

# Contend Earnestly For the Faith Which Was Once For All Handed Down to the Saints

## An Expository Study of the **Epistle of Jude**

### Chapter 12- The Characteristics of the Heretics **Jude 12-13**

### 138 The Characteristics of the Heretics- Part 16

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WOSM Friday 05/16/08

Welcome again my beloved in Jesus Christ. We are continuing our verse by verse “journey” through the Epistle of Jude and today we want to continue to look at what Jude taught about “The Characteristics of the Heretics.” So, let’s open our Bibles and read verses 12&13 of Jude again together:

**12 These are the men who are hidden reefs in your love feasts when they feast with you without fear, caring for themselves; clouds without water, carried along by winds; autumn trees without fruit, doubly dead, uprooted;**  
**13 wild waves of the sea, casting up their own shame like foam; wandering stars, for whom the black darkness has been reserved forever.**

Now we are continuing to look at the third of the five characteristics of the heretics that Jude listed for us in these two verses, and I want to read again the last part of verse 12 again. In this part of verse 12- Jude said that the heretics are like:

**autumn trees without fruit, doubly dead, uprooted...**

... in other words- the heretics are barren. Now for a person to be barren was a reproach back in Bible Times. Women who could not bear children were scorned and ridiculed and they felt left out and felt as though God had cursed them. Men who had no sons to leave their earthly possessions were looked at as “second class citizens.”

The Bible considers children to be a blessing- but our modern culture looks at children as being an inconvenience to our mad rush to become important and have a career and children, many times, are looked at as something that crimps the style of the modern American

couple. And the result of materialism and financial success becoming the goal is that Barrenness is making a huge comeback in our culture, and it is very disturbing. While the hordes of godless barbarians and savages are having as many children as they can possibly have- American Christians are having fewer and fewer births per family.

For example- it is the publicly stated goal of Islam to “out populate” the United States with Muslims so they will eventually have the voting power to turn the United States into an Islamic Republic. But while that is going on- American Christians have bought into the lie that a 52 inch High Definition television that costs more than an automobile is what will make us happy. But the family cannot possibly afford both new cars; the new home; five maxed out credit cards and the TV without mom leaving her children and going to work to help pay for all the stuff.

And in order for mom to go to work to help pay for all the stuff we want- we have to throw our children into day care centers where they learn the values and the morality of that corporation and they miss the tender touch of the mother and they miss the beauty and the spiritual strength that only a mother can give and they grow up vacant of the stability and the comfort and God ordained care that only women can give their own children.

The financial squeeze that the average American family is in is sinful and it is destroying the very fabric of the home and unless and until we wake up and realize that the American dream is for the most part an ungodly and unbiblical dream- and that keeping up with the Joneses is nothing but covetousness- nothing will change.

Barrenness is a huge attraction today. You can save more money; have more stuff; do more things- if you just don't burden yourself down with all those pesky children.

But your home in the Hampton's will not sit by your bedside when you are dying. Your new car won't pray with you when your eyes get dim. Your 401k Plan will not hug you and read to you when you are ready to go be with your fathers- but your children will.

The primary function of families was never to own more land and build bigger and finer homes and to drive nicer cars and to get more and more educated. The prime function of families that Almighty God spelled out very clearly is found in **Genesis 1:28:**

**God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth."**

Now you can call me a male chauvinist all you want to- but I am telling you the Truth. But if you really want to know if what I am saying is true- go ask my wife. Go ask my wife if she thinks that I am cruel and hard and mean to her. Ask her if I love her like Christ loved the Church and gave Himself for it. Ask her about whether I adore her and set her up on a pedestal and I don't allow anyone to dishonor her. My children know not to disrespect my wife.

If it comes down between my children and my wife- my children lose every time. My wife is honored and loved and cared for and provided for and she is the best friend that I have, and I love her more today after nearly 40 years of marriage than I ever have.

When we got married- we were both virgins and I carried my bride across the threshold, and we knelt down at a couch that we used as our altar. And I looked my new bride right in the eye and told her, "*I love Jesus more than I'll ever love you.*" And she looked at me and said, "*I love Jesus more than I'll ever love you.*" And that is why we have such a good marriage and after six children- she is more beautiful and lovely and gracious now than ever before.

Beloved, it is because Jesus is first in my life- and not my wife that we have such a good marriage. I love Jesus much more than I will ever love my wife and Jesus tells me very clearly that if I want to please and serve and worship Him- I need to love my wife like Christ loved the Church. And so, because I love Jesus more than I love my wife- I treat my wife with dignity and respect. And the love that I have for my wife flows out of the fact that I am in awe of her; I respect her; and I admire her. You see, if I am to please my precious Lord- then I have to love my wife and not be bitter toward her and dwell with her according to knowledge. And because my wife loves Jesus more than she loves me- Jesus tells her to honor me and obey me and respect me and graciously and lovingly submit herself to my leadership.

When our children were born- we prayed about who should raise them. And we came to the conclusion that no one on earth was more qualified to raise our children than the very one who bore them- my wife. So, she didn't work outside the home, and we sacrificed and did

without so that she could raise our children and instill within them the fear and the nurture of the Lord.

We didn't have but one vehicle and we didn't have air conditioning and we didn't have a washer or dryer, or a dishwasher and we didn't have a large house and we didn't have cable or satellite service because we didn't own a television. We didn't have a lot of this world's goods- but we had each other and we had Jesus and we would sing and pray and read the Bible and my wife taught our children to be Christians and she raised them at home while I was at work and she taught them to fear God and to serve Jesus and to obey the Bible and she raised them and cooked for them and laughed with them and she taught them to walk and to sit up and she taught them to pray and to read and she taught them math and science and history and she taught them to be honest and to be faithful.

And during that time- God dealt with my heart and I went back to school and for the next decade, I went to night school after work- sometimes up to four days a week in order to get the classes that I needed to start my own business. And in 1985, I quit my job to begin my own business by faith.

Our second child was born mentally retarded, and my wife cared for her and when our baby contracted Leukemia- my wife traveled to Jackson Mississippi to treat her at The University Medical Center and lived in a room with our daughter for up to six months every year. Because we couldn't afford health insurance- we had to administer the chemo-therapy ourselves at home and we set up a place at home where our sweet precious retarded dying daughter could hear holy music all day long as she died.

Because much of the chemo-therapy causes birth defects- the medical staff urged my wife to not bear anymore children and when she became with child again in 1986, they told her to abort the baby. But my wife wouldn't listen to their logic. Even if the next child was retarded- the child was a gift from God, and she was going to have it anyway. She didn't kill her baby and brought forth a healthy and normal fourth child and third daughter into the world in December 1986.

After bearing my second son in 1988, my wife lost another daughter in 1993. With no formal training and with much criticism

about what we were doing- my wife educated our four living children while she taught them to study the Bible, and fast and pray.

Now the reason that I am bringing all this up is to show you that I am not just talking about lofty platitudes when I speak about children being a heritage of the Lord- I speak from firsthand experience. My wife and I are qualified to counsel with troubled marriages because our marriage is real good. We are qualified to speak into the lives of young couples because we had God speak into our lives.

And I am qualified to preach against the sin of women leaving their God- given Call to bear and raise children so that they can have their careers because this preacher actually lives what he says, and my wife and I actually did it.

Dear friends- we are fast becoming a barren nation again. And what is sad is that *this* barrenness is entirely self-inflicted and is the result of buying into the false doctrine that says that more stuff will make us happy rather than obeying God.

For example- if we just had the people that we have murdered in legal abortions since 1973- we would not be having the Social Security shortfall that is fast coming upon us in this nation. If you discount legal immigration- the United States is in a population decline as in most of the Western World.

Because of nothing other than birthrates- France will be an Islamic state by 2050. By the middle of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century- if present trends continue- Germany will be reduced to a third rate country with a population of just over 26 million. That is because more people are dying than are being born. Western Europe has almost gone totally pagan, and Christianity is almost dead in many parts of Europe, and it is that same pagan philosophy that many are trying to bring over here that devalues life and throws children to the wind.

Meanwhile, pagan countries and nations that are dominated by false and demonic religions are going to triple in population during the next 50 years. And this trend is the direct result of wicked philosophies from public schools and television and Hollywood programming and feminism and the ease at which birth control and abortion is so accepted. These things permeate our culture to the point where getting married and having a house full of children and raising them herself is the last thing on the mind of the average modern American girl.

I tell you that the ungodly spirit of feminism and ungodly so-called role models who embolden women to think and act and live in direct rebellion to the Word of God like Oprah Winfrey and the women on the View and female politicians that purport to speak for women and ungodly magazines and sadly, many famous television preachers are contributing to confusion young ladies about their true calling in life and they are encouraging the self-inflicted barrenness of our land. But it should never be in the Church.

Now I realize that there are women who want to bear children and cannot have them- and I am not talking about them. God is good however, and God will graciously allow these souls to be productive in other areas of life so that they may be fulfilled. But what I am saying about this barrenness is true and we need to wake up and smell the coffee.

Without the honor and dignity and glory and beauty of motherhood- we have no future, and the Church is failing to promote children and to denounce the ungodly barrenness that is captivating the minds and hearts of the modern female's mind.

We have to understand that it is Christianity more than any other religion in the history of the world that freed women and gave them dignity and brought honor to marriage and taught men to love and cherish their wives. So, in spite of what the feminists say- Christianity doesn't hold women back- True, genuine, biblical Christianity frees women to do what God created them to do- marry a godly man; love their husbands and bear and raise children who will fear God and obey the Scriptures and who will change the world.

Jude says that the heretics are barren, and I tell you that real bad doctrine has fooled this nation into believing that barrenness is a good thing. It isn't- it is wrong; it is sinful and it we must repent of adopting the ways of the world into our hearts and minds and we must repent of loving this present world; and we must repent of our covetousness and our materialistic thoughts of power and money and fame that has lied to us that money can do for us more than our children can and we must repent of our backsliding and we must reject the barrenness of the heretics and we must earnestly contend for the Faith that was once and for all delivered to the saints. Well, I've got to stop right here. But please join me on the next broadcast as we continue our Journey through the Epistle of **Jude**. May God help us all.

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