

Men's Ministry at Rome Church

February 1, 2011

The Book of Jude

Pastor's notes

Warning! There are sharks in the water; always have been (as noted by all the biblical examples Jude gave) are now, and more to come. Not only do we have to be leery of money scammers on the web and on the phone, but as believers, Satan (the ultimate shark) loves to scam us of truth. Are you learning to distinguish truth from error? When you hear a Bible teacher, do you listen discriminately? Or, do you swallow everything wholesale without checking it out biblically? I encourage you to do so every time you are taught scripture.

A question that came up at our Bible study: Why is it important to know what these false teachers believe if I'm convinced of what I believe? Good question! For one, it's helps hone our reasoning skills to be able to defend against error. Secondly, perhaps we can warn or train newer/younger believers to know the difference and choose correctly. You might even be able to "snatch others from the fire and save them" v. 23. Stay sharp and you won't be shark bait.

Thanks for listening,

Pastor Scott

[Come and be a part of Men's Monday night fraternity – \(Next Meeting Feb 20\)](#)

Come join us on Monday nights as we look into the practical use of the word in our family and marriages. If your family life is good, this will make it better. If your family life isn't so good, it's essential that you be here. Don't hold back, your family needs you to be as spiritually strong as possible. Come join us as we learn, help, and pray for one another.

[February Men's breakfast:](#)

Come join us this Saturday Feb 4 at 8:00am. Call Rick Maricle if you can help with breakfast. Jim Moore will bring a short message. Come join the fun as we share a meal and look in to God's word.

[Small Groups are Big Help!](#)

If you are new to the church or just want to grow in the Lord and make new friends, don't be timid – join a small group. It's roughly two hours one night per week. Next to Sunday church, it's one of the best things you can do.

["Practical Application of God's Word"](#)

... and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, ... Jude 1:24

With the sin in my life it is not humanly possible that I could be presented to God faultless. How do I reconcile this statement here by Jude? In a nutshell, the last few sentences mean that Jesus is able to keep me from falling and present me faultless before God the father. It seems that daily I either sin directly, look at it, or think back pleasantly on sins of years gone by. What a sorry state I am in. How about you? I used to believe that you could lose your salvation by sinning after you were saved. Today that concept doesn't make sense anymore. His mercies are new every day. I need them. The question remains... how does Jesus present me faultless before the Lord? Send me your thoughts as we take this up.

What's in a concept?

...clouds without water...wasted trees without fruit...twice dead... Jude 1:12

Clouds without water is similar to what we covered last time in 11 Peter 2:17. Wasted trees without fruit ... these people are likened to trees that have leaves and blossoms, but no fruit. Or they let it rot. Do we not know people who know the Lord but contribute nothing to the saints or to the spreading of the gospel? In the church they are like bumps on a log gathering dust and moss. They never reach maturity. They make a show of truth and holiness, but it never comes to anything. Twice dead ... wholly dead, dead over and over, dead by nature, and dead by hardness of heart. Some commentaries take this even further to say these are people who were dead before their conversion, and dead again in respect of their apostasy. Do Christians lose their salvation after they go into apostasy? Good question for the Pastor to take up next time you see him.

Pastors Bible Question:

...they have gone the way of Cain... Jude 1:11

What does this scripture mean to you? Thomas Scott says it is about wicked men who have turned away from the pure doctrine of Christ and become haters of those who adhere to it. Do we have examples of these types of men today? What about some of our national Christian leaders like the Rev. who is the head of the Separation of Church and State movement?

Pastors reply

As I mentioned Sunday, I believe Cain represents self-made religion - people who seek God's approval on THEIR grounds, not God's. It was clear to Cain what worked for Able to glean God's blessing, but pride entered the scenario to prove himself better. And when his way didn't work, he angrily took it out on his only brother.

As far as examples of those who are hateful or spiteful of those who adhere to the pure doctrine of Christ, I'm sure we could name people we know. The director of Americans United for the Separation of Church and State is Rev. Barry Lynn, an ordained pastor with the United Church of Christ (UCC). Without asking him personally, I'm guessing by his denominational credentials that he would fit this category. The UCC is so liberal that I doubt they have much to say in favor of salvation through Christ. You could say he's gone the way of Cain. Remember, the Rev. title doesn't guarantee an adherent to the purity of the Gospel.

**Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever.
Amen**

Jude 1: 24-25