

Jude 5-16 portrays a staggeringly honest truth about God that no one wants to hear or face. It is a very graphic depiction of what happens when God gets angry. This is not a popular topic, to say the least. On a personal level, teaching this aspect of God's character causes me great anxiety. Not because I think it is false, but because I believe it is totally true. You see, today's culture views Biblical teaching about God getting angry as proof that the God of Scripture is horribly mean and capriciously vindictive. That's simply not true. Yes, God can get angry. Actually, He can get very angry. But don't think God has a problem controlling His temper or has a mean streak that finds perverse pleasure in hurting others. No, when God gets upset, it is always for good reason. His anger is always righteous, never evil. Listen, the two things that tick God off the most is when people miss out on His love or mess around with His laws. The world of Jude's time, as well as our world today, is filled with false spiritual teachers who lead people astray in both these ways. Today we learn what God, in His righteous anger, is going to do about them. Beloved, what we hear should cause us all to quake in our boots! It should also motivate us all to keep our boots on God's path. Surprisingly, it can also prompt us to take our boots off and run full speed into the arms of God!

THE FATE OF FALSE SPIRITUAL TEACHERS

(Jude 5-7)

THE TOTALLY UNRESERVED ...

- 1. (v.5 / Numbers 13 & 14) Unbelieving Israel
- 2. (v.6 / Genesis 6) Fallen Angels
- 3. (v.7 / Genesis 19) Sodom & Gomorrah

THE FACTS ON FALSE TEACHERS

(vv. 8-16)

1. (vv.8-10 / Jeremiah 23:25-27) Phony Dreams

- 2. (v.11a / Genesis 4:1-15) The way of Cain
- 3. (v.11b / Numbers 22-24) The Error of Balaam
- 4. (v. 11c / Numbers 16) The Rebellion of Korah
- 5. (vv.12-13 / 1 Corinthians 11) The Defiling of Communion
- 6. (vv. 14-15) Ungodliness
- 7. (v.16) Narcissistic "Me 1st" lifestyle

TODAY'S TAKEAWAYS

- 1. (Ezekiel 33:11) God has no desire to ...
- 2. (Romans 5:8; 8:1) God has made it totally possible to ...
- 3. (Deuteronomy 30:9) God is not bitter toward you, but He does want to ...

FOR THOUGHT AND TALK

In your small group take 5-10 minutes to review the main points of Pastor John's message. Discuss the following questions, taking your time as the Spirit leads, realizing you don't have to cover them all.

- 1. Whew, Jude 5-16 was a heavy-duty passage for us to hear being taught, and as PJ confessed, it was a really tough one for him to share. Nevertheless, we need to hear the "hard truths" of the Bible as well as the happy ones. Why is it important for us to hear a message like this and how can what we have heard help us walk closer to Jesus?
- 2. Look at the 3 examples of judgment that Jude mentions in vv.5-7. What are some of the sins that these illustrations highlight as drawing the anger of God? In what ways are these sins impacting our current culture?
- 3. There is a big difference between the perfectly righteous anger of God and the flawed anger of people, Christians included. James 1:20 tells us that ... Human anger does not produce the righteous behavior that God desires in ourselves or others. How can we tell people about the anger of God without becoming angry ourselves? Why is it important that we leave the anger with God when we talk to others about Jesus and His standards of right and wrong?
- 4. Take a second look at the 3 "Takeaways" that PJ ended the message with. Speak them aloud in your group. What do these principles tell us about the motivations of God, especially in relation to those times when He becomes angry? Why are you personally glad for each principle?

11.14.21 - 11th in a series of messages from 2 & 3 John & Jude entitled POSTCARDS FROM PARADISE, by Pastor John K. Nagle. For more information about Jesus or NCFF, check us out at www.ncffchurch.org