pass by?
 - c) How to deal with problems?
 - 5) This reminds us how we read the Bible.

II. Contending for the Faith (v 3b)

- A. We need exhortation to contend
 - 1) A brief word to the structure of Jude
 - 2) From whom do we need such an urgent injunction?
 - a) From God the Holy Spirit, the author of Scripture
 - b) From our Pastors
 - 3) Why do we need such a call and counsel?
 - a) Because we are easily forgetful
 - b) Because we are easily fearful
 - c) Because we are easily discouraged and despairing
- B. You must contend for the faith
 - 1) What does Jude mean by *the faith*?
 - 2) What does it mean to *contend*?
 - 3) How do you *contend for the faith*?
 - a) You must have a conviction that the faith as something worth contending for.
 - b) Assess the situation
 - c) Assess the appropriate level of your involvement
 - d) Appeal to Authority
 - e) Forms of Contention
 - f) Godly stubbornness
 - g) Quiet faithfulness

- 4) Is there a difference between contending and being contentious? (2 Tim 2:24)
 - a) What the difference is not:
 - b) What the difference is:
- C. How do we know this faith?
 - 1) The nature of this particular kind of tradition
 - 2) The transmission of tradition
 - a) How is tradition received and passed on?
 - b) Why is this difficult?
 - c) What do you do with all these difficulties?

III. Characteristics of Evil Intruders (v 4)

- A. These men have a definite reputation
- B. These men have a dubious origin (Jn 10:1-2)
 - 1) They could be either: Traveling preachers or Settled ministers/members
 - 2) Application: What are ways to guard against men of dubious origin?
- C. These men have a determined end
 - 1) What they are marked out for: Judgment
 - 2) This is meant to be a comfort, both to the Church and Jude
 - 3) How has their judgment been marked out by God?
 - 4) A question may arise: Why even permit false teachers to come into the Church, deceive some, profane God's Name, muddy the waters of truth?
- D. Three Characteristics of these Evil Intruders
 - 1) Not reverent
 - a) Making light of God's Name, attributes, worship, works
 - b) Not taking seriously their own office/work (1 Tim 3:2, 8)
 - c) They do not give a thought to the judgment of God which awaits them (Psa 10:11)
 - d) In not taking the right things seriously, they take all the wrong things seriously
 - 2) Not controlled (Rom 3:31) — What are the remedies to this?
 - a) Fear of God
 - b) Love of God
 - 3) Not confessing and submitting to Christ — *deny our only Master and Lord Jesus Christ*