

**Contending For the Faith In These Last Days
The “Grace Changers”: The Impact of False
Teachers Within the Church**

Session 3: Jude 12-15

The Battlefield

- **The Church:**

- **The Church is the Battlefield**

- Called into a contest: To the victor goes the spoils
 - And what's up for grabs is the once for all delivered faith.
 - It is always in the heat of battle where the true courage and colors of soldiers are manifest.

- **This is God's sovereign design**

- In the church a two-fold program
 - One of salvation and one of damnation. (1 Corinthians 2:14-15)
 - Thus God has ordained that false prophets would both come into the church from outside and rise up from within.
 - They come in as Pied Pipers and lead those astray who have:
 - Become sluggish in their faith: God uses this experience in their lives to correct them.
 - Goats in reality: They don't belong to Christ.
 - God calls all of us to choose which side we will be on.
 - The choice is not determined by what we say, but by what we do.



1991 Years

“The 70-7”s Prophecy-Daniel 9:24-27

Scripture Forewarning!

- **The Time of the End**
 - The battle would intensify exponentially
 - That indeed the Grace Changers would appear to have gained the victory:
 - But fear not: because this too is part of God's plan.
 - Remember the Church is the battleground and in the battle is where the soldiers of Christ and the false will manifest themselves.
 - A question which came to me. "How do you know who's who within the church?"
 - The answer: "By how they engage or not engage this battle."
- **This is what Jude is all about: Jude gives us, the true children of God clues as to what to look for**

Woe “Misery, Sorrow, Distress, Wretchedness.” to Them! (Sixth Triad)

- **NKJ Jude 1:11 Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit, and perished in the rebellion of Korah. (Jude 1:11 NKJ)**
 - **To travel in the footsteps of Cain: Propelled by Jealousy, hatred, envy.**
 - He wanted God to accept his tithe on his terms. (Genesis 4)
 - His vocation became his idol.
 - Adam & Eve sewed fig leaves together as a covering
 - God Killed an animal to provide covering for them
 - Thus it was God who initiated the acceptable means of sacrifice and offering (Blood)
 - Abel brought his tithe and his sacrifice.
 - Cain brought only his tithe but no sacrifice.
 - Gen. 4:7 “If you do well, will not your countenance be lifted up? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door; and its desire is for you, but you must master it.”
 - “The Threshold Covenant” –Either the LORD or Sin would become his master.
 - **To run the same road as Balaam: To rush headlong-driven by greed for profit!**
 - He was determined to get paid. (Numbers 22-24 & Numbers 31:8,16)
 - Material wealth became his idol.
 - **Took the path of rebellion as that of Korah.**
 - He violated God’s established chain of command.(Numbers 16)
 - Power became his idol.

The Impact Seventh & Eighth Triad

- Jude 1:12-13 ¹² These are spots in your love feasts, while they feast with you without fear, serving *only* themselves. *They are* clouds without water, carried about by the winds; late autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots; ¹³ raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame; wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever

Spots:

- **Spots In your Love feasts:**
 - Literally: “Hidden reefs” Greek word “*spilades*”
 - An unseen obstruction in seemingly open waters.
 - In sailing marine navigation this is the #1 danger.
 - The danger is being shipwrecked.
 - 1 Timothy 1:18-20 ¹⁸ This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, ¹⁹ having faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck, ²⁰ of whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I delivered to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme.
 - Rejected: To thrust away from-to push off
 - Faith: “The Faith”-Its content
 - Good Conscience: Healthy-Moral conscience
 - Forward progress is stopped-Stagnation.

Clouds

- Clouds Without Water:
 - Must be understood from an Agricultural Mindset:
 - Clouds on the horizon brings with it the anticipation of rain, which is good and beneficial for the crops.
 - What it gives in the exchange offsets the temporary obscuring of the sunlight which is also needed.
 - Thus they come with anticipation of some blessing or beneficial role.
 - Notice that they are blown about by the wind:
 - Ephesians 4:11-14 ¹¹ And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, ¹³ till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; ¹⁴ that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,
 - In the end they don't deliver only obscure that which is needed.

Trees

- **Late Autumn trees:**
 - **Trees lose their leaves as they go dormant for winter months**
 - **Appear to be dead even though still alive**
 - **Twice Dead=in reality dead but not manifest until the fruit producing season arrives.**
- **Therefore, they are spiritually dead**
- **It's no wonder they produce no fruit**
- **Jude says they will be plucked out by the roots, as farmers destroy trees that won't produce fruit**

Waves-Foam-Wandering Stars

- **Ragging waves of the sea:**
 - Troubled seas:
 - Raging Waves: Fierce-Savage
- **Foaming up their own shame**
 - **Compound Word**
 - Ep=Upon
 - Afrizo=foaming or frothing at the mouth
 - The inward state of turmoil and trouble causes to bubble to the surface the impurities. (epileptic seizure)
 - Shame; disgrace-dishonest- shameful deeds.

Wandering Stars

- **Wandering Stars:**
 - Planetai: planets:
 - Planets that do not follow a fixed orbit but are erratic in their motion. Literally a comet.
 - The idea here is on of a “Flash in the Pan”
 - They arrive on the scene and with their arrival bring the promises of doing something very big, very extraordinary. But in the end, they don’t deliver, they just move on.
 - “Church hopping”
 - Not steady, not stable ,cannot count on them. When the chips are down, you’ll be on your own.
 - For whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.
 - Reserved: appointed

Jude's Corollary: The False Teachers:

- They are forever stirring up discontent within the congregation
- They tell us we are missing something God has for us
- And untrained minds begin to consider their words while forgetting scripture
- The Bible teaches believers that we have everything we need in the reality of what we receive in Jesus Christ
 - ² Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, ³ as His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, (2 Pet. 1:2-3 NKJ)

Enoch: Their Doom

- ¹⁴ Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, ¹⁵ "to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."
(Jude 1:14-15 NKJ)

Book of Enoch: Chapter 1

- The Holy Great One will come forth from His dwelling, 4. And the eternal God will tread upon the earth, (even) on Mount Sinai, And appear from His camp And appear in the strength of His might from the heaven of heavens. 5. And all shall be smitten with fear And the Watchers shall quake, And great fear and trembling shall seize them unto the ends of the earth. 6. And the high mountains shall be shaken, And the high hills shall be made low, And shall melt like wax before the flame . And the earth shall be wholly rent in sunder, And all that is upon the earth shall perish, And there shall be a judgement upon all (men). 8. But with the righteous He will make peace. And will protect the elect, And mercy shall be upon them. And they shall all belong to God, And they shall be prospered, And they shall [all] be blessed. And He will help them all, And light shall appear unto them, And He will make peace with them. 9. 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.

Conclusion

- **Their impact in the Church:**
 - They come in or rise up:
 - Ridicule; disparage what the church and her leaders are trying to do.
 - Come in or rise up to assert their own agenda, which has at its base their prime directive of feeding themselves rather than feeding the flock..
 - Like true false teachers, they see the flock not as an entity that needs to be fed and cared for, but as a food supply.
 - Seek to change the course and direction of the course the church is traveling.
 - They come with big promises but never deliver
 - Rock the church with scandal after scandal.
 - When they have done their work, they just move on.
- **And in the end what is their work?**
 - To discourage the flock, to discourage the leadership and thus cause a course change
 - And thus, they make shipwreck of the faith of some and many times even make shipwreck the vision of the church.

Last Session

- Their Manifestation to the Church
- How Do We Respond?