

Timeline of Truth: God Warns the Church (Jude 3-22)

Jude 1:3-22 ³ Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

1. The _____ of this instruction (3)

- a. What he _____ to write about: our salvation
- b. What he _____ to write about: to contend for the faith
 - Exhort – beseech, urge
 - Contend – has the idea “to struggle on behalf of”
 - The Faith – this seems to be referring to doctrine that has been taught to the church based on the context.

⁴ For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. The _____ for this instruction (4)

- a. Some have infiltrated the church with ulterior motives.
 - They sneak in – the church is not aware they are in their midst
- b. The nature of these men
 - They are marked out for condemnation – lit. “written before into this judgement”
 - Ungodly
 - Turn the grace of God into lewdness – use grace as an excuse (Titus 2:11-14)
 - Deny Jesus Christ

⁵ But I want to remind you, though you once knew this, that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe. ⁶ And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; ⁷ as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

3. _____ of those who have gone before (5-7)

- a. Those that God destroyed in the wilderness – the nation of Israel in the wilderness
 - Because they did not believe God
- b. The angels who rebelled against God
- c. Sodom and Gomorrah
 - Because of their sexual immorality

⁸ Likewise also these dreamers defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of dignitaries.

4. The _____ to the examples (8)

Likewise – in the same way

- a. They defile the flesh (Sodom and Gomorrah, Israel)
- b. Reject authority (Angels, Israel)
- c. Speak evil of dignitaries (Angels, Israel)
 - Lit. “Blaspheme glories”

⁹ Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

5. The _____ example (9)

- a. Michael, even in a righteous position, did not bring an accusation against the devil
- b. Michael left the judgment in the hands of God

¹⁰ But these speak evil of whatever they do not know; and whatever they know naturally, like brute beasts, in these things they corrupt themselves.

6. The false _____ of these men (10)

- a. They blaspheme what they do not know
- b. What they do know, they only know like an unreasoning beast, and it corrupts them

¹¹ Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit, and perished in the rebellion of Korah. ¹² These are spots in your love feasts, while they feast with you without fear, serving *only* themselves. *They are* clouds without water, carried about by the winds; late autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots; ¹³ raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame; wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.

7. _____ of what they are like (11-13)

- a. Three _____ Examples
 - Cain – he killed his brother because he was jealous of Abel's offering
 - Balaam – Was hired to prophesy against Israel
 - Korah – rejected Aaron's authority as God's priest
- b. Five _____ Examples
 - Love feasts – they defile them without fearing the consequences, they serve themselves and not others
 - Clouds – lack water (substance), they are carried about by the wind.
 - Trees – lacking fruit, only good to be pulled up
 - Waves of the sea – raging with their own shame
 - Stars – who do not occupy their proper place – judgment is reserved for them

¹⁴ Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, ¹⁵ "to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."

8. _____ concerning these men (14, 15)

- a. God is bringing judgment (with a large number of saints)
- b. Why God is bringing judgment
 - All are being judged
 - Some will be convicted
 - Those who have done ungodly works
 - Those who speak harshly
 - Those who speak against God

¹⁶ These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling *words*, flattering people to gain advantage.

9. The _____ of these men (16)

- a. Grumblers - γογγυστής – 1 Cor. 10:10
- b. Complainers - μεμψίμοιρος – only occurrence of this word is here. Seems to be “finding fault with others, being dissatisfied with life.”
- c. Walk according to their own desires – as opposed to walking in truth, walking in Christ
- d. Evil speech
 - Great swelling words - arrogant
 - Manipulate people for their own gain – lit. “marveling in their face for the benefit of their joy.”

¹⁷ But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: ¹⁸ how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. ¹⁹ These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit.

10. The _____ warnings (17-19)

Given by the apostles

- a. There will be mockers
- b. There will be those who walk according to their own desires
- c. Three more characteristics of these men:
 - Sensual - ψυχικός - fleshy, live by the flesh.
 - Cause divisions
 - Do not have the Spirit

²⁰ But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹ keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. ²² And on some have compassion, making a distinction; ²³ but others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

11. The command for believers (20-23)

- a. Keep yourselves in the love of God – Act upon the truth and God’s word – 1 John 2:5; 3:17; 5:3. Living in God’s love rather than living by our own desires
 - Be building yourselves up in the faith – learn and know doctrine.
 - Be praying – in the Spirit
 - Looking ahead to Christ’s return (1 John 3:1-3) – lit. “waiting for the mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ unto life eternal.”
 - Having mercy on some, helping those who have strayed
 - Some save with fear