

Jude 7-13

Contend for the faith

(The People's Bible, James/1,2 Peter/1,2,3 John/Jude, pages 329-338)

Look

Verse 9: "Michael...disputing with the devil about the body of Moses"---We know nothing more about this account. It is not found in the Bible. Jude may have received it by direct revelation from God or from another book not found in Scripture. (maybe, a pseudo-apocryphal book)

Discuss:

1. Jude preaches a strong message to those who reject the Lord. What will happen to them? **They will be punished in eternal fire.**
2. According to verse 8, what is one of the main sins of the false teachers? **These dreamers (vs8) are called godless men who secretly slipped in and introduced errors. They:**
 - 1) **Pollute their own bodies (immorality is an issue for them)**
 - 2) **Slander (better translation is "blaspheme the glories," like against Christ)**
 - 3) **Reject authorities**
3. Why does Jude introduce the account of Michael, the archangel? **Michael doesn't do verbal combat with the devil; he counts on the Lord (the highest power).**
4. Describe the sins of the false teachers from the pictures Jude uses to describe them
 - **"The way of Cain" Cain was jealous; he acted in jealousy and lack of faith**
 - **"Balaam's error" Balaam was greedy; see Balaam in Numbers 22 and Numbers 31**
 - **"Korah's rebellion" He and 250 others of Levite tribe thought they could lead, rejecting Moses' authority and, therefore, God's authority. See Numbers 16.**
5. What do each of the following pictures say about false teachers? (Notice that nothing is doing what it should)
 - **"Shepherds who feed only themselves" Shepherds should feed the sheep, so they are helping only themselves.**
 - **"Clouds without rain" Promises not kept.**
 - **"Autumn trees" No fruit and uprooted; twice dead. Not doing what God wants them to—condemned already.**
 - **"Wild waves of the sea" Churning up garbage, foamy and gross (dirty brown) seems powerful and impressive but no substance to them (John 3:18)**
 - **"Wandering stars" Used for navigation to guide and direct—pretty useless**

Apply

6. Jude says that what the false teachers do understand will ultimately destroy them. What does he mean by that? What parallels do we find in our society today?

They don't understand what God says so they speak against God.

What they do know and understand will destroy them (this plays out publically a lot) and they may be in the church!

Jude offers many pictures about the worthlessness and wickedness of false teachers.