

- Order of Service -

Call to Worship

Welcoming Prayer

Reading Jude 5-7

- 27, How Great Thou Art!
- God, the Uncreated One
- 12, Praise my soul the King of Heaven

Announcements and Prayer requests
Greeting

Message in the Word -

Book of Jude - #2

Warnings about the destiny of false teachers: Stay away!

Jude 5-7

Sending prayer

Today, Communion & Pot-Luck

Next Sunday - Mother's Day

You may notice we don't pass an offering plate

We invite you to participate in the ministry, and the offering box in the foyer is for your gifts and offerings for the Lord's work.

- 2 Corinthians 9:7-8, Galatians 6:6 -

Grace Bible Fellowship

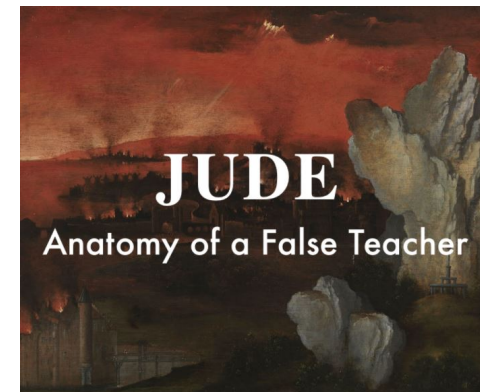
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- Teaching -

Eric Peterman

Book of Jude - #2

Warnings about the destiny of false teachers: Stay away!

Jude 5-7

- May 7th, 2023 -

Book of Jude - #2

Warnings about the destiny of false teachers: Stay away!

Jude 5-7

Jude – the half-brother of Jesus has just told his readers to beware of certain licentious/sensual teachers who are creeping in among believers. In their teaching and acts, they effectively deny the inherent right of the risen Jesus to command them (and believers), and they deny his deity. The Lord is holy and sovereign and God in the flesh...these are basics of the faith! Now, by way of stern warning, he goes on to give them 3 lessons from the past about how God has dealt in severe judgment with different groups following the same corrupted path or “way” of life.

Review of v4, See 2 Peter 2:1

Three lessons from the past with three groups, who experienced severe judgment from God because of their falling away, both in what they believed and in what they did/their works.

V5. The lesson of: Ancient Israel, graciously rescued/saved from bondage in Egypt by the Lord's mighty hand, yet what was supposed to be a quick 2-3 week journey to the promised land, turned instead to 40 years of testing and trials.

Why? The rescued people repeatedly fell into disbelief and rebellion of various kinds. There are *many examples*, but a key one would be Korah's Rebellion. **Numbers 16:1–40** indicates that Korah rebelled against Moses along with 249 co-conspirators, *leaders among the people*, and were punished for their rebellion when God sent fire from heaven to consume all 250 of them.

Consequence/judgment: *subsequently destroyed!*

(Make special note here of the last phrase in Numbers 16:2, “men of renown”, *ish shem*.)

V6. The lesson of: Angelic beings, in Genesis 6:1-4, who forsook their proper/natural abode, and took on human flesh and intermixed with women.

Why? These angelic/spirit beings seem to have been persuaded by the teachings of Satan who was seeking to corrupt the seed of mankind so as to disrupt the possibility...

...of the Savior being born (Gen 3:15). (If Adam and Eve's line could be sufficiently corrupted there would be no human lineage for the Messiah). They abandoned their sphere/place/world for another out of misplaced desire. Note in Gen 6:4 “men of renown” *ish shem*.

Consequence/judgment: *The world/mankind judged and destroyed in the Great Flood (2 Peter 2:5), these particular fallen angelic beings – in the flesh, were assigned to the dungeons in the lowest part of Hades: Tartarus, awaiting the final judgment into the lake of fire! (2 Peter 2:4)*

V7. The lesson of: Sodom and Gomorrah (and surrounds): These cities forsook the Living God, and especially rejected His delineation of men and women in their proper and good sexual relationship, went after “strange flesh”. (See Gen 19). Believers are to reject teaching/teachers and any practice in the church or life which blurs this line of demarcation!

Consequence/judgment: *Temporal destruction by fire and brimstone, reduced to ashes! (2 Peter 2:6), **and** their spirits kept in Hades under common torment until the Great White Throne and the Lake of Fire (Jude 7, “exhibited as an example in undergoing [present tense] the punishment of eternal fire.”)*

Conclusion:

Regarding those who seek to lead, tend and teach God's people, there are two balancing passages that need to be kept in mind:

- The **positive:** 1 Timothy 3:1
- The **negative:** James 3:1

Your responsibility: Be careful who you listen to on spiritual and moral matters! Not everyone and every ministry that looks superficially like a healthy sheep is one. Some are well-disguised wolves. Think carefully, talk to other mature believers about teachings and teachers. Treat your faith like a precious and valuable stewardship for which you will certainly give an answer for! Live to please Christ, the author and perfecter of your faith.