

# The Messiah's Miraculous and Merciful Missionaries

October 18, 2020

Jude 20-23

## Introduction

**What are you building your life on?**

**Who do you supremely trust?**

**Who do you supremely love? How do you know?**

**What are you supremely waiting for?**

**The answers to these questions are at the heart of what it means to be a true follower of Jesus Christ**

**T/S: Would you pray with me**

**Sermon Text: Jude 1:20-23**

**Context: Let's review where we've been**

*Jude wrote to motivate Christians everywhere to action. He wanted them to recognize the dangers of false teaching, to protect themselves and others, and to win back those who had already been deceived*

**vv1-4 Christians are called, commanded, and commissioned to contend for the faith**

**vv5-7: True Christians contend to the end while counterfeits and creeps are condemned in the end**

**vv8-13: Meet the character and conduct of creeps  
Mourn their condition, condemnation, and carnage  
Mark their danger and the importance to contend**

**vv14-16: Christians are commanded to contend for  
Christ as they wait for Christ to condemn the creeps**

**vv17-19: Christians are commanded to remember the  
Word of God because creeps corrupt Christ's Church**

### **The Timeless Truth**

***Jude 1:20-23: Christians are called, commanded, and  
commissioned to contend for Christ in a corrupt culture***

***How Christians live by faith in faithless times***

**T/S: By way of preview, we will look out 5 major  
points**

- I. The Foundation of the Christian**
- II. The Fuel of the Christian**
- III. The Faithfulness of the Christian**
- IV. The Future of the Christian**
- V. The Fight of the Christian**

**T/S: First and foremost,**

- I. The Foundation of the Christian**

**The Christian life is like a house built on a indestructible rock**

**Matthew 7:24 “Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock**

***v20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith***

**A. Christ commands Christians to construct a Christlike life (know, love, and live the Word)**

***But you, beloved-* contrast the cultural church and false teachers**

***Building yourselves up on your most holy faith***  
**to build upon or build up: to finish the structure of which the foundation has already been laid (BLB)**

**Effort and continuity; gradual building up, course upon course, stone by stone**

**The Word is the foundation of all that Christian’s believe and aim to become (Matt. 4:4; John 17:17)**

**Building is a miraculous process by which the Holy Spirit conforms Christians to the image of Christ through hearing and heeding the Word of God**

### **Application**

**What are you building? Career, body, treasure...**

**Why are you building what you are building? Aim?**

**Christians build a miraculous, grace based, God glorifying, Christlike life**

**What are you building your life on? Opinion, experiences, feelings, or the Word of God**

**If you are building on the Word of God then your life will reflect the life and love of Jesus Christ**

**What you are building on demonstrates who/ what you love**

**T/S: If the Word of God is the foundation of the Christian, then praying in the Holy Spirit is the fuel of the Christian**

## **II. The Fuel of the Christian**

**Prayer for the Christian is like food for the body**

## *V20 Praying in the Holy Spirit*

### **B. Christ commands Christians to communicate with Him**

Prayer is the grace-based fruit of salvation by which  
Christians *build themselves up on their most holy faith*

The Spirit is the muscle for building the Christian life

What is prayer? *Intentionally conveying a message to God*

What is *praying in the Holy Spirit*?

Praying consistently in the will and power of the Spirit

The will of God is laid out in the Word of God

The Holy Spirit empowers the Christians prayers

**Romans 8:26-27- *Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness.***

***For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God***

### ***Application: How do I pray in the Holy Spirit?***

**Trust Jesus who purchased all divine help at the cross**

**Immerse yourself in the Bible**

**Bring all your praying into conformity to the Word**

***Learn from Him that without Him you can do nothing and cast yourself on Him at all times for all you need***

***Look away continually from your own resources to the infinite and merciful resources of God in Christ***

**T/S: The Word of God is the foundation upon which the Christian builds his life**

**Prayer is the fuel by which the Holy Spirit empowers the Christian life and growth**

**The love of God is the root and motivation of faithful obedience to Christ**

### **III. The Faithfulness of the Christian**

**I want my daughter to remain in my love. Her disobedience displeases me and in love I discipline her for her good. I don't want her to depart from my love.**

## ***21 Keep yourselves in the love of God***

### **A. Christ commands Christians to keep His commands**

**What is the *love of God*?**

**Paul Washer- God's Unconditional Love**

**Christians do not obey to earn God's love  
but to reflect His love just as Jesus kept His Father's  
commandments and remained in His love (John 15:10)**

**Application: How do I keep myself in the love of God?**

**Messiah grants the miracle of saving grace; the fruit of  
His grace is love for God through glad and faithful  
obedience to His w.w.w**

**Pastor Charlie- *Our Love for God***

**Are you living out your love for God?**

**T/S: The *Word of God* is the foundation of our faith  
The *Spirit of God* is muscle for building our faith  
The *love of God* is the root of faithfulness to Christ  
The *mercy of God* is the Christian's purifying hope**

## IV. The Future of the Christian

*I Can Only Imagine (Song) illustrates the heart of Jude 1:21 and every biblical believer*

*waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life*

### A. Christ commands Christians to consider His second coming

*Waiting anxiously-* intersection– to receive in a personal, open manner; to welcome with a warm reception

Not a waiting room; this refers to active passionate, faithfully obedient, waiting

*Mercy-* kindness toward the miserable, joined with a desire to relieve them (Strong's)

The Christian will never ever get what they deserve (Isa. 53:5; Titus 3:5; 1 Peter 1:3)

Application: What are you waiting for?

Why are you waiting? How are you waiting?

**Why do you think you will receive eternal life?  
Your merit or the mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ?**

**Are you living ready for the Lord's return?**

**T/S Recipients of the Messiah's mercy are to be  
Messiah's miraculous and merciful missionaries**

## **V. The Fight of the Christian**

**Neglected, abandoned, and burning houses**

**Straying away, abandoned the faith, and the lost**

*22 And have mercy on some, who are doubting*

**A. Christians compassionately contend for the  
confused (1 Timothy 1:13-16)**

**Refers to sincere doubters who need compassion**

**Jude is showing how Christians should to act in  
reproving the family of God and unbelievers in the  
church, in order to restore them to the Lord**

**Mercy is a supernatural response of the "new heart"  
to those who are in need of help (Matthew 5:7)**

***Doubting-*** 1. withdrawing from the fellowship

2. *to judge, investigate thoroughly*

Christ instructs Christians to treat each person according to where they are in the *lifecycle*

How do we do this?

Who are they? Lost, lover, learner, leader, lifer

What is the scope of the issue being addressed?

Always loving, always truthful, always discipling, always contending for Christ

***23 Save others, snatching them out of the fire***

**A. Christians compassionately contend for the captives**

*Refers to the lost and or those who turn away from the faith they once professed*

*In grave danger, and the church must call them back to the true faith (MacArthur)*

***Save others-*** NOT the authors, but the ambassadors for Christ (2 Corinthians 5:20)

***Snatching them out of the fire-*** because those who wander from the truth or do not know the truth in saving manner put their soul in jeopardy of eternal separation from God

***And on some have mercy with fear, hating even the garment polluted by the flesh***

## **A. Christians compassionately contend for the corrupt**

**Go to the dangerous and the defiled just as Christ did**

**Handle with mercy and fear so that you are not tempted and led into sin (Galatians 6:1)**

**Pray for discernment because of the inherent danger involved in spiritual warfare**

***The polluted garment pictures a corrupt life***

**While we are to make every effort to save the lost, Christians are in no way to partake of their sins**

**Holy hatred for sin and every attempt to save them should be done with every precaution to preserve personal purity (not self preservation)**

**Application: How? Hear the application from a faithful firefighter and friend of mine**

**Pastor Jeff- *Relentless, Intentional Mercy* (26:58-39:16)**

**Are you willing to pay the price for the precious fruit of our Lord- ultimately the would-be children of God?**

**T/S Let me remind you of where we have been**

**The Word of God is the foundation of the Christian**

**Prayer is the fuel by which the Spirit empowers Christlike living**

**The love of God is the root of all faithful obedience**

**The mercy of God is the Christian's purifying hope**

**The fight of faith is the call, command, and commission of every Christian to find the lost and grow the found**

**T/S As we close, I want to give you the final takeaway through a miraculous and merciful missionary who was and still is preparing missionaries to find the lost and grow the found in a corrupt culture**

**LET'S PRAY**