

Hey Jude Hidden Reefs

Jude 8-13 “Yet in like manner these people also, relying on their dreams, defile the flesh, reject authority, and blaspheme the glorious ones. 9 But when the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, was disputing about the body of Moses, he did not presume to pronounce a blasphemous judgment, but said, “The Lord rebuke you.” 10 But these people blaspheme all that they do not understand, and they are destroyed by all that they, like unreasoning animals, understand instinctively. 11 Woe to them! For they walked in the way of Cain and abandoned themselves for the sake of gain to Balaam’s error and perished in Korah’s rebellion. 12 These are hidden reefs at your love feasts, as they feast with you without fear, shepherds feeding themselves; waterless clouds, swept along by winds; fruitless trees in late autumn, twice dead, uprooted; 13 wild waves of the sea, casting up the foam of their own shame; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved forever.”

“Yet in like manner these people also...”

- **In like manner**” - similar to the earlier examples: apostate Israelites, fallen angels, the cities (Sodom and Gomorrah)
- **“These people”** - the false teachers referred to earlier (v.4) who crept in, were ungodly, and perverted the grace of our God.

A Unique Enemy:

Spiritual Terrorists - unlike conventional warfare, they are disguised as “angels of light” (2 Cor. 11:14)... “wolves in sheep’s clothing” (Matt. 7:15)

“Relying on their dreams...”

Phony Visions:

- NT normally refers to dreams with the GK word *Onar*. Here, Jude chose the verb, *enupiazo*, which is used in only one other place in the NT: Peter’s sermon at Pentecost.

Acts 2:16-17 “But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel: ‘ “And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams;”

Paul Warned:

Colossians 2:18-19 “Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind, and not holding fast to the Head, from

whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.”

Characteristics of Their Nature:

_____ “...defile the flesh...” (v.8b)

- **“Flesh”** - in this usage, it refers to the physical body (not just carnal desires)
- **“Defile”** - from the verb that means to dye or stain something. Can also mean to contaminate, or to soil something.
- **The two linked together refer to moral and physical defilement (sexual sin).**

1 Corinthians 6:18 “Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.”

_____ “...reject authority...” (v.8c)

“Reject” - refers to destroying something established, such as existing authority.

“Authority” - related to the term, Lord. Refusal to submit to Christ’s Lordship.

_____ “...and blaspheme the glorious ones...” (V.8d)

- Blaspheme - “to slander,” or “speak evil of”
- Angels - created by God and devoted to serve His purposes
- They rejected God’s sent messengers and interfered with their mission.

Peter’s Warning:

2 Peter 2:10 “...and especially those who indulge in the lust of defiling passion and despise authority.”

Contrast with Michael, the archangel:

“But when the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, was disputing about the body of Moses, he did not presume to pronounce a blasphemous judgment, but said, “The Lord rebuke you.” (v.9)

People Blaspheme what they do not understand

- **Examples of Cain, Balaam, and Korah**

Warnings: We can heed them, or ignore them and do it our own way.