

# **Our Laodicean COMMON SALVATION**



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# Our Laodicean “Common Salvation.”

## Jude Did Not Change His Mind!

*“Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 1:3).*



## Two Types of Salvation

**Hebrews 2:3,**

*“How shall we escape, if we neglect so **great salvation**.”*

**Jude 1:3,**

*“I gave all diligence to write unto you of **the common salvation**.”*

Jude wrote warning God’s people about the common salvation that was being promoted by had “*certain men crept in unawares*” (Jude 1:4). The Greek word translated “common” here is “koinos” which has been translated “defiled”, “unclean”, and unholy” in the following verses.

- In **Mark 7:2** it is translated - “**defiled**.”
- In **Romans 14:14** it is translated - “**unclean**” three times.
- In **Hebrews 10:29** it has been translated - “**unholy thing**.”
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In Jude’s day God’s “*great salvation*” had been changed into a “*defiled*,” “*unclean*” and an, “*unholy*” type of salvation. Therefore Jude said, “*...it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints*” (v.3).

Jude continued, “*For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ*” (v.4).

## Several Things Are Mentioned In These Verses.

**1.** Jude, “*...gave all diligence*” to write and warn them about the fact that the plan of salvation had been made “*common*.” He did not give diligence, he gave “*all diligence*.” The Greek word translated diligence is *spoude*. It has also been translated “*...with haste*” in other places.

**2.** It was ***“needful”*** for Jude to exhort them that they should ***“...earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.”*** The Greek word *needful* is *“anagke.”* It has been translated ***“distress”*** three times. When a Doctor’s patient goes into distress that person is in danger of dying. Jude was very concerned about the common salvation that had replaced ***“...the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.”***

**3.** The promoters had of this common salvation had ***“...crept in unawares.”*** That is, they moved slowly and carefully, in order to avoid being noticed. The apostasy promoters were ordained to ***“this condemnation”*** (Translated *“judgment”* thirteen times) for their actions. They were not ordained to creep into the churches. They were ordained (translated *“set forth”* Galatians 3:1) for judgment.

- They were ***“ungodly men.”*** (V.4).
- They ***“crept in unawares.”*** (V.4).
- They were ***“turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness.”*** (V.4).
- They were, ***“denying the Lord.”*** (V.4).
- They ***“feast with you”*** (V.12).
- They were ***“...among them.”*** (V.15).



## **The Conclusion Is Obvious**

Pastors had promoted a ***“common salvation”*** allowing people to pray a prayer and join the local church.

## **Two Types of Apostasy Promoters**

The Bible refers to unsaved promoters of apostasy and Christian promoters of apostasy. It is obvious that the promoters of apostasy that Jude was talking about were unsaved.

Peter warned us about Believers who promote apostasy. The phrase ***“among you”*** is found three times in First and Second Peter, all of which refer to Christians.

- **First Peter 5:1**, *“The elders which are **among you**...”*
- **First Peter 5:2**, *“...the flock of God which is **among you**.”*
- **Second Peter 2:1**, *“...there shall be false teachers **among you**.”*

We know Peter refers to Christian false teachers because he said they were, ***“...denying the Lord that bought them”*** (Second Peter 2:1). The Greek word ***“bought”*** (*agorazoo*) is translated ***“redeemed”*** three times in the New Testament. To deny the Lord is to refuse Him access (See Revelation 3:20).

## Christian Leaders Promoting A Damnable Heresy

Christian leaders today, under the banner of fundamentalism, are the ones who are bringing in a, “**damnable heresies**” (Second Peter 2:1). In recent days, fundamentalism has become flooded with Christian leaders who are unwittingly promoting a “**common salvation**” that rejects repentance being necessary for salvation.

## No Choice But To Chose Whom You Will Believe

Jesus plainly warned us in **Luke 13:3**, “*I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.*” We have many in our ranks of fundamentalist who are promoting the “**damnable heresy**” that repentance is not necessary for salvation. A “**damnable heresy**” is a heresy that will damn a person to Hell for eternity.

## Apostasy Prevails When Salvation Is Made Common

Over 100 years ago, Gipsy Smith warned about our new present day, common salvation. In his message “**Repent Ye**,” he said...

*“I am afraid that in our zeal to get people into the kingdom or the church we have lowered the standard. I am afraid that in our zeal to get people into what we call the church, we have been more anxious about heads than hearts. In order to capture, we have compromised and lost. We have been more concerned about filling our church registers than we have about the kingdom.”*



## Our Common Salvation

Some years ago I had a well known *soul winning* evangelist come to our church. Many, if not most, reading this article would know who I was talking about if I mentioned his name. We knocked on the door of a man in the area and the *soul winning* evangelist started his sales pitch.

He rhymed off his presentation like he had many times before and ended with, “*do you know any reason why you couldn’t get saved right now?*” The man answered “***I have done this twice before.***” The *soul winning* evangelist, probably not even hearing the man’s response, said, “***well good then, lets pray.***” The man prayed, we headed back to the church and the man we talked with was the recipient of what Jude called a “**common salvation**” and what Peter called a “**damnable heresy.**”

## Incentive Salvation

Just like the business world, we offer an incentive to get people to say yes to our sales pitch. We offer the *incentive* of Heaven, to all who will pray a prayer. We ask, “*would you like to know for sure that you will go to Heaven when you die?*” Well, who wouldn’t?

**Jesus never, ever, offered Heaven as an incentive for people to get saved and neither did His followers.** Heaven is a tremendous by-product of salvation; however, salvation deals with our repenting of our sin against God. Man needs to understand that we need to fall on our faces and repent before God even if there were no such place as Heaven.

## **Jesus Promised A Hard Life**

**In Matthew 8:19-20 we read,**

*“And a certain scribe came, and said unto him, Master, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest.”*

Jesus didn't say, Great, just pray a little forgiveness prayer and help us make our group larger, and maybe we can build a big church here in Jerusalem. His response to the man was, *“The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.”* **We read no more about the man who said he would follow Him wherever He went.**

## **Me First Salvation?**

**In Luke 9:59 Christ asked another man if he would like to follow Him.** His response was *“Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father.”* In verse sixty-one we read, *“And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house.”* Christ's answer to these *“me first”* seekers of a common salvation was that he was not *“...fit for the kingdom of God”* (Verse 62).

## **Gipsy Smith Warned About Our Present Day Common Salvation**

Gipsy Smith won thousands to the Lord under the power of the Holy Spirit, however, he never used a slick, no repentance sales pitch that says just pray a prayer. Gipsy Smith said, ***“Christ never made it easy; and the man who makes it easy to be a Christian preaches a mongrel gospel.”***

## **A.W. Tozer Warned About Our Present Day Common Salvation**

A.W. Tozer said, *“The crowds-at-any-price mania has taken a firm grip on Christianity and is the motivating power back of a shockingly high percentage of all religious activity.”* Tozer continued, ***In our eagerness to make converts I am afraid we have lately been guilty of using the technique of modern salesmanship...”***



## **No Common Salvation Preached In The Word of God**

- **Jesus**, *“Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish”* (Matthew 4:17).
- **John The Baptist**, *“Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance”* (Matthew 3:8).

## **Bible Preachers Did Not Focus On Attracting A Crowd**

### **John Preached;**

- *“Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?”* (Matthew 23:33).

Did John not realize that he would never build a church in Jerusalem preaching that way?

### **Jesus Preached;**

- *“Thou hypocrite”* (Matthew 7:5).
- *“You hypocrites”* (Mark 7:6).
- *“Ye are of your father the devil”* ( John 8:44).
- *“Woe unto you...hypocrites!”* (Matthew 23:27).



### **James Preached;**

- *“Ye adulterers and adulteresses.”* (James 4:4)

James was preaching to Christians. Did he not realize that kind of preaching might cause some people who tithed to leave the church?

### **Paul Preached;**

- *“And thinkest thou...that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?”* (Romans 2:3)

Did Paul not know anything about winning friends and influencing people?

## **When Paul Preach To Christians**

- *“I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal”* (First Corinthians 3:1).

Did Paul not realized that he might lose some members if he preached like that?

### **When Christian women dressed immodestly Paul commanded...**

- *“...that women adorn themselves in modest apparel”* (First Timothy 2:9).

Did Paul not realized that most church problems are stirred up by women? Did he not realize that he could not build a church by getting the women upset?

### **When dealing with immature Christians at Ephesus, he told them to...**

- *“grow up”* (Ephesians 4:15).

Paul preached straightforward telling church members to *“grow up!”* Straightforward preaching is preaching that is frank, uncomplicated and easy to understand.



**Paul spoke to the Colossian Christians concerning...**

- *“...fornication”*
- *“...uncleanness”*
- *“...inordinate affection”*
- *“...evil concupiscence”*
- *“...and covetousness, which is idolatry.”*

**Over a dozen times Paul warned Christians about their...**

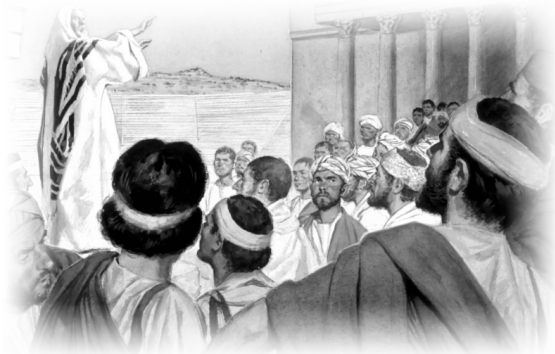
- *“...lusts.”*

**Paul rebuked the church at Corinth *because of their attitude toward...***

- *“...fornicators”*
- *“...idolators*
- *“...adulterers”*
- *“...effeminate*
- *“...abusers of themselves with mankind.”*

**• Referring to the church congregation, Paul said they were becoming...**

- *“...lovers of their own selves”*
- *“...covetous”*
- *“...boasters”*
- *“...proud”*
- *“...blasphemers”*
- *“...disobedient to parents”*
- *“...unthankful”*
- *“...unholy”*
- *“Without natural affection”*
- *“...trucebreakers”*
- *“...false accuser”*
- *“...incontinent”*
- *“...fierce”*
- *“...despisers of those that are good”*
- *“Traitors”*
- *“...heady”*
- *“...highminded”*
- *“...lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God”*
- *“Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof.”*



**To the Galatians Paul said...**

- *“Are ye so foolish?”*

## Preaching The Truth

The difference concerning Paul, and most so-called fundamental pastors of today is, Paul obviously was more concerned about preaching the truth than drawing crowds, keeping crowds or building a new auditorium.

Paul could honestly say, *"I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you"* (Acts 20:20). He said, *"I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God"* (Acts 20:27). One reason apostasy has come in like a flood is because pastors are more focused on church building than they are on preaching the Word of God.

## How Christian Leaders Become Apostate

1. They *receive* the truth.
2. They *reject* the truth.
3. They *ridicule* the truth.
4. They *replace* the truth.

Many so-called fundamentalists have followed this path in recent days.

## Jude Did Not Change His Mind!

*"Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and **exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith** which was once delivered unto the saints"* (Jude 1:3).

## There Is No "But"

If Jude had changed his mind the verse would read, *"I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, (BUT) it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."*



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