

**Jude 3-4**

**Preventing  
Entropy**



## Laws of Thermodynamics

- The branch of physical science that deals with the relations between heat and other forms of energy (such as mechanical, electrical, or chemical energy), and, by extension, of the relationships between all forms of energy.
- The study of the effects of work, heat and energy on a system

## **The 1st Law of thermodynamics**

- The first law, also known as Law of Conservation of Energy, states that energy cannot be created or destroyed in an isolated system.

## The 2nd Law of thermodynamics

- Google - The second law of thermodynamics says that the entropy of any isolated system always increases. Isolated systems spontaneously evolve towards thermal equilibrium—the state of maximum entropy of the system. More simply put: the entropy of the universe (the ultimate isolated system) only increases and never decreases

## Can someone tell me about the 2nd Law of thermodynamics?

- Googled Simple - The Second Law of Thermodynamics is about the quality of energy. It states that as energy is transferred or transformed, more and more of it is wasted. The Second Law also states that there is a natural tendency of any isolated system to degenerate into a more disordered state

## Can someone tell me about the 2nd Law of thermodynamics?

- Googled Kids - The second law of thermodynamics says that when energy changes from one form to another form, or matter moves freely, entropy (disorder) increases
- Googled Randy - Things fall apart unless you make some effort to keep them together

## **Entropy - lack of order or predictability; gradual decline into disorder**

- This law is true not only in the universe but in all areas of life
  - Marriage, Workplace, Government, Nation, and Congregations
  - Unless we are paying attention and making the effort to keep the gradual decline in check, disorder will happen

## **Entropy - lack of order or predictability; gradual decline into disorder**

- This is the reason Titus wrote his short letter to the local churches
- There were those who were not Apostles nor eyewitnesses to the life of Jesus attempting to change the Gospel message and the person of Jesus Christ

## **Entropy - lack of order or predictability; gradual decline into disorder**

- Several years back there was something call the Jesus Seminars where theologians came together to determine whether the deeds and sayings of Jesus in the Gospels really happened
  - None of the theologians I would listen to
  - They had not been there as witnesses, They were 2,000 years after the fact, They used their, “Seven pillars of scholarly wisdom”

## **Entropy - lack of order or predictability; gradual decline into disorder**

- Titus' message is simple, "To hold back decay within the church, marriage, family, nation we must contend for the truth of the Gospel."
- His letter was not written to governments or states but to Christians in local congregations

## Scriptures

- **Jude 3-4 NIV** 3 Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt compelled to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God's holy people. 4 For certain individuals whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord.

## **Jude wanted to write a devotional type of letter, maybe telling his testimony**

- He was not a believer in Jesus until after the Resurrection
- Maybe how he struggled with his conversion
- He has become a leader in the early church
- Hearing about the false teachings about the grace of God and the person of Jesus Christ Titus was compelled to contend for the truth of the Gospels

## **The Gospel message was entrusted to God's holy people**

- Entrusted - put (something) into someone's care or protection
- So, the Gospel was not something that anybody manufactured
- It is one body of facts that is consistently delivered by authoritative persons, The Apostles

## The Gospel message was entrusted to God's holy people

- **2nd Peter 1:16 NIV** 16 For we did not follow cleverly devised stories when we told you about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in power, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.
  - The Apostles were entrusted with the Gospel of Jesus Christ
  - The Apostles then entrusted it to others by teaching it to them

## **The Gospel message was entrusted to God's holy people**

- They were not to change or redefine it, but to declare it as truth and pass it on down
- And that continued down through history until today where we as born-again children of God are entrusted to pass it on

## The Gospel message was entrusted to God's holy people

- Notice the words, “once for all entrusted”
  - **Jude 3-4 NIV** 3 Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt compelled to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God's holy people.

## **The Gospel message was entrusted to God's holy people**

- Notice the words, “once for all entrusted”
  - It was only given at one time in the history of the world
  - It does not need any additions, revisions, corrections
  - All cults, -isms and false doctrines are stating that the Gospels are not enough, and we need additional truths added to it

## **The Gospel message was entrusted to God's holy people**

- Jude is saying, “Struggle/Contend to keep the truth of Jesus Christ in the church and in the lives of His people.”
- It was given to us through the Apostles, at one particular time in history, and it does not need any additions, corrections or revisions

## The Gospel message was entrusted to God's holy people

- **Nehemiah 8:7-8 NIV** 7 The Levites—Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan and Pelaiah—instructed the people in the Law while the people were standing there. 8 They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read.

## **The Gospel message was entrusted to God's holy people**

- Ezra read the Law (Word of God) and others instructed the people, so they understood what was being read
  - There was a language gap
  - They did not leave any words out or add anything new

## **The corruption of the Gospel begins on a small scale**

- Jude said they, “have secretly slipped in among you”
- The Greek implies they came in with purpose and intent
- To enlighten them of their new wisdom, revelation, or interpretation
- They would have been very charismatic, sounding learned
- They probably believed it with all their heart but yet still wrong

## **The corruption of the Gospel begins on a small scale**

- Today it would most likely start in a Sunday School class or small group Bible Study
- It starts with an innocent question or the phrase, “Well I think....”

## The corruption of the Gospel begins on a small scale

- **Genesis 3:1 AMP** “Can it really be that God has said, ‘You shall not eat from any tree of the garden’?”
  - Just a slight deceptive question about trusting God
  - Satan didn’t dump the full load on her at the start
  - Let’s just change a single truth and see where it leads

## The corruption of the Gospel begins on a small scale

- **Genesis 3:4-5 AMP** 4 But the serpent said to the woman, “You certainly will not die! 5 For God knows that on the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened [that is, you will have greater awareness], and you will be like God, knowing [the difference between] good and evil.”

## **The corruption of the Gospel begins on a small scale**

- It always begins with a redefinition of ideas and meanings
  - Was that really what God meant? How do we really know?
  - Did Jesus really do that or really say that?
  - Was He really both God and man?
  - Could Jesus, being divine, really die?
  - Would a God of love really reject eternally?

## **The corruption of the Gospel begins on a small scale**

- It always begins with a redefinition of ideas
  - Doesn't God want us to be happy?
  - Does that sound logical?

## **The corruption of the Gospel begins on a small scale**

- The corruption is against the truth found in God's Word
- A Bible believing Christian does not become a Bible questioning Christian overnight
- It becomes more about opinions and wants over core doctrines
- You will find that a slight corruption of the Gospel will grow more and more corrupt over time

## **A corrupted doctrine will eventually attack the grace provided by God**

- Titus said they have, “Perverted the grace of our God into a license for immorality”
  - Pervert - alter (something) from its original course, meaning, or state to a distortion or corruption of what was first intended
- They were distorting and corrupting the Gospel of Grace by changing its meaning and purpose

## A corrupted doctrine will eventually attack the grace provided by God

- **Ephesians 2:8-9 NIV** 8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast.
- **Ephesians 2:10 NIV** 10 For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

## A corrupted doctrine will eventually attack the grace provided by God

- **Romans 6:1-2 NIV** 1 What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? 2 By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?

## A corrupted doctrine will eventually attack the grace provided by God

- The Gospel of Grace is also corrupted when the freedom we now have in Christ is hindered by the opinions of others
  - **John 8:36 NIV** 36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.
  - Free from the guilt, stain, debt - eternally
  - Free to become all Jesus wants us to be
  - Free from Pharisee-ism

## **A corrupted doctrine will eventually attack the grace provided by God**

- There may be consequences resulting from your life of sin before accepting Jesus, but these no longer define you

## **A corrupted doctrine will eventually attack the person of Jesus Christ**

- Titus said they have, “Denied Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord”
- Scripture reveals Jesus as the eternal Son of God, co-equal and co-eternal with the Father and the Holy Spirit
- Some 2,000 years ago He set aside His privileged position in heaven and came to earth adding to His deity sinless humanity by the miracle of the virgin birth

## **A corrupted doctrine will eventually attack the person of Jesus Christ**

- Thus, Jesus rightly may be described as the God-Man, fully divine and fully human
- He remained one person with two natures thus living a sinless life by which He secured the redemption of people through His sacrifice and substitutionary death on the cross

## **A corrupted doctrine will eventually attack the person of Jesus Christ**

- He demonstrated His authority over death by rising from the dead as He foretold and according to Scripture
- Salvation is only available through the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross

## **A corrupted doctrine will eventually attack the person of Jesus Christ**

- Jesus is NOT - the first and greatest of God's creatures but not fully divine
- He did NOT - only have the appearance of a man
- He was NOT - born human only then adopted by God in a special way at His baptism or at His resurrection
- His death, burial and resurrection were NOT just illusions

## A corrupted doctrine will eventually attack the person of Jesus Christ

- **Acts 2:22-24 NIV** 22 “Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. 23 This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. 24 But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him.

## A corrupted doctrine will eventually attack the person of Jesus Christ

- **Acts 2:36 NIV** 36 “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.”
- **Acts 2:37-38 NIV** 37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” 38 Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

## A corrupted doctrine will eventually attack the person of Jesus Christ

- **Acts 4:12 NIV** 12 “Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”
- **1st Corinthians 15:17 NIV** 17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.
- If Jesus is not divine and human, He cannot be the Messiah

## What are they really attacking when corruption begins?

- The testimonies of the Apostles and the revelation of God through His Word
- Warren Wiersbe, “When the enemy is in the field, the watchmen dare not go to sleep. The Christian life is a battleground, not a playground.”
- Therefore, Jude exhorts us today to contend for the faith
  - Not in scolding and scathing rebuke
  - But rather gently, but firmly, be defenders of the truth with love and grace

**But the real question to you today is, “Who do you say Jesus is?”**

- You must personally answer that question honestly
- Choose carefully today, “Who is Jesus to you?”

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