THE PRICE TAG: Thriving Among Threats

JUDE

Pastor Greg Sukert

■ Central Church

■ July 2, 2023

■ Social Media: #ThePriceTag

Because Jesus Reigns in truth, you must resist all error.

1. Trust God's Purpose (1-4).

2. Trust God's **Punishment** (5-16).

3. Trust God's Practices (17-23)

4. Trust God's Promises (24-25)

Jude

¹ Jude, a <u>servant of Jesus Christ</u> and brother of James, To those who are <u>called</u>, <u>beloved in God the Father</u> and <u>kept for Jesus Christ</u>. ² May <u>mercy</u>, peace, and love be multiplied to you. ³ Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to <u>contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints</u>. ⁴ For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, <u>ungodly people</u>, who pervert the grace of our God into <u>sensuality</u> and <u>deny</u> our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

5 Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward <u>destroyed</u> those who did not believe. ⁶ And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day—7 just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire. 8 Yet in like manner these people also, relying on their dreams, defile the flesh, reject authority, and blaspheme the glorious ones. 9 But when the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, was disputing about the body of Moses, he did not presume to pronounce a blasphemous judgment, but said, "The Lord rebuke you." 10 But these people $\underline{blaspheme}$ all that they do not understand, and they are destroyed by all that they, like unreasoning animals, understand instinctively. 11 Woe to them! For they walked in the way of <u>Cain</u> and abandoned themselves for the <u>sake of gain</u> to Balaam's error and perished in Korah's rebellion. 12 These are hidden reefs at your love feasts, as they feast with you without fear, shepherds feeding themselves; waterless clouds, swept along by winds; fruitless trees in late autumn, twice dead, uprooted; 13 wild waves of the sea, casting up the foam of their own shame; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved forever. 14 It was also about these that Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of his holy ones, 15 to execute judgment on all and to convict all the ungodly of all their deeds of ungodliness that they have committed in such an <u>ungodly</u> way, and of all the harsh things that ungodly sinners have spoken against him." 16 These are grumblers, malcontents, following their own sinful desires; they are loud-mouthed boasters, showing favoritism to gain advantage.

¹⁷ But you must <u>remember</u>, beloved, the predictions of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ They said to you, "In the last time there will be scoffers, following their own ungodly passions." ¹⁹ It is these who cause divisions, worldly people, <u>devoid of the Spirit.</u> ²⁰ But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the <u>Holy Spirit</u>, ²¹ keep yourselves in the love <u>of God</u>, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. ²² And <u>have mercy</u> on those who doubt; ²³ <u>save others</u> by snatching them out of the fire; to others <u>show mercy with fear</u>, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

²⁴ Now to him who is able to <u>keep you from stumbling</u> and to <u>present you blameless before the presence of his glory</u> with <u>great joy</u>, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

These questions are for further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help your fight for life change. One of the best ways to grow in the body is discussing the answers to these questions in a small group. Find one here: www.centralchurch.com/groups

- 1. Some say, "I don't need sound doctrine. All I need is Jesus!" What's the problem with this statement, according to Jude?
- 2. In what ways is sharing sound doctrine an act of mercy? Is this a ministry you are actively engaged in? Why or why not?
- 3. How are we tempted to view God's grace as permission to indulge in sin?
- 4. Jude promises the fate of the ungodly and the fate of those who belong to Jesus. What are the differences? And why are both of these important to know?
- 5. How will you prepare for knowing God's Word, living God's Word, and speaking God's Word to others?

Quote for the Week... by Geoff Thomas



"Some doctrine always has been, is today, and ever will be the foremost mark of the true church."