



Go for God!

The Epistle of JUDE

(Verses 8 – 25)

“Keep Yourselves in the Love of God!”

> (v8-19) KEEP YOURSELVES, HOW:

- Observe Jude’s F.B.I. (Father’s Bureau of Investigation)

(v8-10) **Profile on false teachers** - “*dreamers*” - they live in a world of unreality, a world of delusion, an imaginary message, mythological writings created their flesh or demons. They isogete instead of exegete the scriptures! They believe Satan’s lie “*You shall be as gods*” (Gen 3:5). Having turned away from God’s truth, they feed their minds on false doctrine that inflates their egos and encourages their rebellion!

> ***Jude describes their teachings as they:***

- “*defile the flesh*” - Live for all kinds of lusts and immoralities (Fornication, adultery, homosexuality, etc.)

- “*reject authority*” - Rejects the truth of God’s Word. They create their own religious dogma.

- “*speak evil of dignitaries*” - A disrespect or a dishonoring of the things of God (I.e.- God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, Angels, etc.)

- “*speak evil of what they do not know*” – Arrogant and proud.

- “*they are natural, devouring (brute beast), corrupt*” - Their character.

(v11) ***Jude gives three profiles of false teachers:***

> **Profile #1 - “*the way of Cain*”** – Cain is the way of a works religion, full of pride, power, jealousy, envy, murder and authoritarianism (Gen.4:1-12). The New Testament refers to Cain in three places. Abel's offering to God was “*a more excellent sacrifice*” than Cain's because Abel was “*righteous.*” His heart was right with God, and Cain's was not (Hebrews 11:4). John calls Cain “*the wicked one*” and asks why he murdered his brother; the answer was, “*Because his works were evil, and his brother's righteous*” (1 John 3:12).

> **Profile #2 - “*they have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit*”** - The way of Balaam is found Numbers Ch. 22 – 25, **the word “profit” is not necessarily money; it may be popularity, fame, or applause.**

~ **The New Testament declares the wicked ways of Balaam through:**

- **Peter** speaks of false teachers who “*have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam*” (2 Peter 2:15).

- **Jude** speaks of backsliders who “*have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit*” (Jude 11). Balaam's error was greed or covetousness; he was well paid to bring a curse upon the people of Israel.

- **John** in the ***Book of Revelation*** refers to some members of the church in Pergamos who held “the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols and to commit sexual immorality” (Rev 2:14). Before leaving Balak, Balaam apparently told the Moabite leader that Israel could be defeated if its people were seduced to worship Baal, “to eat things sacrificed to idols and to commit sexual immorality” (Rev 2:14). Indeed, this was exactly what happened: “The people [of Israel] began to commit harlotry with the women of Moab. They invited the people to the sacrifice of their gods, and the people ate and bowed down to their gods. So Israel was joined to Baal of Peor, and the anger of the Lord was aroused against Israel” (Num 25:1-3).

- In condemning “*the way of Balaam,*” the New Testament condemns the greed of all who are well paid to tempt God's people to compromise their moral standards. (from Nelson's Bible Dictionary)

> **Profile #3 - “the rebellion of Korah”** - Korah led a revolt against the leadership of Moses and Aaron (Num 16:1-49). Korah apparently was jealous that Aaron held the position of high priest. The Reubenites were the descendants of Jacob's eldest son. They thought the responsibility for leading Israel should rest with their tribe rather than the Levites. The four ringleaders gathered 250 leaders of the congregation, publicly charging Moses and Aaron with abusing their power. They claimed that all members of the congregation should have equal access to the Lord. Moses placed the dispute in the hands of the Lord, directing Korah and his company to bring containers of incense as an offering to the Lord. Korah complied with this and went with his congregation to the door of the tabernacle where the Lord appeared, threatening to "consume them in a moment" (Num 16:21). Moses and Aaron interceded, saving the nation of Israel from destruction. The decision of leadership was again placed before the Lord as Moses instructed the congregation to "depart from the tents of these wicked men" (Num 16:26). The decision in favor of Moses was dramatized as "the earth opened its mouth" and swallowed all the men of Korah (Num 16:32). (from Nelson's Bible Dictionary)

(v12-13) **“mockers in the last time”**- They’re in the church feasting with us, their judgment is pending, they talk the talk, but they don’t walk the walk!

(v14-19) **“Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints to execute judgment”** – This affirms the second coming Christ and His righteous judgment (Revelation ch. 19; Matt. Ch. 24 – 25). These false teachers will mock the Bible, they are lustful and divide the body of Christ. (i.e.- Evolution, abortion, homosexuality, etc.)

> (v20-25) **SEVEN WAYS TO LOVE GOD:**

#1- **“Build yourself up on your most holy faith”** - Devotions, Study, Bible teachings. (2 Timothy 2:15 - Study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 2 Peter 3:18 - but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.)

#2- **“Pray in the Holy Spirit”** – Which is to pray in unity with to the Word of God, not repetitiously, but Scripturally! (Matthew 6:9-13; John 17:1-26; study the prayers of godly men and women in the Bible.)

#3- **“Love God”** - Love Him, Learn of Him, Live for Him!

#4- **“Hope in the mercy of Jesus Christ!”** - Excited about Heaven & Christ’s return.

#5- **“Have Compassion”**- 1 Peter 3:15- *“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear”*

#6- **“Be a soul-winner”**- Matthew 28:19-20- *“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”*

2 Corinthians 5:20-21- *“Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”*

#7- **“Give Him praise!”** (v24-25)