

“It’s Hard to Hold People Accountable”

Things That Are Hard To Do

Jude vs. 20-25

May 26, 2019

Scripture Reading: Jude vs. 20-25

Series Setup

1. It's Hard To Hold People Accountable | Jude vs. 20-25
2. It's Hard To Be Single (Or, Love Single People Well) | 1 Corinthians 7:32-38
3. It's Hard To Think Biblically About Sexuality | 1 Corinthians 6:12-20
4. It's Hard To Talk About Race in our Culture | Ephesians 2:11-22
5. It's Hard To Understand the End Times | Matthew 24:3-14
6. It's Hard To Love Your Actual Neighbor | Leviticus 19:9-18

Introduction

Big idea: true accountability is built upon the foundation of the gospel

Defining Accountability

1. Commitment or expectation
2. Evaluation and answer
3. Consequence or reward

**Relational vs. transactional accountability

The Letter From Jude

1. Likely written by Judah, brother of Jesus | Matthew 13:55, Mark 6:3
2. Written to warn against false teachers | Jude vs. 3
3. Short and somewhat controversial
4. What to do with those who follow false teachers?

Built Up in the Gospel | vs. 20-21

Gospel Foundations

1. All must give account to God | Romans 3:19-20
2. Christ’s account credited to us | Romans 4:22-25
3. Christ offers eternal reward for his faithful | Matthew 16:24–27
4. Build yourself if you want to help others | Jude vs. 20-21
 - a. Knowledge of the faith
 - b. Prayer in the Spirit
 - c. Kept in God’s love
 - d. Patiently waiting

Wise Evaluations | vs. 22-23

Category 1: tender-hearted

Category 2: the wayward

Category 3: the polluted

To Hold Them Accountable

1. Practice accountability as love
2. Count the cost
3. Pray for courage
4. Persevere through setbacks
5. Don't take on their role | Galatians 6:1-5
 - a. Heath Lambert – The responsibility to confess sin and expose the darkness lies with the person who has committed the sin. It's not the job of spiritual mentors to go on a fishing expedition to reel in a confession from those they are trying to help. A person passively waiting to provide answers to specific questions is in a far different place spiritually than a person who is willing to take the initiative to expose their struggles in the pure light of day. In other words, keep the responsibility where it belongs and simply invite the person to share where they have sinned and need help.

Jesus Will Do It | vs. 24-25

To the One Who Needs Accountability

- Heath Lambert – The right kind of accountability—characterized by initiative, openness, clean conversation, maturity, and serious answerability for sin—is hard. It takes more than guts to pursue it; it takes grace. Perhaps you...are worried about entering this kind of relationship. If you are, confess to God that you're tempted to hide, seek the forgiving grace of Jesus, and then fight in prayer for the transforming grace to pursue real accountability. God knows your heart. He knows what you need, and he is eager to help you when you ask in faith.

Benediction | Jude vs. 24-25

²⁴Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, ²⁵to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.