

What Are You Waiting For?

July 26, 2020

Jude 14-16

What are you waiting for? **Vacation, promotion, celebration**

How does what you're waiting for affect the way you live?

Why does this matter?

What you focus on and aim to become determines your course of life

How you live is of eternal significance in the sight of God

Will Christ find you living for Him when He returns?

T/S: Before we unpack v14-16, let's look at the context

Context: written to Christians and focuses on *apostasy*

Wrote to condemn the creeps & exhort Christians to remain faithful to Christ, His word, and family

vv1-4 Christ calls, commands, and commissions Christians to contend for the faith

vv5-7 Christians certainly contend to the end

3 Divine warnings to the Church

Strengthen faithfulness and eternal assurance

Produce an awareness of the dangers of careless spiritual drifting; run to the sources of assurance

Christ and pursuing holiness

vv5-7 Creeps are certainly condemned in the end

If Christ eternally punished Israel, angels, and cities for unbelief, rebellion, and immorality, then He will certainly condemn the creeps in the end

vv8-13 Christians are called, commanded, & commissioned

- 1. Meet the character and conduct of creeps**
- 2. Mourn their condition, condemnation, and carnage**
- 3. Mark their danger & the importance to contend**

Big Idea/ Timeless Truth is this:

Christians are commanded to contend for Christ as they wait for Christ to condemn the creeps

T/S: Today I want us to FOCUS on 4 major points

- I. Christ Calls Out Creeps**
- II. Christ Condemns Creeps**
- III. Christ Convicts Creeps**
- IV. Creeps are Counterfeit Christians**

T/S: If you have your bible and I pray that you do...

I. Christ calls out creeps

Draws attention to the creep's corrupt character
Calls out creeps in a Christlike way- "Fight Song"

v14 It was also about these men

A. Present Tense

- i. A warning from Jesus through Jude**

It was- introduces something that was said in the past

Also- Adding to the description w/ emphasis

About these men- the false teachers (creeps)

that Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam

B. Past Tense

- i. A warning from Jesus through Enoch**

Came before the flood AND comes to us over 4,000

Who is Enoch? the son of Jared per 1 Chron. 1:1-3

Walked with God; and he was not, for God took him

Obtained the witness that he was pleasing to God

prophesied, saying, “Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones,

C. Future Tense

i. The Second Coming of Christ

Enoch *“prophesied, saying”*

Spoke forth future events by divine inspiration

Applicable to the false teachers & descriptive of them

Behold- exclamation of one pointing something out

What is Enoch pointing out? *The Lord*

Came- Jesus will return (Acts 1:11)

Revelation 22:20- ... *“Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!*

with many thousands of His holy ones

Holy ones- set apart for God, to be exclusively his
Angels as well as men (Matt. 25:31; 1 Thess. 3:13)

Application

Do you warn against or wink at/ walk-by wickedness?

Rebuking false teaching & immorality (1 Cor. 5:9-13)

Proclaiming the Gospel (2 Cor. 5:19-21)

Do you caution Christians against spiritual drifting?

*Exhort daily that none of you may be hardened by the
deceitfulness of sin*

Are you pursuing Christlikeness? (1 John 3:2-3)

**T/S Now we are told for what purpose Christ will
come**

II. Christ Condemns Creeps

**As a judge executes judgment on convicts, so Jesus
Christ executes judgment on creeps**

v15 to execute judgement upon all

A. The Condemnation of Creeps is Certain

Were written about & condemned many centuries ago
 Serves as a warning to all who would come later
What is judgment? A separating; decision given;
 especially concerning justice and injustice

The sentence of eternal hell

Matt. 25:30- Men will weep and gnash their teeth

Matt 25:41- Eternal fire

Matt. 25:46- Eternal punishment

Mark 9:43-unquenchable fire; v48- worm does not die

Not annihilation; eternal conscience torment 4 creeps

Application

Neglecting the blessed hope will gradually produce a cold heart, a worldly attitude, and an unfaithful life

Warning calls Christians to live ready for His return

BE engaged in obedience to Christ in the present, up until the very moment of His return

Severity of the punishment should make us realize the immensity of the evil that is found in sin and rebellion against God, and the magnitude of the holiness and the justice of God that calls forth this kind of punishment

T/S: Jude tells us the final act first; now he tells us the process that leads to it

III. Christ Convicts Creeps

As a judge determines whether the defendant is guilty or innocent, so Christ convicts creeps according to their works, ways, and words

And to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him

A. The Conviction of Creeps is Certain

Conviction- Expose, bring to light, convince with solid, compelling evidence, and show to be guilty

The Spirit will so apply the truths of God to men's own minds as to convince them by fair and sufficient arguments that they are sinners, and cause them to feel this. This is the nature of conviction always.

Conviction may bring either salvation or condemnation, but it must bring one of the two. It is given to men 'for their wealth;' but it may 'be unto them an occasion of falling,' if it is deliberately set aside

Christ will make known the purposes, intentions, thoughts, actions, & plans of men

Christ will so expose their sin, that they will not be able to give any excuse or defense (Romans 3:19)

Rejected the salvation Christ offers & brought upon themselves misery and punishment

Permanent & accurate record of all deeds; all accounts will be settled & all will be made right (Matt. 25:19)

And to convict all the ungodly

i. Creeps are ungodly

Lack of reverence for, devotion to, and worship of God

Actively oppose God in disobedience

of all their ungodly deeds

ii. Creeps commit ungodly deeds

Evil actions and words that complete evil desires

Conceived in & flow out of the heart- *“For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander”* (Matt. 15:19)

which they have done in an ungodly way

iii. Creeps do things in an ungodly way

Motives and hidden desires of the heart

Matthew 23:28- *so you, too, outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness*

Judas (John 12:1-8)

You cannot fool Christ; Why would you want to?

Jeremiah 17:10- *I, the LORD, search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds*

and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him

iiii. Creeps speak harsh things against Christ & His children

Harsh- hard, rough, violent, severe, fierce, reproach

Israel's harsh words illustrate creep's harsh words

Creeps criticize Christ- *Your words have been hard against me, says the Lord. But you say, 'How have we spoken against you?' You have said, 'It is vain to serve God. What is the profit of our keeping his charge or of walking as in mourning before the Lord of hosts? (Malachi 3:13-14)*

Creeps criticize Christians- *through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as imposters, yet are true (2 Corinthians 6:8)*

Any believer who engages in a faithful ministry of reconciliation should expect to be rejected and accepted, to be hated and loved, to encounter joy and hardship

Ungodly hearts say ungodly things- *You brood of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak what is good? For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart (Matthew 12:34)*

Application

Consider what you deserve in light of what you got
Conviction unto condemnation VS. unto salvation

How does your heart respond to the grace of God?

**Pleased or displeased; satisfied or unsatisfied
grumbling or grateful; happy or unhappy
passive or passion; joyful or joyless; peace or unrest**

Hands? Free to sin or burning with love to obey

How do you respond to conviction?

Hardening/ resisting or softening/ humbly receiving

Settled in sin or sorrowful when you sin?

Remain in or repent and return?

Comfortable or convicted when you sin?

Denying/ disobeying or hearing and heading?

More like the world or like Christ?

Ask God daily to inspect head, heart, and hands

Let us carefully watch our own hearts, comparing them with the word, will, and ways of God

T/S Jude presents the evidence that proves their guilt

IV. Creeps are Counterfeit Christians

Counterfeit medicine

Pose as authentic Christians but inwardly are contaminated, cancerous, counterfeit Christians

V16 These are grumblers, finding fault, following after their own lusts; they speak arrogantly, flattering people for the sake of gaining an advantage

A. Christ Characterizes Counterfeit Christians

i. *Grumblers* (complaining in general)

**Describes the murmurings of Israel against God
Loved the miracles but NOT the Messiah**

**Root of discontentment/ dissatisfaction is pride
Root of pride is sin and root of sin is unbelief**

ii. *Fault finders* (subject of complaining)

**Lookers/ searchers who look for and search out fault
God's providence, plans, purposes, & doings
Fault w/ one's own lot OR lives/ ministries of others**

Express dissatisfaction w/ and do not submit to God's will & ways as was the case w/ Israel, angels, cities...

State of ingratitude; treat the grace of God w/ disrespect & hatred

following after their own lusts

iii. Lustful

Follow- they walk in their own ways and preferences
They lead and order their own life

Lustful- driven by a desire for sinful self-satisfaction

Live in the free indulgence of sensual appetites

Lust of the heart is a restless craving which grows with what it feeds on (Barnes)

Discontent and unsatisfied hearts express themselves through grumbling and fault finding

God teaches us that in Himself only can man find complete satisfaction; creeps reject the Fountain

iii. *Arrogant speakers*

Arrogant- overswollen, immoderate, extravagant

Embodies prideful disrespect for authority

Their message has internal rebellion mixed w/ external cancerous attractiveness but is void of the powerful substance of divine truth in love (Eph 4:15)

iii. Flatterers

Manipulate- *to control or play upon by artful, unfair, or insidious means especially to one's advantage*

Show great manipulation/ deception through calculated favoritism and insincere compliments

Romans 16:17,18: *I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions & create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them. For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, & by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naïve*

For the sake of gaining an advantage

Convince unsuspecting / deceived people to “give them” what they want

Tell people what they want to hear for their own profit rather than proclaiming the truth of God's word for the hearers benefit (2 Timothy 4:3)

1 Thessalonians 2:5-6: *You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed- God is our witness. We were not looking for praise from people, not from you or anyone else...*

Application

Warning helps guard against and detect personal sin

Character/ conduct of counterfeits destroy unity through veiled and poisonous selfishness, stains the witness, and dishonors Christ

Do your words truly reflect or hide your heart?

Does your life reflect what you say you believe?

Are your life and beliefs in line w/ & conforming to Christ's word, will, and ways?

Defending against counterfeits/ a counterfeit Christianity?

Championing counterfeits by commission or omission?

Passionately protect the family from deceivers (1 John 2:19), deception and sin by loving in action and truth

T/S My prayer is that you remember...

I. Christ Calls Out Creeps

II. Christ Condemns Creeps

III. Christ Convicts Creeps

IV. Creeps are Counterfeit Christians

T/S As we close, I want to give you the final takeaway

Christ's return is a comfort to believers & warning to unbelievers not to continue in their evil ways

Warns about the dangers of loving sin and shakes us into seriousness to open our eyes to what is truly valuable, namely Christ

Pumps into the heart joy, gratitude, and reverence and empowers us to live a life of loving, faithful obedience

Greater understanding and clarity of the preciousness of Jesus and the grace He gives through salvation

Deepens understanding of Christ's love, and thus deepens love for Him and that which He loves

Equips us to contend for faith and family

See! the wonderful privilege and great responsibility

Final judgment provides a great motive for evangelism

Should also long that even those people who most severely persecute the church should come to faith in Christ and thus escape eternal condemnation

Are you contending?

Are you sleeping? Time, treasure, talent...

Jesus cast the wicked, worthless, and lazy servant into the outer darkness

Are you creeping? Fearful expectation of judgment and a fury of fire that will consume you

You can expect the work of shepherds and Christians to shine the light of truth on your dark/ deceptive words, works, and ways

Matt. 24:38-39,42: *For as in the days before the flood, the people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. 42 Therefore, keep watch, because you do not know the day on which your Lord is coming*

Loving warning to the church to remain faithful to Christ

Loving warning to the creeps to repent and believe the Gospel

God gives warnings because He cares and is gracious & loving

Warning to instill terror and fear; believers know the terror and persuade men