

McCoy Memorial Baptist Church

Date: August 23, 2020

Summer Quarter: Zealous for the Truth

Title: "Meet the Apostates: Irrational Beasts"

Scripture: Jude 8-16

UNDERSTANDING THE TRUTH (Jude 8-11)

1. Reject divine authority (vv. 8, 9)

The cause of their rebellion is summed up in the word "dreamers". They live in a dream world of unreality and delusion. They're out of touch with truth and reality.

Jude draws the link between the three illustrations of God's judgment & the false teachers. Jude draws three parallels:

- A. They _____ their own bodies
They are like the men of Sodom and Gomorrah in their sexual abuses.
- B. They _____ at authority
As the unbelieving Israelites rejected the Lord's authority in wilderness.
- C. They _____ celestial beings
To prove how terrible a thing that was Jude cites an instance fr. an apocryphal book, The Assumption of Moses. It expanded the biblical story in Deuteronomy 34:1-6.

2. Are destitute of spiritual perception (v. 10)

Jude points to the well-spring of their apostasy, which is their total lack of spiritual understanding. They blaspheme the things of God that they cannot perceive through their natural human reason and senses.

3. Err in 3 respects due to the inability to understand God's truth (11)

- A. They are given to manufacturing their own _____
Cain openly rebelled against God's revealed will reg. sacrifice (Genesis 4:1-15; cp. Heb. 11:4; 1 John 3:12).
- B. They promote false religion for _____ (Balaam)
For a large financial reward, Balaam devised a plan for Balak, king of Moab, to entice Israel into a compromising situation with idolatry and immorality which would bring God's own judgment on His people (see Num. 31:16; Rev. 2:14).
- C. They _____ against God's authority figures (Korah)
Korah, plus 250 Jewish leaders, rejected the God-appointed leadership of Moses & Aaron in an attempt to impose his will upon God and the people. Apostates will unquestionably meet the same end as Korah.

HAZARD TO CHRISTIANS (Jude 12-16)

1. Descriptive Pictures (vv. 12, 13)

Jude piles image upon image to describe the hazard that these false religionists are to God's people. **False teachers are . . .**

- A. _____ on Christian love feasts (12)
They feed only themselves. See Ezek. 34:2, 3; and John 10:12, 13.
- B. _____ that promise rain but do not give a drop (12)
This vivid example portrays the uselessness of their teaching.
- C. _____ that produce no fruit (12)
They're like fruit trees in late fall, long past harvest. Their growth has stopped, & their branches are bare when they should be fruitful.
- D. _____ of the sea (13)
Wild waves of the sea rage back & forth and produce only filthy scum which is found littered on the seashore when the tide recedes. Compare Isa. 57:20. The wicked are tossed about, restless and untamed, while casting up mire & mud. They con't. nothing helpful or nourishing.
- E. aimless _____ that move across the sky (13)
The reference is to shooting stars, comets or meteors. They provide no guidance for navigation, as do fixed stars. They are useless & fall out of the sky engulfed in black darkness (2 Pet. 2:4).

2. Prophecy of Judgment (vv. 14, 15)

This prophecy of Enoch's is not found in the OT Scriptures. Jude is quoting from a book supposedly written by Enoch. This book is a part of the Pseudepigrapha ("false writings"), which is a large body of Jewish writings composed between 200 BC and AD 100. This name is attached to these extra-biblical, or non-canonical, works 'cause they are unauthentic. Many of the books in the collection bear the names of famous persons fr. the O.T. These books, however, didn't come from their pens. Jude's first audience was probably familiar with the Book of Enoch.

3. Murmurers and Complainers (v. 16)

- A. Grumblers and Faultfinders who are vocally discontent
- B. Lustfully following their own self-centered cravings for what is forbidden morally.
- C. Speak with over-swollen words about themselves
- D. Flattering others to their own advantage