

## JUDE: Lesson 13

### Verses 22-23: Having Compassion to Help Certain Men Get Right

8 September 2023

**20-21** After dealing properly with the “certain men,” make sure your heart is right.

**22-23** Now try your hardest to help the “certain men” get right with God.

- Christians often give up too easily on the wayward brethren. We need to try harder.
  - Yes, contend with them. Show them their error (vs 3).
  - Now pray for them to turn from their worldly ways (vs 20).
  - Be merciful toward them. Don't hold a grudge (vs 21).
  - Make a difference (vs 22), save (rescue) them, pull them back (vs 23).

“**Making a difference.**” If you see a person who needs to live differently, you can make a difference.

“**Pulling them out of the fire.**” You'll need to get close to the fire to help them. Be careful.

“**Others save with fear.**” Only Jesus Christ can save someone's soul. But sometimes He gives us credit for saving them out of various situations. We become lifesavers when we pull someone from danger.

- **Romans 11:13-14** — Paul loved the Hebrew people. His desire was that he might “**save some of them.**”
- **1 Cor. 7:14-16** — If you have an unbelieving husband or wife, it is possible that one day you might “**save thy husband**” or “**save thy wife**” (vs 16).
- **1 Cor. 9:19-22** — Paul became all things to all men to “**save some.**”
- **1 Tim. 4:16** — “**Take heed to thyself (Jude 20-21), and unto the doctrine.**” Why? “**For in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.**”
  - You need to save yourself from becoming worldly and careless concerning the things of God.
  - Your devotion to the things of God will put you in a position to save someone else.
- **James 5:19-20** — When you convert someone from the error of their ways, you “**save a soul from death.**”

#### HOW TO SAVE OTHERS

1. Make sure your own heart is right (20-21).
2. Have the proper balance of compassion (vs 22) and fear (vs 23). You've got to love the sinners that you're preaching to if you want them to repent. If you don't love sinners, you won't warn them.
3. You have to have the right attitude toward sin. The bible says, “**Making a difference.**” If you're indifferent to sin, you can't rescue a sinner. “**Hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.**” If you don't hate sin, when you attempt to witness to a sinner, you might end up joining them in their sin.
  - a. The spotted garment is a garment contaminated with leprosy in **Leviticus 13:47-54**. Leprosy is a disease you would hate to touch for fear of infection. It is a picture of sin.
4. Don't trust your own righteousness (**Isaiah 64:6**). You need the righteousness of Jesus Christ to win the lost.
  - a. Without Jesus, we are unclean, and our righteousness is like filthy rags.

5. Rejoice in the Lord (**Isaiah 61:10**), we need to be clothed with the garments of salvation and covered with the robes of righteousness. Then our approach needs to be one of joy and rejoicing.
  - a. If you're not joyful in the Lord, why would anyone want what you've got?
6. Remember that you once were clothed in filthy garments and God pulled you out of the fire (**Zechariah 3:1-5**).
7. Remember that one sin will defile your garment (**Revelation 3:4**). You ought to hate the thought of that (**Jude 23**).
8. Remember that the Lord is the One who makes people clean (**Revelation 7:14**) and let that thought excite you.

### **SAVE WITH FEAR**

1. Fear the possibility that you might be drawn into a sinful situation if your heart isn't prepared.
  - a. Avoid tempting activities or ministries that could place you in an area of weakness.
  - b. **Galatians 6:1**, Consider whether you can help a person without being tempted to sin with them.

### **DON'T FORGET THE COMPASSION**

1. **First Corinthians 2:5-8**, We need to allow a person to repent and get right with God. When a sinner has been dealt with, make sure they know that you love them and that there is a way back to the fellowship. Don't freeze them out forever if they've repented and want to do right.
  2. **Luke 15:18-32**, the prodigal son repented and went home.
    - a. His father illustrates the proper welcome for the returning son.
      - i. He treated him with compassion (vs 20, Jude 22). He didn't treat him as one who messed up. He treated him as one who is where he belongs with his heart right.
      - ii. He gave him a change of garment (vs 22) and rejoiced to have him back home.
      - iii. He knew it was the right thing to do (vs 32).
    - b. His brother illustrates the reason most people never come back to fellowship.
      - i. He was self-righteous (vs 29).
      - ii. He disowned his brother (vs 30) and despised him.
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