

“They told you that in the last times there would be scoffers whose purpose in life is to satisfy their ungodly desires. These people are the ones who are creating divisions among you. They follow their natural instincts because they do not have God’s Spirit in them.” Jude 1:18-19 NLT

[lectio] // JUDE 1:17-25

Again, we’ve been in “last days” for a couple a millennia now. However, it still stands to reason that the world, our judgments and our morals spiral to lowest common denominator. Jude does bring up a good point, there will always be SCOFFERS, DIVISIONS and natural INSTINCTS working against everything God is doing to bring Christ’s provision through us. It is a given that evil is alive and present in our world, our church and even our very lives. This is NOT new! Every man, woman and child has been fighting this “last days” battle since the garden. However, it does not make it any easier when the struggles come from within. Within our home, our church or ourselves. It feels specifically and depressingly worse. But, God’s Spirit is also at work. Striving with our sin, our morals, our selfishness and desires. The Spirit whispers and woos, gently and calmly moving us toward Christ, toward forgiveness and love. Dear Jude, I hear the warning and the admonishment - it’s a game of patience.

[oratio]

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,

As we wait, I desire to see you at work in me, in my soul, my thoughts and oh please - my BEHAVIORS! I do not want to be the scoffer, the divisive or the morally bankrupt person in my home, church or city. I want to be exactly the opposite! I want to be a participant, a joiner with you. I want to be a unifier, a builder an encourager. And, I want to be moral because it reflects the amazing cooperation, the dance with your Spirit. I want to fight against the tide of spiral decline and bring your light to everyplace I go. That’s how I want to live in the “last days!”

[contemplatio]

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root