

# Contend Earnestly For the Faith Which Was Once For All Handed Down to the Saints

## An Expository Study of the **Epistle of Jude**

### Chapter 6- The History of Heresy **Jude 4**

#### 36. The History of Heresy Part 6

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WOSM Monday 12/24/07

Welcome again my brothers and sisters in Christ. We are continuing our verse by verse study of the Epistle of **Jude** and today I want to continue our examination of The History of Heresy by looking at the fourth verse of Jude- so let's read verse 4 together:

**For certain persons have crept in unnoticed, those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, ungodly persons who turn the grace of our God into licentiousness and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.**

Now we saw on the last broadcast how that Paul denounced those who taught that Grace was a license to sin. Those who take advantage of the wondrous Grace of God and use it to justify their own sinful living are called, "Antinomians" and were condemned by the Church as heretics in the first century. Unlike the "Judaizers" who *ignore* God's Grace- Antinomians are the people who *abuse* God's Grace.

Antinomians see God's Grace as simply a means whereby God continues to bless them as they continue to live as they please. These heretics *presume* upon the Grace of God and think that God *owes* them forgiveness- even as they rebel against Him. Antinomians do not believe that God is righteous. They see God as so filled with Love that He ignores or overlooks their sin. All of the many Scriptures which demand humble submission after Salvation are seen by these people as being optional- and not requirements. Antinomians have no desire to please the Lord because they think that God is already pleased with them- no matter what they do or how they live.

Paul said that people who abuse Grace were deceived. Jude calls them “**clouds without water**” and “**wandering stars**”. John used very descriptive terms to warn the Church about those who feel that after they are saved they are free to live as they choose. In various Scriptures, John said that the Antinomians were “goats”; “fish on the left side”; “children of darkness”; “disobedient”; “ungodly” and “unthankful”. In **John 15:6**, the “Apostle of Love” says this about those who are in the true Vine and yet do not bear fruit after Salvation:

**If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned.**

Antinomians teach that after a man is saved- he is then free to do as he chooses. They look at *any* restriction of ungodly behavior; or any hindrance to carnal conduct or any barrier to their own lustful desires as being legalistic and thus wrong. So to an Antinomian- it isn't the lust in their heart that is wrong- it is any restriction of that lust that would be wrong. Antinomians see the glorious liberty of the Spirit that was paid for by the shed Blood of the Lamb of God as being a ticket or a free pass to do and say and to act anyway their flesh desires. So Antinomians can sin without conviction; they can yield to the lusts of their flesh without remorse; they are free to sin without any consequences; they are able to rebel and still think that they are in good standing with God.

An Antinomian would be someone who never studies the Bible; never prays; never denies his flesh; never leads a soul to Christ; never changes anything about his behavior; never alters his lifestyle in any way; never gives to God; never goes to Church; never assembles with the saints; never has a desire to fellowship with like minded believers and yet still thinks that God's Grace is with him and that he is saved.

An Antinomian would be faithful to go to Church every Christmas and Easter and for Funerals and Weddings, but the FBI couldn't find them the rest of the year. The Bible says that these people are deceived and are yet in their sins- they are not saved and are lost.

Listen to me. The Bible is clear about this. Unless your life makes a radical and unbelievable change- you are not saved. It is impossible to be saved and not change. It is impossible to be saved and not love God enough to follow after Him. It is impossible to be

saved and continue to live as you did before you met the Lord. It is impossible to be saved and not crave the Presence of God; crave the Word of God and crave the fellowship of believers. It is impossible to be saved and not bear godly fruit. It is impossible to be saved and not do good works. It is impossible to be saved and not work righteousness. I didn't say that- Jesus, and all of the other Apostles said that- and they said it over and over and over in the Scriptures.

The thought that Jesus can be your Savior but not your Lord is an Antinomian teaching. The thought that Jesus can save you now- but making Jesus the Lord of your life is somehow optional or something that we might do at a later time is simply not Scriptural and is a lie. Jesus is either Lord of all or He is not Lord at all. Jesus is either Lord or satan is still your lord. Jesus is either Master or satan is still your master. Jesus is either in charge or satan is in charge and as long as satan is lord and as long as satan is Master- you are yet in your sins and are not saved. We either belong to Christ or we belong to the devil.

Being saved is a lot like being pregnant. There is no such thing as being almost kinda- sorta pregnant but not quite- you either are with child or you're not. You have either been impregnated with the seed of man or else you are still barren. But close doesn't count and almost doesn't make a baby.

So, it is with Christ. Either the seed of Christ is inside you and you have been born again or you haven't. Either you have been regenerated and you have been reborn and you have been adopted into the family of God and you have been renewed in the spirit of your mind and you have put on Christ and you have passed from death unto life and you have the Spirit of God now walking up and down inside you and you have your name written in the Lamb's Book of life or you haven't. And if that is true- if you have been truly saved- then you have within you a new divine nature that God gives to every single soul that is saved- and that new divine nature that has now replaced your old rebellious nature is created in righteousness and true holiness and you now love the things that you one time hated and you do the things that you one time despised and you follow after Christ and you love to please God and you desire to obey God's Word.

Beloved, either we have been bought with a price and we are now owned by Jesus Christ and we are saved- or else we are still for

sale to the highest bidder and we belong to satan and we are lost and unsaved and without God and without hope in the world.

The Bible says that we are either one thing or the other. The Bible says that being saved means that we are followers of Jesus. The Bible says that being saved is for Jesus to be Lord. Antinomians teach that we can be both saved and not be followers; that we can be saved and yet not be obedient; that we can be saved and satan can still be the master of our souls. And this ancient heresy was denounced as an apostasy by every one of the Apostles and by the Lord Himself. Jesus said in **John 14:15**

**If ye love Me, you will keep My commandments.**

And again, in **John 15:10**

**If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments, and abide in His love.**

It is true that we are gloriously saved by Grace through Faith in Christ alone. It is true that Salvation is a Sovereign work of God. It is true that we are saved absent any human effort; absent any human good deeds; and absent any human good works. But it is also true that *after* we are saved- we are commanded to do good works; we are commanded to bear godly fruit and we are commanded to perform holy deeds. So because we are now saved and because the new divine nature has taken the place of our old sinful nature- we are now compelled by this new nature to serve God and saved people *will* follow after Christ and we *will* obey God's Word and we *will* walk with God and we *will* do that which Christ has said- precisely *because* the seed of Christ now dwells within us and we have been born again.

But I want you to know that in spite of the Bible being clear about Antinomianism being a heresy; in spite of the condemnation placed upon this lie by the Apostles of the Lord- the heresy of Antinomianism is alive and well and is in many of our Churches today. Hear the Word of the Lord in **The Revelation 3:15&16:**

**15 I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot.**

**16 'So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth.**

Jesus said that we are to be either cold or hot. We are either to be serving Christ with all of our hearts or we are to be serving the devil with all of our hearts- but to try to both; to try to sit on the fence; to try to live for God a little while living for the devil a little makes you lukewarm. To be spiritually Lukewarm means that you're almost hot but not quite; it also means that you're almost cold but not quite. Being Lukewarm means that you really don't fit in either world. You're too bad for God yet you're too good for Satan. Now that might impress some of you- but Jesus Christ said that people like that make Him sick to His Stomach and He is going to vomit those people out of His Mouth.

Now I am not suggesting that Christians are sinless. I have never said that and I do not believe that. Christians do sin. But the difference between a Christian sinning and the heresy of Antinomianism is that when a person who is truly born again sins- He is devastated. He is instantly convicted by the Holy Ghost of his sin because the seed of Christ within him cannot bear sin. So a true Christian will not make excuses for his sin- but he will confess it and he will repent of it and he will turn from it and then he will make plans to not go down that road again. Antinomians couldn't be bothered. They sin and are not convicted; they sin and do not feel the need to either confess the sin nor to repent of it- and no good Antinomian would ever change anything about his life so that he may not sin against God.

Beloved, believe not the Antinomian heresy. Don't buy the bill of goods that some of these snake oil salesmen are peddling today. It matters to God how you live after you are saved. It matters to God what you do after you are saved. It matters to God whether or not you are obeying what He said to do. We are not called to live unto ourselves. God didn't save you so that you could do anything that you are big enough to do- that is a lie from the pit of hell.

Antinomians abuse Grace in that they see the precious Grace of God as a sort of free pass that enables them to ignore Scriptural commandments and holy restraints of their desires and behavior. But God said that those who are His should serve God with gladness of

heart. God says that we are to thankful and grateful that God took holy Red Blood and washed our blacks hearts and made them whiter than snow. God says that we are to humbly submit to God and to one another once we belong to Him.

The Bible say that God's loving kindness is better than life. God says to taste and see that the Lord is good. God says that the joy of the Lord will be our strength. God says that we are to kiss the Son lest He be angry. God says that He is a jealous God who will not tolerate our spiritual adultery and wantonness. God says that we are to serve God with reverence and godly fear for our God is a consuming fire.

I tell you that we are to reject the heresy of Antinomianism. We are to reject any teaching from any preacher or evangelist that cheapens grace with tales of selfish and arrogant living. We are to reject the lie that we are free to live as we want to after we are saved and still go to heaven.

I tell you that we need to examine our own hearts and see whether we be in the Faith. We need to press into God in these last days and make our calling and our election sure. We need to grab the horns of the altar and weep between the porch and the alter and we need to earnestly contend for the Faith that was once delivered to the saints. Well, I'm out of time for today- but please join me on the next broadcast as we continue our Journey through the Epistle of **Jude**. May God help us all.

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The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen. Be watchful and quicken your pace. Soli Deo Gloria. For the Glory of God alone.