

## Y'hudah (Jude)

### Call to Persevere and Blessing

In my last post, we explored the **Judgment of False Teachers ~ Part 2**. We conclude our study of **Y'hudah** by experiencing his **Call to Persevere and His Blessing**.

***<sup>19</sup> These are the people who cause divisions. They are controlled by their impulses because they don't have the Spirit.***

*The people who cause divisions* again refers to the **false prophets** and teachers who are dividing the community, seeking the values of society rather than **God**.

**Y'hudah** denounces the actions of the scoffers as devoid of **God**; *they don't have the Spirit*. This seems to compare to the **false teachers'** claims that they rely on **visions**, which they argued were from **God** (v. 8).

***<sup>20</sup> But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in union with the Ruach HaKodesh. <sup>21</sup> Thus, keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for our Lord Yeshua the Messiah to give you the mercy that leads to eternal life.***

**Y'hudah** contrasts *you, dear friends*, genuine **Believers**, with the ungodly free thinkers of vv. 4–19 and prescribes four things to do: keep the faith, pray in concert with the **Ruach HaKodesh**, keep yourselves immersed in **God's** love, and wait for **Yeshua** to bless you with mercy.

***<sup>22</sup> Rebuke some who are disputing; <sup>23</sup> save others, snatching them out of the fire; and to yet others, show mercy, but with fear, hating even the clothes stained by their vices.***

There are three kinds of people who have left the **most holy faith** (v. 20):

1. Those *who are disputing* have closed themselves off to the truth. One can neither teach nor save them, only **rebuke** them, praying that **God** will change them.
2. **Others**, who have been swept along by the free thinkers, are relatively innocent but in grave danger of falling away. **Save** them first by *snatching them out of the fire*, then ground them in the principles of truth.
3. **Yet others** have fallen into sin but have not lost their basic teachability so that they may be restored. To them, *show mercy, but with fear, hating even the clothes stained by their vices* - love the sinner, but hate the sin. *Brothers, suppose someone is caught doing something wrong. You who have the Spirit should set him right, but in a spirit of humility, keeping an eye on yourselves so that you won't be tempted too.* ~ Galatians 6:1 (CJB).

Not only must we grow in a relationship with the **Lord**, but we must also consider our relationships with the rest of **God's** family. We must have mercy on those who waver. Some **Believers** struggle in their faith and need compassion. Others need to be aggressively snatched from the fire, that is, redirected from behavior or relationship that will burn them. But helping the latter, be wise: hate even the garment defiled by the flesh. As sure as clothing contaminated by a leper's skin could infect you, helping others overcome their sinful tendencies could drag you down with them. Reject the sin; help the sinner.

***<sup>24</sup> Now, to the One who can keep you from falling and set you without defect and full of joy in the presence of His Sh'khinah (glory) - <sup>25</sup> to God alone, our Deliverer, through Yeshua the***

***Messiah, our Lord - be glory, majesty, power, and authority before all time, now and forever. Amen.*** ~ Jude 19-25 (CJB).

In addressing **God** as ***the One who can keep you from falling***, the closing prayer follows the theme of vv. 22–23. This passage is one of the greatest of the **Brit Hadashah** doxologies, comparable with Romans 11:33–36, 16:25–27; Rev. 4:10–11, 5:12–13, 15:3–4.

**God** keeps you from being fooled by the deceptions of **false teachers**. He can also keep you from being tripped up so that you stand before Him without blemish and with great joy. No one is sinless. To be blameless means that whatever your failures, they are sufficiently covered. When you stand before **God**, based on your commitment to the truth, He is going to declare that you look exactly right.

**Y'hudah** closes by saying that to **Yeshua** belongs all be glory, majesty, power, and authority. It is a reminder that God has the attributes, the position, and the legitimate right to get you through whatever challenges confront and the moral decay in the world around you. <sup>1</sup>

In my next post, we will begin to explore the **Creeds of the Kehillah**.

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<sup>1</sup> The Tony Evans Bible Commentary.