Another Building Project?

Jude 17-25

We're finishing a building project at New Life, praise God! But Jude speaks of a more important building project...

Are you God's project? Jude describes two types of people: scoffers and builders

(1) Scoffers! (1:17-19)

- The prediction: arrogance towards God and His ways will be a problem
- Their activity? Pursuing "ungodly passions"

"But you, beloved…" are to be different. Be builders! (1:20)

(2) Builders! (1:20-21)

- "Building yourselves up" (1:20)
  - Jude is not "perverting the grace of God" here (1:4). Remember: *Grace is not opposed to effort, it is opposed to earning.*
  - What specifically are these (self-)building activities?
- Building others up (1:22-23)
  - For doubters, have mercy
  - *Save* others, snatching them from the fire
  - For others, show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

Doxology (1:24-25)

- He can keep me from stumbling?! And present me blameless?
  - Wait a minute… I thought this was a self-building project?
- He must be first, because He *is* first.

<u>Questions for Reflection and Application</u>

1. The prediction in 1:17-19 is that scoffers will be a problem—among those who claim to be Christian.
   a. What's a scoffer and what do they produce? (1:18-19)
   b. Why do they act the way they do? (1:18-1:19)
2. Building! (1:20-23)
   a. How can you build yourself up according to Jude?
   b. Do you think you take this goal seriously in your life? Why or why not? Anything you need to change?
   c. Look what Jude says about building others up (1:22-23). Do any of these examples bring a person to mind in your life? What should you do?\
3. Doxology (1:24-25)
   a. Put the doxology in your own words. What is it saying?
   b. Is there an application for this doxology in your life? What is it?