

L 11 ... How To Avoid Being a Fool

Jude 5-10

The book of Jude has grave warnings for those who know the truth and reject it or pervert it. The Bible teaches such people are fools. Jesus tells the story of a rich farmer whose fields produce so bountifully he decides to build new barns to store the valuable crops. He then tells himself he has plenty of good things stored up for many years. Therefore, he decides to take life easy and *eat, drink, and be merry* ([Lk 12:19](#)).

But what does God say to this farmer (12:20b–c)?

He was a *fool* because he wasn't ready to meet God. In this section of *Jude*, we can discover at least **two** ways to avoid being a fool ...

Remember biblical examples (5-7)

Jude gives us three illustrations to remind us that people who reject or pervert God's truth will inevitably face divine judgment.

Example #1: The Israelites. Jude begins, *I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt* ([5a](#)). The Lord God delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage through a series of miracles we call the Ten Plagues. The young nation then entered the wilderness, passing through the Red Sea on dry land.

After He delivered the Israelites, God *destroyed them that believed not* ([5b](#)). Even after all the miracles they had witnessed in Egypt and the miracle at the Red Sea, some Israelites begin to complain to Moses about their hardships in the desert.

They complain despite the fact the Lord also provides what daily miracle recorded in [Psalm 105:39](#)?

In other words, the Israelites had it “made in the shade.” Yet, when they first arrive at the border of the Promised Land, they rebel and sin against God, refusing to believe He will help them conquer the land. As a result, of what does [Hebrews 3:17](#) remind us?

As a result of their rebellion, all but two of the fighting men who left Egypt died during the forty years of wandering in the wilderness. Those two men were Joshua and Caleb ([Num. 14:20-30](#)). Remembering biblical stories is important because we need to keep in mind how God deals with those who rebel against His commands. This is because of what God says in [Malachi 3:6a](#).

What does He declare?

Example #2: The Angels. Next, we read: *And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day* ([6](#)).

The source of this illustration is debated among scholars.

However, the point is that even rebellious angels will be punished. Jesus says when the Son of man comes, there will be a Day of Judgment. He will separate the sheep from the goats; putting the goats on His left and sheep on His right ([Mt 25:31-33](#)).

What does Jesus then say to those on His left ([25:41](#))?

The point is angels, scholars, pastors, deacons, Bible teachers, or anyone else who rejects God's truth and His authority will face severe judgment.

Example #3: Sodom and Gomorrah. Jude writes: *Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire* ([7](#)). This verse obviously teaches that the sin of Sodom and Gomorrah was **not** inhospitality, as some teach. God clearly says their sin was sexual immorality and perversion.

The destruction of Sodom and other cities warns us how serious God is about His commands regarding sexual behavior. Those who practice sexual immorality or pervert God's teaching about it (of which Sodom and Gomorrah are examples), will suffer the *vengeance of eternal fire*.

To avoid being a fool, **remember biblical examples** and ...

Reject those who deny or pervert biblical truth (8-10)

Jude continues, *Likewise also these filthy dreamers* ([8a](#)). The word *likewise* means false teachers demonstrate the same traits as the rebellious Israelites, fallen angels, and the perversion of Sodom and Gomorrah.

False teachers often use visions and dreams as sources of their authority. They say God uses dreams and visions to tell them things you can only hear from them. This is especially true in the cults. Their founders teach they have an exclusive word from God.

However, the Bible gives us all we need pertaining to *life and godliness* ([2 Pet. 1:3](#)).

False teachers are also described as those who *defile the flesh* ([8b](#)). Today, these false teachers declare that what the Bible teaches about sex is outdated, or as some in the gay community claim, it is misinterpreted. False teachers also *despise dominion* ([8c](#)). They dismiss or pervert the authority of God's Word and the reality of a coming judgment on their sin.

False teachers also *speakevill of dignities* ([8d](#)). In light of the next verse, this probably refers to fallen angels; therefore, these false teachers slander spiritual powers they do not understand.

This would include those who don't believe in a literal devil or demons. However, Jude doesn't give us any specifics, other than what we read in the next verse. To illustrate the point, Jude writes, *Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation* (9a–d).

Instead, what does Michael say ([9e](#))?

Michael the archangel is God's most powerful angel. The word *archangel* (ARCHANGELOS, ark-ong'-el-os) means "chief angel." Therefore, Michael is the most powerful of God's angels and the "commanding officer" of the other angels. The word *archangel* is not found in the Old Testament and only twice in the New Testament. The other reference is in [1 Thessalonians 4:16](#), which refers to the Lord coming down out of heaven *with a shout* (4:16a–b).

What does the next phrase of that verse reveal will also accompany the Lord's command?

At the Rapture, *Michael the archangel* will probably be in charge of getting all the angels, resurrected saints, and raptured believers into formation. The Rapture will be an orderly affair because of Michael ([1 Cor. 14:33a](#)).

However, when contending for Moses' body, even God's most powerful angel would not insult the powerful Satan. Moses dies on Mount Nebo, which overlooks the Promised Land. Since there is no one there to bury Moses, it appears the Lord sends Michael to do it. Yet, when Michael arrives, the devil stops him from taking Moses' body.

Why does the devil want Moses' body? We don't know, but he might want to display it in a shrine to lead people into some kind of idolatry. However, Michael said, *The Lord rebuke thee*, which the Lord did. Therefore, what does the Lord do, according to [Deuteronomy 34:6](#)?

Moses' body is the only one the Lord Himself personally buried, protecting it from any kind of abuse or false worship.

Jude concludes this section, *But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves* ([10](#)). These false teachers claim a superior knowledge but do not understand spiritual things. Even highly-educated false teachers can be like *brute beasts*. This is especially true when relating to teaching that Satan and demons are real beings.

Have you ever tried to teach a dog or horse about the devil or demons? No, because they can't understand it. False teachers are like that.

How does [Romans 1:22](#) describe false teachers?

People who refuse to accept God's Word as truth become slaves to their own passions and are eternal *fools*.

To avoid being a fool,

REMEMBER BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

REJECT THOSE WHO DENY OR PERVERT BIBLICAL TRUTH.