

JUDE'S MESSAGE PART 3 —
THE PROPHECY OF ENOCH
JAMIE MCNAB
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Jude is concerned about the influence of false teachers. **They have crept in by stealth and are perverting the Faith — the Gospel — The Truth.** The saints need to **CONTEND EARNESTLY!!**

Jude reminds the saints of the **destruction that came upon: Ancient Israel ... the angels who sinned ... and Sodom and Gomorrah.**

Jude moves on. **He likens the false teachers to Cain ... Balaam and Korah.** A murderer ... a greedy false prophet (did things for money — still an obstacle today) ... and an arrogant rebel!

These teachers are spiritually dangerous. STAY ALERT!

Jude 1:12-13

12 These (*talking of the false teachers that have crept in*) 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; (*they are useless — add no value*)

13 raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame; **wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.**
(*These false teachers are doomed*)

“spots” = “hidden reefs ... rocks” in Greek. Not easily visible — yet dangerous.

And **they attend your feasts with you. They're right among you — the CREEPS are there among you Church brethren!**

Jude 1:14-15

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.”

Ancient Enoch prophesied about the destruction of false teachers (including these). Compare **verse 4 ... “who long ago were marked out for this condemnation”**.

Enoch was father of Methuselah (the oldest man — 969). He walked with God.

Jude had access to some of Enoch’s writings ... many allege this may have been the “Book of Enoch”. This is a controversial book today! It was never “canonical”. Though some believe it gives valuable information (for example — about the sin of the angels and their cohabiting with women before the Flood).

[And just because Jude may have quoted from the Book of Enoch — if it really existed in Jude’s day — it doesn’t mean that Jude would endorse the whole book].

Enoch is referring to Jesus’ Final Coming. Interesting that it mentions only “ten thousands” of saints? Compare:

Deuteronomy 33:1-3

1 Now this is the blessing with which Moses the man of God blessed the children of Israel before his death.

2 And he said:

“The LORD came from Sinai, (*Hebrew: “The LORD will come”*)

And dawned on them from Seir;

He shone forth from Mount Paran,

And **He came with ten thousands of saints;**

From His right hand

Came a fiery law for them.

3 Yes, He loves the people;

All His saints are in Your hand;

They sit down at Your feet;

Everyone receives Your words.

Again. Ten thousands of saints? Numbers of the saints that return with the Lord Jesus aren't quite as big as we thought??

Jude continues to describe the false teachers:

Jude 1:16

16 **These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage. (Nasty sorts!!)**

GRUMBLERS ... fault-finders — seeking to EXPLOIT OTHERS for advantage.

(We can remember the GRUMBLERS AND MURMURERS of Ancient Israel? They influenced people to doubt God — and turn against Him).

2 Peter 2:12-22

12 **But these, (“these” false teachers) like natural brute beasts made to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of the things they do not understand, and will utterly perish in their own corruption,**

13 **and will receive the wages of unrighteousness,** as those who count it pleasure to carouse in the daytime. **They are spots and blemishes, carousing in their own deceptions while they feast with you, (these false teachers are among you!!)**

14 **having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin,** enticing unstable souls. **They have a heart trained in covetous practices,** and are accursed children.

15 **They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Beor,** who loved the wages of unrighteousness; *(Balaam ran greedily FOR MONEY!!)*

16 but he was rebuked for his iniquity: a dumb donkey speaking with a man's voice restrained the madness of the prophet.

17 **These are wells without water, clouds carried by a tempest, for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.**

18 For when **they speak great swelling words of emptiness, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness,** the ones who have actually escaped from those who live in error.

19 While they promise them liberty, **they themselves are slaves of corruption;** for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage.

20 For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning.

21 For **it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them.**

22 But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: **“A dog returns to his own vomit,” and, “a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire.”**

Like Jude ... Peter sees these false teachers among the brethren —even at their Feasts.

They speak swelling words of flattery.

But those who listen to them are in danger. They may end up worse than those who are never even converted?

Maybe we're more or less okay. But even if so — it is still important to bear in mind **“Let him who thinks he stands take heed — lest he fall”.**

Jude 1:17-19

17 **But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ:**

18 how **they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts.**

19 **These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit.**

The saints should have expected these problems. The Apostles had given them earlier warning!

2 Timothy 3:1-5

1 **But know this**, that **in the last days perilous times will come:**

2 For **men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,**

3 **unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good,**

4 **traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,**

5 **having a form of godliness but denying its power.** And from such people turn away! *(These people look godly)*

Paul warns of perilous times!

Note these evil men have a “form of godliness”. **They’re among you — THE CREEPS!**

Phillips Translation: **“They will maintain a façade of religion”.**

2 Timothy 4:1-5

1 I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom:

2 **Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.**

3 **For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine,** but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, **they will heap up for themselves teachers;** *(the saints will be complicit)*

4 and **they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.**

5 But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

Paul warns that the brethren will listen to false teachers (they'll look and sound impressive?) TURN AWAY FROM THE FAITH. Worse position than the unconverted?

What to do?

Jude 1:20-21

20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,

21 keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

1. BUILD YOURSELF UP ON YOUR MOST HOLY FAITH
2. PRAYING IN THE HOLY SPIRIT
3. KEEP YOURSELVES IN THE LOVE OF GOD

1. BUILD UPON THE FOUNDATION OF FAITH

READ ... "STUDY" ... be familiar with — exert some effort — know what you believe ... and why!

It will be harder then to be lured away if we're familiar with The Truth and **EARNESTLY CONTEND FOR THE FAITH THAT WAS ONCE DELIVERED!!**

Isaiah 8:19-20

19 And when they say to you, "Seek those who are mediums and wizards, who whisper and mutter," **should not a people seek their God?** Should they seek the dead on behalf of the living?

20 **To the law and to the testimony!** If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them. (*Build ourselves up on our most Holy Faith*)

TO THE LAW AND TESTIMONY. That must be our benchmark for THE TRUTH! DON'T GO ANYWHERE ELSE!!

So — **BUILD UPON THE FAITH.**

2.PRAY IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

So we must pray! But **not just carnal ... worldly** “Gimme ... Gimme”!
The Holy Spirit can help us in prayer.

James 4:2-3

2 You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet **you do not have because you do not ask.**

3 **You ask and do not receive,** because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.

Romans 8:26-27

26 Likewise **the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses.** For **we do not know what we should pray for as we ought,** but **the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.**

27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because **it makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.**

3.KEEP YOURSELVES IN THE LOVE OF GOD

Verse 21 suggests living and walking with God — **KEEPING HIS COMMANDMENTS!**

John 15:9-10

9 “As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love.

10 **If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.**

Jude 1:22-23

22 And **on some have compassion,** making a distinction; (*Verse 22 in many translations: “Have compassion — or mercy — on those who have honest doubts” — doubting the Faith that they once believed. Be gentle — try to help them).*)

23 but **others save with fear**, pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

Jude is asking the saints to look out for those who are being led away by the false teachers.

But others may be in danger of the fire. They may require stronger ACTION — REBUKE THEM!

But — watch out for cross-contamination. Don't put your own spiritual health in jeopardy from "defiled garments".

FINALLY — ENCOURAGEMENT

Jude 1:24-25

24 **Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,**

25 **To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, Be glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever. Amen.**

Jude closes with a brief declaration of Praise to God.

Even though there are **CREEPS AND FALSE TEACHERS** — no need to be downhearted!

GOD CAN — AND WILL — KEEP US AND GUARD US FROM STUMBLING.

We do what we can — **CONTEND EARNESTLY** FOR THE FAITH — AND — GOD WILL DO THE REST.

Romans 8:31-32

31 What then shall we say to these things? **If God is for us, who can be against us? (NOBODY!)**

32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

Romans 8:38-39

38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come,

39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

NOTHING CAN SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF GOD.

But — don't become careless or complacent!