Jude Some Things Never Change

The Key Players & Back Story

Jude's Tweet

Jude 1:1-25

Some Things Never Change

1) THE GOSPEL

Jude 1:3/ Galatians 1:6-9/ 2 John 1:9-11/ Romans 14:1-15:7

- It has been once for all delivered to the saints
- It's worth fighting for

2) WOLVES IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING

Jude 1:4 & 11-18/ 2 Corinthians 11:13-15/ Acts 20:29-31

- God's enemies usually come disguised as his friends
- They redefine morality
- They redefine **Jesus**

3) THREE THINGS TO AVOID LIKE THE PLAGUE

Jude 1:5-7 & 11

• The Way of Cain: Trying to approach God on my own terms
Genesis 4:1-15 & John 14:6/ Galatians 2:21, 3:9-10, & 5:4

- Balaam's Error: Trying to use God for my own gain Numbers 22:1-25 & 31:1-4 & 1 Timothy 6:3-5
- Korah's Rebellion: Trying to serve God on my own terms
 Numbers 16:1-50/ John 15:5-10/ Matthew 7:24-27

Food for Thought for the week of July 15, 2012

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. In this weekend's teaching, Larry mentioned that when God sets rules, it's a good idea not to change them. The result of changing or not living by the rules can have obvious adverse effects. How does Ephesians 4:17-24 describe the result of not living by God's rules?

Ephesians 4:17-24

So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. [18] They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. [19] Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more.

[20] You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. [21] Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. [22] You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; [23] to be made new in the attitude of your minds; [24] and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. [NIV]

What's been your biggest challenge in "putting on a new self"?

2. Whether we claim to be ignorant of God's word or we justify reasons not to follow it, the reality is that God is searching our hearts daily and knows the real reasons for our actions. What incentive do the following verses give us to have pure hearts before the Lord?

Ecclesiastes 12:14

For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil. [NIV]

Jeremiah 17:10

"I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve." [NIV]

1 Corinthians 4:5

Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait till the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of men's hearts. At that time each will receive his praise from God. [NIV]

3. God has rules for us to follow, not because he needs us to do something for him, but because he cares for us and wants to take care of us. Read Proverbs 2:1-10 and write down the blessings that come from accepting God's word and keeping his commands.

Proverbs 2:1-10

My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you,

- [2] turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding,
- [3] and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding,
- [4] and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure,
- [5] then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.
- [6] For the Lord gives wisdom, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.
- [7] He holds victory in store for the upright, he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless.
- [8] for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones.
- [9] Then you will understand what is right and just and fair-every good path.
- [10] For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul. [NIV]

Which blessing stood out to you as something you'd like to see more of in your life?