

Jude 1:12-16

Announcements:

- Men's Conference - **big final push**. Deadline tomorrow, invite someone!
- Outreach Fair Today (youth room) - stick around!
- New Here Lunch - Next Sunday after church (register ahead of time)
- Israel Trip (Nov - Dec) - Info at welcome desk...
- Rosh Hashanah ("Head of the Year") Friday - Sunday night... Lev 23 / Num 29 - Yom Teruah, day of blowing/shouting! (feast of trumpets!) (shofar!) - creation, judgment, **10 days of repentance...** (fitting for our passage today...)

Please open to **Jude chapter 1** (need a Bible? ...)

- Recap: **No Ordinary Letter** - **Contend for the faith...** **Three Danger Signs** - **Israel, Angels, Sodom...** **Shipwrecking Reefs:** **Cain, Balaam, Korah** - **They are among your love feasts!**
- This time: **The same line of thinking continues...** **more warnings/characteristics.** **Teeth!**

Message Title: "Loud and Empty!"

- **Deceptive Weather** (verses 12-13)
- **Hot Air Balloons** (verse 16)
- **The Coming Storm** (verses 14-15)

Everybody in the room has been **let down by a forecast**... in **Texas especially!**

- **Spiritual radar...** hopefully we get it right...
- **Aimed at people on the stage** more so than those in the seats. Teachers influencers, prophets

Deceptive Weather (verses 12-13)

Two triads back to back. **Six rapid fire photographs:** (grouped in three's)

(all three on one slide)

- **Hidden Reefs**
- **Selfish Shepherds**
- **Empty Clouds**

V. 12 - **These** are...

- Referring back to verse 4... **(ungodly infiltrators!)**

V. 12 - **Spots [reefs]** in your love feasts...

- Covered this last week at our **Communion Service.** **Very fitting...**

V. 12 - While they feast with you without fear, **serving [shepherding]** only themselves...

- **Without fear** = **no reverence.** **For God or His people...**
- **Poimaino** - "...feeding, tending, or keeping sheep (as a shepherd); to rule or govern" (**Ez 34**)

V. 12 - They are **clouds without water**, carried about by the winds...

- **Big bummer for the thirsty traveler or the struggling farmer!**

- 2 Peter 2:17, NET - "These men are waterless springs and mists driven by a storm..."
- Proverbs 25:14, ESV - "Like clouds and wind without rain is a man who boasts of a gift he does not give..." - **just like the clouds with no rain. Empty promises...**
- These clouds are swirling around wherever the wind goes... **no compass, no conviction!**
- Jeremiah 2:13 - "For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, and hewn themselves cisterns—broken cisterns that can hold no water."

(all three on one slide)

- Fruitless Trees
- Raging Waters (or wild rivers back in the day in OC!?)
- Wandering Stars

V. 12 - Late autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots...

- Planted trees in the Bible are a blessing. But disconnected vines/uprooted trees are not...
- Psalm 1:3-5 - "He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither... The ungodly are not so, but are like the chaff which the wind drives away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment..."
- Late autumn = the tail end of harvest! That's important. Nobody gives up on the tree in March, but this tree has been given until the last minute to produce good fruit and yet... has not...
- I love the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ in this parable:
- Luke 13:6-9, CSB - "A man had a fig tree that was planted in his vineyard. He came looking for fruit on it and found none. He told the vineyard worker, 'Listen, for three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any. Cut it down!' ...but he replied to him, 'Sir, leave it this year also, until I dig around it and fertilize it. Perhaps it will produce fruit next year, but if not, you can cut it down.'" - But, sadly...
- The result? At some point the time has come to evaluate the harvest and the farmer is done waiting... Twice dead and pulled by the roots. This is definitive, judgment language...
- Matthew 7:15-19, CSB - "Be on your guard against false prophets who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravaging wolves. You'll recognize them by their fruit... a good tree can't produce bad fruit; neither can a bad tree produce good fruit. Every tree that doesn't produce good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.." Sad illustration: A Christmas tree.
 - Decorated, admired; but cut off, and on a timer; eventually swept off the floor in the end.

V. 13 - Raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame...

- Agrios = "wild, raging, savage, violent, untamed, uncultivated..."
- Isaiah 57:20, ESV - "The wicked are like the tossing sea; for it cannot be quiet, and its waters toss up mire and dirt..." - they cause their own destruction & leave behind a disastrous wake...
- Foaming up their own shame - picture a river bank/beach shore after raging waves/floods
- Debris, trash, driftwood, death... lots of ministry movement sometimes is just foam!

Ephesians 4:14, ESV - "...that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes."

V. 13 - Wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever...

- All through the Bible, stars often reference angelic beings - here assigned to a false teacher

- **A fixed star** - **helps the sailor home**, but **a wandering star** - **causes confusion** (*busted GPS*)
- Or, *maybe even a reference to* **a moving meteor** that **flashes for a bit**, then **plunges down**...
- **The result? blackness of darkness forever**... - **divine, eternal judgment**. (*same as verse 6*)
- **Tereo** (*perfect passive*) = **has been reserved and stands preserved**. "**Kept**" (*compare to v. 1*)
- Very likely **Jude** is **referencing 1 Enoch** here (*will give lots more detail in our final section...*)
 - **Multiple chapters in 1 Enoch** reference **stars as angelic beings**... In **1 Enoch 72-82** a **star keeping its ordained course** = **obedience**; but **deviation** = **rebellion**
 - **Rebellious stars** were **bound away until the time of judgment comes**...

Six pictures: everyone one of them, **flashy, but empty in the end**... (*no rain, no fruit, no guidance*)

Now, I am aware verse 14 typically comes after 13, but we're jumping to 16 first...

Hot Air Balloons (verse 16)

Jude has told us what they **are**. Now he tells us what they **sound like**. **Hot air! Floating around**...

- I will say, this verse **gets uncomfortably close to home**. *Unlike verses 12-13*, this is **a list of sins that ordinary church members commit on the drive home from church**...
- *There's a difference* between **struggling & failing (at times)** vs **living & encouraging**...

V. 16 - **These** are...

- Referring back to verse 4... (*ungodly infiltrators!*)

(*all three on one slide*)

- **Grumbling**...
- **Complaining**...
- **Boasting**...

V. 16 - **Grumblers**

- **Gongystes** - "one who discontentedly complains (against God)" - **onomatopoeia** (*murmuring*)
- **Numbers 14:27** - "How long shall I bear with this evil congregation who **complain** [*murmur/grumble*] against Me...?" - Understand this is *not aimed at circumstances*, but **at God**
 - After the **Red Sea**, the **cloud/fire**, the **Manna**, the **water**... and **promises to come**, really?
- **1 Cor. 10:9-10, NIV** - "We should not test Christ, as some of them did—and were killed by snakes. **And do not grumble, as some of them did**—and were killed by the destroying angel."

V. 16 - **Complainers** - *similar to above*...

- **Mempsimoiros** - "chronic **faultfinders** who complain about their lot; querulous: a tendency to complain, whine, or find fault in a peevish way..." - these people are **always criticizing**...
- "You know the sort of people alluded to here, nothing ever satisfies them. They are discontented even with the gospel. The bread of heaven must be cut into three pieces, and served on dainty napkins, or else they cannot eat it; and very soon their soul hates even this light bread. There is no way by which a Christian man can serve God so as to please them. They will pick holes in every preacher's coat; and if the great High Priest himself were here, they would find fault with the color of the stones of his breastplate." (Spurgeon) - these **rarely serve** in my experience...
- **According to their own lusts** - they want **what they want**, not what **God wants**...

- Shepherds feeding themselves, no self control, not spirit led...
- And so, these grumblers murmur about God; the complainers find fault in everyone/everything.
Discontentment looking up and all around...
- Phil 2:14-15, CSB - "Do everything without grumbling and arguing, so that you may be blameless and pure, children of God who are faultless in a crooked and perverted generation, among whom you shine like stars in the world..."

V. 16 - And they mouth great swelling words

- Hyperogkos - "over swollen, extravagant, arrogant (+ laleo for speaking/uttering)"
- 2 Peter 2:18-19, NIV - "For they mouth empty, boastful words and, by appealing to the lustful desires of the flesh... they promise them freedom, while they themselves are slaves of depravity."
- Very big, and very loud, but vain and empty...
 - May that not be us, church! And, may we have discernment! (with all the noise)
- Romans 16:17-18 - "Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple..."
- Paul and Jude have both announced big words... for - flattering people to gain advantage
 - But, it's false flattery; It's manipulation! For personal gain (some political campaigns!)
 - The way the Greek is constructed is actually an idiom for partiality which means they flatter a select few... (those with: money, influence, etc...)
 - Like a cringy salesman with heavy compliments up front! (shirt, family, intelligence)
- There's a difference between a compliment/encouragement, vs flattery...
- Proverbs 29:5, NASB - "A man who flatters his neighbor is spreading a net for his steps..."
 - It either puffs you up (I am ...) or baits you in... (I like that guy ...)

Okay, Jude has spent plenty of time telling us what false teachers are like: their character, tactics, and motivations, but now he has something to say about their destiny... let's rewind to verse 14:

The Coming Storm (verses 14-15)

Jude has clearly announced, at some point, that hot air balloon comes to a horrific crash...

- The false teachers will not just float around forever making all that noise...
- But the source Jude uses is somewhat unique!

V. 14 - Now Enoch

- The 1st century church would have known exactly who Jude was referring to, we've got to do a little extra work here... So, let's dig in!
- The name Enoch comes from 'chanak' - to dedicate or train up (root behind Hanukkah)
- There are two main people with the name Enoch that Jude may be referring to:
 - (both on one slide)
 - Enoch, Son of Cain (Genesis 4:17-18) - Cain named a city after him... (man effort)
 - Enoch, Son of Jared (Genesis 5:18-24) - A godly feller from the line of Seth!
- Genesis 5:24, NET - "Enoch walked with God, and then he disappeared because God took him away..." - um, that's rad! A hint at the rapture some would say... A blessed bro!

- Hebrews 11:5, CSB - "By faith Enoch was taken away, **and so he did not experience death.** He was not to be found because God took him away. For before he was taken away, **he was approved as one who pleased God.**"

We know that Jude here is referring to that "godly" Enoch from the line of Seth, because...

V. 14 - Enoch, the seventh from Adam

- 1 Chronicles 1:1-3 - "Adam, Seth, Enosh, Cainan, Mahalalel, Jared, **Enoch**" (Gen 5, Luke 3)
 - Cain's Enoch is **third, not seventh...** (**Lamech seventh in Cain's**)
- **Fascinating** (do the math), **Adam & Enoch** lived for **300 + years together at the same time!**

V. 14 - **Prophesied** about these men also, saying...

- **Jude** announces **Enoch** as the **earliest one to prophesy** in **the OT** (**Abraham, "prophet" Gen 20:7**). We **know it's a prophecy of God's judgment** because of the verses that follow...
- It's likely that **Enoch prophesied judgment** about the **generations leading up to the flood**, but,
- **Prophetically**, *whether Enoch knew it or not*, he was **prophesying far beyond "these men"**

More interesting is that Jude appears to be quoting from an apocryphal book known as **1st Enoch**.

- Now, 1 Enoch is **not in our canonized Bibles**.
 - **Pseudepigraphal**, meaning *written in Enoch's name*, **not necessarily by him**.
 - **Anonymous authors** between 300BC - 1st century AD. (**Dead Sea Scrolls!**) (**image**)
 - Originally **Aramaic**, later into **Greek** and then **Ethiopic** (**Ethiopian Orthodox Church**)
 - Not in **Catholic, Greek Orthodox, or Protestant** Bibles (*not considered Holy Scripture*)
 - A **couple early Church fathers** recognized and quoted from it: **Tertullian... Origen...**
 - *From last week: just because someone quotes*, **doesn't validate ALL** (**Acts 17; Titus 1**)
- 1 Enoch is composed of **5 Books**. Most publicity is related to **Book of Watchers** (**ch's. 1-36**)
 - **Angels (watchers) interacting with humanity**: **forbidden arts, sexual relations, giants, etc**
 - An **extended midrash** on **Genesis 6:1-4** culminating in **rebellious angels bound up**

Now, **here's the quote from 1 Enoch itself**. You can see **how similar it is to verses 14-15 of Jude**

- **"And behold! He cometh with ten thousands of His holy ones to execute judgement upon all, and to destroy all the ungodly: and to convict all flesh of all the works of their ungodliness which they have ungodly committed, and of all the hard things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."** (1 Enoch 1:9; Charles, 1912) **Attested in aramaic fragment in Qumran!** (cave 4)

Now, **back to our main text in Jude...**

V. 14 - **Behold!** = **Listen up! Big deal... Pay attention!**

V. 14 - **The Lord**

- Jude is **announcing a future moment** when **the Lord [Jesus]** will arrive in judgment.
- Known as the **second coming of Christ!** **Elect will be glorified. Wicked will be judged.**

V. 14 - **Comes with ten thousands of His saints [Holy Ones]**

- In the **aoirist in the Greek** which means it's **so certain it is spoken as though already done!**
- The Lord will arrive with **"Myrias"** (**tens of thousands, innumerable hosts!**) of **"Hagios"** (**holies**)
- **We see language like this throughout the Bible...**

- Deut 33:2, NASB - "The Lord came from Sinai... He came from the midst of myriads ['rebaba', many multitudes] of holy ones ['qodesh', set-apart (sacred) ones]"
 - A plural entourage of hosts! (Psalm 68:17 supports angelic hosts!)
 - KJV, "saints" sometimes used for "angels (17th century English)" (e.g., Daniel 8:13)
- The prophet Daniel spoke of this day to come...
- Daniel 7:9-10 - "I watched till thrones were put in place, and the Ancient of Days was seated... A thousand thousands ministered to Him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. The court was seated, and the books were opened..."
- Our Lord Christ spoke of this day to come...
- Matthew 16:27, 25:31, 13:39, 24:31-32 - "The Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.... when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him... and he will separate people one from another...the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. ...He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other..." You get the point. Jude is commenting on this!

Enoch before the flood, Daniel in Exile, Jesus in His ministry, and now Jude in the church age...

- Testimonies across 4,000+ years: the Lord is coming again and He's not coming alone...

The reason?

V. 15 - To execute judgment on all [and] to convict all

- Other OT prophets spoke of this coming day of judgment..
- Zephaniah 1:14-16 - "The great day of the Lord is near; it is near and hastens quickly... that day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of devastation and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet and alarm..."
- This is all courtroom language with a terrible final judgment for one group of people...

V. 15 - Ungodly

- V. 15 - Ungodly (asebes) - "those who live without reverence or awe for God; impious"
- Listed four times in verse 15... judgement coming for both their deeds and words...
 - Harsh and against - carries the idea of stubborn, stiff necks... (connect back to 12a)

Closing:

That's a message with teeth to it.

- How should the church respond to those who are against the Gospel?
- Romans 12:19-21 - "Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, 'Vengeance is Mine, I will repay.' says the Lord. Therefore 'If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good..."
- The church does not meet ungoldiness with ungoldiness, but instead with fruit of the Spirit.

A closing reading as the worship team comes up...

- 2 Thess. 1:6-10, NIV - "God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. He will punish those who do

not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed..." - all have sinned, all have fallen short, all must humble and repent.

Good news, Christ came the first time, with hosts of angels, to be judged in place of the ungodly
- *This is the basis on which I plead with you all this morning... (reponse)*

PRAY