

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

An Expositional Study of the **Epistle of Jude**

Chapter 13- The Prophecy of Enoch **Jude 14-15**

154 The Prophecy of Enoch Part 8

WOSM Monday 06/09/08

Welcome again my beloved in Jesus Christ. We're continuing our verse by verse "journey" through the **Epistle of Jude** and today I want to continue to look at what Jude taught about "The Prophecy of Enoch" So let's open our Bibles and read **Jude 14 & 15** again together:

14 *It was also about these men that Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones,*

15 *to execute judgment upon all, 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."*

Now Enoch's prophecy contains last day information about which we need to be aware. Look closely at verse 14 again with me:

It was also about these men that Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones,

The Bible teaches that when Christ comes to judge the world- His saints will judge the world with Him. Let's read **1Corinthians 6:1-3**:

1 Does any one of you, when he has a case against his neighbor, dare to go to law before the unrighteous and not before the saints?

2 Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? If the world is judged by you, are you not competent *to constitute* the smallest law courts?

3 Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more matters of this life?

Now this passage teaches that Christians are not to take other Christians to worldly courts. Now even though this is done all the time today in direct violation of this Scripture- when we put ourselves under the authority of the world in this way, we are, in reality, openly confessing that as believers and as the Church we do not have right actions, attitudes, and judgments. Believers who go to court with believers are ignoring their duty to keep harmony and love within the Body and are more concerned with revenge or gain than with the unity of the Body and the glory of Jesus Christ. And this action is sinful.

This is why the Word of God teaches that disputes between Christians should be settled by and among Christians. If we as Christians, with our wonderful gifts and resources in Christ, cannot settle a dispute, how can we expect unbelievers to do it any better or at all?

Paul insists that Christians are able to always solve disputes- if they would just apply Biblical principles to all their actions and words. So Paul rebukes these people by asking them a question:

Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? If the world is judged by you, are you not competent *to constitute* the smallest law courts?

Paul was telling these Corinthian believers that if you are one day going to sit in God's supreme court over the world, aren't you qualified to judge in the small, everyday matters that come up among you now? It should be noted here that the term "law courts" can also be translated as "lawsuits."

Now in Verse 14 of our Study- Jude was quoting Enoch's prophecy that echoed this Truth. When Jesus Christ returns to set up His millennial kingdom- believers from throughout all of history will be His co-regents- sitting with Him on His throne.

The Book of the Revelation 3:12 says:

12 He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore; and I will write on him the name of My

God, and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God, and My new name.

And **Daniel 7:22** says:

until the Ancient of Days came and judgment was passed in favor of the saints of the Highest One, and the time arrived when the saints took possession of the kingdom.

So, we can see that the concept of God's people sitting in thrones and judging the world is not a new concept- but it is an ancient concept that goes all the way back to Enoch's prophecy that was given before Moses wrote **Genesis**.

So, part of our responsibility- as rulers with Christ- will be to judge the world. According to **Matthew 19:28**- the New Testament Apostles will have *special* authority- ruling from "**twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel**". But *every* believer will participate in judging the world in *some* way. Let's read **The Revelation 2:26-28**:

26 He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, TO HIM I WILL GIVE AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS;

27 AND HE SHALL RULE THEM WITH A ROD OF IRON, AS THE VESSELS OF THE POTTER ARE BROKEN TO PIECES, as I also have received authority from My Father;

28 and I will give him the morning star.

If the saints of God then will one day help rule the entire earth, they surely are able to rule themselves within the Church now. That future rule will be based on perfect adherence to the Word of God and proper godly attitudes, which are available now. There will not be any different principles of wisdom and justice then than what we have revealed to us in Scripture right now.

So, the lesson here is that we should walk with Christ now so that we can rule with Him then. Serve Christ now so that we can sit with Him then. Suffer with Christ now so that we can judge with Him then. Endure the straight and narrow way and strive to enter in at the straight gate now so that on that day we will be in robes of white. Deny yourself now; pick up your cross and follow Jesus now; reject the

world and its pleasure now and you will rule and reign with Christ then.

Now as great as that is and as wonderful as that day will be— there is another way that saints judge the world. Saints of God who faithfully serve Jesus with all their hearts will be used by God to judge the wicked world on that day for sure- but they also judge the world right now. Let me explain.

Every time you choose the good over the evil- you bring Holy Spirit conviction to those around you. Every time you reject a statement that is birthed from a carnal mind about an issue of morality or righteousness- you are convicting or judging those around you. Every time they see you tend to widows and orphans; every time that people watch you go to nursing homes and minister to those forgotten souls; every time that people watch you love your wife and discipline your children and pay your bills on time and honor your promises; and give eight hours of work for eight hours of pay; Every time you pray; every time you study your Bible; Every time you pick up your cross and deny yourself; Every time you testify about the wonder and the joy of the straight and narrow path- your godly fruit; your good deeds and your holy works are used by God to bring judgment or conviction into the hearts of those who are watching you.

Every time older men live their lives in decency and sound wisdom; every time older women teach younger women how to love their husbands and their children; Every time younger women submit to the authority of their husbands and raise their children- God is honored and God's Word is promoted, and sin is exposed.

Most all of us have people who are watching us. They will never read their Bibles- but they are reading you. They are examining your life to see if you live what you say that you believe. They are also trying to see where they stand with God by watching your life. Be careful, dear friends, that you do not stand in their way. Be careful that you do not offend them by not living right. Be careful that you do not add to the false conception that people have about those of us who serve the Lord.

When Noah built the ark- he was obeying God's Will- but he was also doing something else. By Noah preaching righteousness for 120 years and enduring the scorn and the ridicule that obedience to God always brings and by building a huge boat in the middle of the desert-

the Bible says that Noah was actually judging the world. Let's read **Hebrews 11:7:**

By faith Noah, being warned *by God* about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

So, we can see that a serious Christian is a living rebuke to those who do not follow Jesus Christ.

Now at Christ's next appearing, His train will be made up of multitudes of saints and holy angels. When they appear together in that great rendezvous, they will be those who number as ten thousands of his saints. This fact that the Lord will have thousands upon thousands upon thousands- a number too large to count- of redeemed souls when He comes back offers us great comfort as we see how few people today actually serve the Lord. In heaven- we will have company enough. God's family, when it finally comes together, is very numerous, or as the Bible puts it- it is innumerable. As the wicked will be exposed eternally to the fellowship of devils and to people like themselves, so we will be called to the assembly of the righteous and we will be in that glorious train that will return with Jesus Christ.

Enoch prophesied about this great event to also give us courage and hope about the future as we face those evil men today who desire to destroy the great Church of Jesus Christ.

The good news is that in spite of their long protracted effort against the Truth of God's Word; in spite of their 6,000 year old war against divine revelation; in spite of their efforts to bring in damnable heresy into the Church; and in spite of their desire to deceive the simple- God's Truth will never be completely stamped out; God's people will live on and the gates of hell will not prevail against the Church of the living God and when Jesus comes back- He will have His people and like He said in **John 17:6-11:**

6 I have manifested Your name to the men whom You gave Me out of the world; they were Yours and You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word.

7 "Now they have come to know that everything You have given Me is from You;

8 for the words which You gave Me I have given to them; and they received *them* and truly understood that I came forth from You, and they believed that You sent Me.

9 I ask on their behalf; I do not ask on behalf of the world, but of those whom You have given Me; for they are Yours;

10 and all things that are Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine; and I have been glorified in them.

11 "I am no longer in the world; and *yet* they themselves are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, *the name which You have given Me*, that they may be one even as *We are*.

Beloved, we are in a war; it is a long protracted war against the Truth. It is a war over Sound Doctrine; it is a war over the meaning of inspired words and war for the common salvation. It is a war that pits those who believe that the Bible means what it says versus those who say that Scripture is subject to private interpretation.

It is a war that upholds the very structure and the purpose of the Protestant Reformation; it is a battle over what it means to be a Protestant and what it means to be an Evangelical and what it means to be a Christian. It is a battle over Who Jesus is and what He did and what He said and what He is going to do.

It is a battle over whether or not the righteousness that we need in order to enter into heaven is our own righteousness that we develop over our lifetime beginning with infant baptism and extending over our entire life up to and including a few hundred thousand years of Purgatory or whether that righteousness is Christ's very own righteousness that is imputed to us instantly by the vehicle of Faith alone.

It is a battle over whether or not we are saved by Grace alone through Faith alone by Christ alone or whether we are saved by our own human efforts or whether we are saved by a combination of some of God's Grace and some of our human efforts.

It is a battle over where or not a man has the final decision about faith and morals or whether God's Word has that authority. It is a battle over whether Man is the authority in the Church or whether God's Word is the authority in the House of God.

Paul and Peter and John and Jude all understood what was at stake here and they wrote down very important things that we all

need to know about this issue. They knew that this long war against the Truth was a battle over serious, important eternal issues that need to be discussed and need to be solved and need to be written down and need to be learned and studied and obeyed and loved and this is the battle that we are confronted with, and this is why we need to earnestly contend for the Faith that was once and for all delivered to the saints. Well, I've got to stop right here. But please join me on the next broadcast as we continue our Journey through the Epistle of **Jude**. May God help us all.

© 2007- 2023 by Enjoying God Ministries, Inc. All rights reserved. Printed in the United States of America
Enjoying God Ministries, Inc. PO Box 147 Saucier, Mississippi 39574 www.covenantofpeace.net

Scripture quotations, except those noted otherwise, are from *The New American Standard Bible* © 1995 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.

This is a single transcript in a larger series of teachings taken from a verse- by- verse Journey through the **Epistle of Jude**. You are free to reproduce it and distribute it as the Lord leads you- without cost or reimbursement to us with the stipulation that you may not add anything or take anything away from this transcript without the express written permission of The Covenant of Peace Church and that this complete copyright statement be at the end of all copies.

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.