

Week of October 15, 2017

This Week's Focus: Continuously working through the implications of the gospel helps us avoid being led astray by falsehood.

This Week's Text: Jude 17-23

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What has the Holy Spirit impressed on your heart from this week's sermon/text?
- What does Jude exhort his readers to remember? Reference verse 17. What is the danger of growing forgetful of the teachings of Jesus and his appointed Apostles? How do we today faithfully remember the word of God and, therefore, avoid being led astray by heresy?
- What does Jude mean by the phrase "in the last time"? Reference Hebrews 1:1-2.
- Discuss the four ungodly characteristics that Jude attributes to the false teachers in verses 18 and 19:
 - Scoffers (2 Peter 3:4)
 - Gratify their ungodly passions (Jude 16)
 - Cause division (1 Corinthians 1:10)
 - Worldly and devoid of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 2:14, Romans 8:9)
- Why did the presence of these false teachers go unnoticed to many of those in Jude's audience? Is the church immune from false teachers today?
- Why does Jude instruct us to keep in the love of God when he states in verse 1 that we are already "kept for Jesus Christ"? In other words, how does God's preserving work of salvation relate to our responsibility to obey Christ's commands? Reference Philippians 2:12-13.
- Discuss the following three ways that we can continually keep ourselves in the love of God (Reference verse 21):
 - Build each other up in the faith.
 - Pray in the Holy Spirit.
 - Wait for the mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ.

- Discuss the practical implications of removing any one of these practices from the others.
- What's significant about the fact that Jude uses the plural "you" in his instructions? What makes this especially challenging in our contemporary culture?
- What are the three ways people have been effected by the false teachers' treachery? How does Jude instruct his readers to treat them? Are you or do you know anyone that fits one of the three categories?
- What are some practical and creative ways you can engage those in your spheres of influence with the gospel without falling into sin?