

and coming to God on the ground of what he could himself do, instead of owning (as Abel did) the ruined condition he was in and that he could only approach God on the ground of blood-shedding, the death of the Lamb.

2nd. Ecclesiastical evil: not only teaching error, but reducing it to a mere money basis.

3rd. Open opposition and rebellion against the authority of God as displayed in His true King and Priest.

The reference to Enoch is both solemn and blessed.

*Solemn* as indicating the terribleness of the evil and the grave judgment that followed.

*Blessed* as showing that, terrible though the evil was, God's grace was sufficient to enable a man of like passions as we are (in whom faith was) to walk with God and have the present sense of His favour. Likewise leading the heart on to the coming of the Lord Himself.

We are called upon to be builders as well as fighters (ver. 20), reminding us of those with Nehemiah in his day—see Neh. iv. 17, 18. The importance of prayer is also pressed upon us here, as in so many other places in Scripture.

What is spoken of in ver. 21 has already been alluded to. May the Lord graciously enable us to be diligent as to what is enjoined.

How important to remember what vs. 22, 23 teach. It recalls the instructions given Jeremiah,