

Jude

Who Is Jude

- Almost nothing is known about the life of Jude.
- He is half brother of Jesus along with James.
- His name is actually Judas but to avoid being mistakenly identified with Judas Iscariot English translators use Jude.
- There are six people named “Judas” mentioned in the New Testament, but the best evidence identifies this as the one mentioned in Matthew 13:55 and Mark 6:3.
- The name Judas was popular in the first century because of Judas Maccabaeus who delivered Israel from the Seleucid empire.
- Jude was like his other half-brothers of Jesus and didn’t believe in Jesus as the Messiah until after the resurrection of Jesus John 7:5 and Acts 1:14

- “Is this not the carpenter’s son? Is not His mother called Mary? And His brothers James, Joses, Simon, and Judas?”-**Matthew 13:55**
- “For even His brothers did not believe in Him.”-**John 7:5**
- “And when they had entered, they went up into the upper room where they were staying: Peter, James, John, and Andrew; Philip and Thomas; Bartholomew and Matthew; James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot; and Judas the son of James. These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.”-**Acts 1:13-14**

Purpose Of Jude

- Be alert for and resist ungodly teachers who misinterpret God’s forgiveness and grace as a license to promote sinful and sensual behavior.
- Jude then reminds such men of God’s past dealings with unbelieving Israel, disobedient angels, wicked Sodom and Gomorrah.
- When false teachers emerge Jude exhorts the church to fight and contend for the doctrines of the church.
- These false teachers had crept in unnoticed.

- False teachers were a big concern in the early church as they should be today.
- “For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.” -**Acts 20:29-31**
- “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. 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.” -**2 Peter 2:18-19**

Jude 1-2

“Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ: Mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.”

Jude's Introduction

- Jude identifies himself as a bond-servant.
- **A Bond-servant: A servant who is set free but chooses to serve because of his love for his master**
- Both Jude and James' once skeptics of their brother Jesus, have now become willing slaves out of love for their brother!
- He writes to those who are called, sanctified by God, and preserved in Jesus Christ.

- A person is a Christian because God has called him. It is very important to answer when God calls.
- **The reason that we should take extreme care and sit up and take notice is because it is the biggest revelation in the history of mankind!**
- The message that we should hear is that the very person of God became man and dwelt among us!
- Jesus has come and taught man the understanding of the character and nature of God

- God in Jesus has died for our sins and brought the perfect sacrifice once and for all
- Therefore this message has life-changing application for the history mankind
- Believers need to be careful not to be desensitized to this wonderful message and forget what they have heard.
- Non believers need to be careful not to have a hardening of heart towards the message that they are hearing.

God Calls To Everyone Through Out The Ages Because He Cares

- "Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, **"Where are you?"**--**Gen 3:9**
- Adam's name means: **Ground or red dirt**
"Then Abraham answered and said, "Indeed now, **I who am but dust and ashes** have taken it upon myself to speak to the Lord"--**Gen 18:27**
- "Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for **He cares for you.**--**1 Peter 5:6-7**

Jude 3

"Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints."

Common Salvation

- Jude is describing the salvation that genuine believers everywhere share. "The word "common" is koinos, the verbal form being koinoneo, "to become a sharer, a partner."
- Jude had originally intended writing a letter containing a positive presentation of the doctrines of the Christian faith. However, something happened that gave him a sense of urgency to write in defense of the faith.
- "Upon other matters there are distinctions among believers, but yet there is a common salvation enjoyed by the Arminian as well as by the Calvinist, possessed by the Presbyterian as well as by the Episcopalian, prized by the Quaker as well as by the Baptist. Those who are in Christ are more near of kin than they know of, and their intense unity in deep essential truth is a greater force than most of them imagine: only give it scope and it will work wonders." -Spurgeon

Contend For The Faith

- **The "faith" we are to contend for is the basic doctrines that are true to the Inspired Word of God.**
- What Christians are to believe about Christ, the gospel, God, Christ's return, justification, and other core doctrines cannot be altered.
- "I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed." **-Galatians 1:6-9**

Contending Against False World views

- We are living in age where the Bible is being challenged at the very core of its message both by non-believers and unfortunately also by those in The church.
- The authority of the Bible is the authority of Jesus Christ they are indivisible. To attempt to distinguish between the two is like asking which blade of scissors is more important, or which leg of a pair of pants is more necessary. We know Jesus through the Bible and we understand the Bible through the knowledge of Christ—the two cannot be separated. Thus, Paul calls the Bible, "the word of Christ" in (Col. 3:16), and admonishes a believer to, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly".
- **People are changing the message of the Scripture to be more accepted by society as a whole so that people will see Jesus more acceptable.**
- Jude would tell those who are concerned about the direction of false doctrine is "....to contend earnestly for the faith".

A Defense System

- We should recognize that we are subject continually to worldviews as "arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God". **-2 Corinthians 10:5**
- Three things we can do to protect ourselves:
 1. **Guard**
 - PROVERBS 4:32—"ABOVE ALL ELSE, **GUARD YOUR HEART**, FOR IT IS THE WELL-SPRING OF LIFE."
 - ROMANS 10:10---"IT IS WITH YOUR HEART THAT YOU BELIEVE..."
 2. **Recognize**

- "Do not **believe** every spirit, **but test** the spirits."-I JOHN 4:1-6

"Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world. You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world, and the world hears them. We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error."

- **Recognize the Spirit of God By:**
 - ❖ Those **who acknowledge** Jesus coming in the flesh-v.2
- **Recognize spirit of the antichrist by:**
 - ❖ Those **who do not acknowledge** Jesus coming in the flesh- v.3
- **Recognize the spirit of the false prophet by:**
 - ❖ Speak according to the world's viewpoint -v.5
 - ❖ The world listens to their viewpoint -v.5
- **Recognize the spirit of truth from the spirit of error by:**
 - ❖ Truth is in this context whoever knows God listens to "us", i.e. those from God- v.6
 - ❖ "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." -Isaiah

3. Prepare

"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;" -**1 Peter 3:15**

- ❖ Set apart Christ as Lord
- ❖ Always be prepared
- ❖ To give a reason; *apologian* Is a rational intelligent explanation from the Word against any worldview that is against God.
- ❖ With gentleness and respect
- ❖ "Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one." -**Colossians 4:6**

Belief	God or Man?	Who Was Jesus?	Jesus Purpose	Resurrection Happened
Orthodox Christianity	Fully God and Fully man	Second person of the Trinity, incarnation of God, Son of God, Savior.	Redemption of man	Yes
Baha'i Faith	Man	A "manifestation of God" and prophet. Since superseded by Muhammad and Baha'u'llah.	To reveal God's will as part of progressive revelation to humanity.	In Spirit
Buddhism	Man	Wise and enlightened man who taught similar things to the Buddha.	To teach humanity wisdom and the way to enlightenment.	Irrelevant
Christian Science	Man	Wise man especially attuned to the spirit of Christ. Jesus as a man was not the Christ.	To teach humanity, to heal, and to overcome death.	No, Jesus was hidden in the tomb.

Belief	God or Man?	Who Was Jesus?	Jesus Purpose	Resurrection Happened
Christadelphians	Half God and Half Man	Son of God but human, because His mother was human. Mary Lived a sinless life and died sacrificial death.	To show God's love for humanity and redeem humanity from sin.	Yes
Hindu	Man	Incarnation of God akin to Krishna, or wise man.	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
Islam	Man	An Apostle of God Son of Mary Superseded by Muhammad	To reveal God's will in a progressive succession taught love.	No
Jehovah Witness	An Archangel	Son of God, Word of God, God's first creation, Archangel Michael.	Teach about God, provide a moral for right living, die sacrificially for human sin.	Yes, first born from the dead but was an invisible spirit creature.

Belief	God or Man?	Who Was Jesus?	Jesus Purpose	Resurrection Happened
Mormon	Man	Son of Adam-God, Savior, originally one of the spirit beings that all humans used to be. Has a physical body.	To teach about God, provide a model for living, die sacrificially for sin.	Yes
Unitarian Universalism	Man	Great teacher, faith-healer, "incarnation of God's love."	To demonstrate God's love for humanity and teach about justice and compassion.	No official teaching; most do not believe in physical resurrection.
Judaism	Man	Jesus is one of a number of Jewish Messiah claimants who have appeared throughout history	Judaism does not share the Christian concept of salvation as it does not believe people are born in a state of sin. Judaism holds instead that a person who sins can repent of that sin and, in most cases, have it forgiven.	Jesus was not resurrected but they do believe in a resurrection

Rules Of Right Thinking

- The rules of right thinking is a way of looking at the world and forming a view of reality that becomes the foundation for your life.
- When contending for the faith it is important to reject the false religions based on right thinking.
- The Fall of man created a blindness in man's understanding and reasoning capabilities.
- Revelation is needed to take the covering from our eyes to see the living "logos", Jesus Christ.
- "But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. **For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.**" -Galatians 1:11-13

- After the fall man started to think and reason outside of God's design creating false ideas about reality.
- The result of thinking from our own intelligence resulted in being blinded in our logic.
- Man can never trust his understanding about reality.
- When Jesus came into the world he gave us the reason and understanding of our existence.
- He brought the real purpose and understanding for who we are and how we are to live.
- It is a world view based solely in the reason and person of Jesus Christ, the living Word, and the His written Word.

- "Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart. But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, **not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully**, but by manifestation of the truth commanding ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, **whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe**, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. **For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord**, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." -**2 Corinthians 4:1-6**
- "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, **casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God**, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ..." -**2 Corinthians 10:4-5**

Rules of Right Thinking	
Every thought begins with a presupposition or bias.	The rules of right thinking asks the question: Does that presupposition agree with reality or make logical sense.
After understanding the presupposition we need to look at the evidence.	Biographical evidence: Manuscript evidence. Internal evidence: What does the Bible or the writings say about itself. External evidence: Archeological findings.
The last step in the process is to logically explain the presupposition.	Contending for the faith

Jude 4
<p>“For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.”</p>

False Teachers Go Unnoticed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jude warns the church that certain men have crept in unnoticed. This makes them especially dangerous because they are unnoticed which means the church is not paying attention to the false teaching by these men. These certain men cheat believers from true grace of God by denying the Lord Jesus Christ. These men's minds are puffed up and dwelling on things they don't understand and teaching these ideas outside the confines of Biblical truths. In fact, they probably claimed to be more Biblical than anybody else.

Faith Undone
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While the believer is to contend for the faith there is a group of people who have crept into the church unnoticed by the majority and they are slowing undoing the doctrines of our faith. The salvation message of the “new church” is not based on doctrine but on conversation, not truth but discussion upon vast array of topics. The pastor doesn't give a sermon but moderates topics of discussion like: What do Mormons and Christians have in common? Does God use evolution? The answers are of course relative to the experience of each individual. This is what Timothy warned about when said people in the last days are, “always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.”-2 Timothy 3:7

- One such pastor says, “sermons are not primarily about my extracting truth from the Bible to apply to people’s lives. In many ways the sermon is less a lecture or motivational speech than it is an act of poetry-of putting words around people’s experiences to allow them to find a deeper connection in their lives....So our sermons are not lessons that precisely define belief so much as they are stories that welcome our hopes and ideas and participation”.

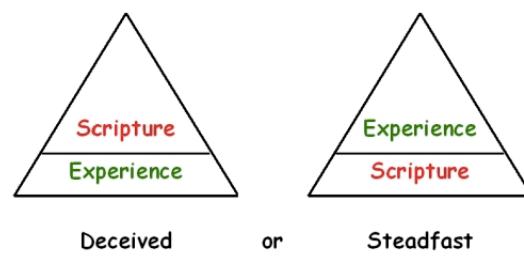
Popular Teaching Today

- **People are changing the message of the Scripture to be more accepted by society as a whole so that people will see Jesus more acceptable.**
- Rick Warren said: I’m talking about religion....you may be Catholic or Protestant or Buddhist or Baptist or Muslim or Mormon or Jewish....I’m not interested in your religious background. Because God did not create the universe for us to have religion.”
- Erwin McManus said: “[Christ-followers] see Christianity as a world religion, in many ways no different from any other religious system. Whether Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, or Christianity, they’re not about religion; they’re about advancing the revolution Jesus started two thousand years ago.”
- A YWAM newsletter stated, [new converts] continued a life of following the Islamic requirements, including mosque attendance, fasting and Koranic reading, besides getting together as a fellowship of Muslims who acknowledge Christ as the source of God’s mercy.”

The Table Church

- The Table Church is a community of regular people who come together to serve and love others as we partner together in God’s mission of redemption for the world.....it is important how you believe something. At The Table Church we are not a group of people who have every single thing figured out perfectly. We still have doubts, questions, frustrations, and moments of thinking “What in the world?”. We believe through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. We believe with the help of our faith community around us.
- “Satan knows right well that one devil in the church can do far more than a thousand devils outside her bounds.” - Spurgeon

Two Foundations Of Faith



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Unilateral Strength Of Scripture



"Try everything by the written Word, and let all bow down before it. You are in danger every hour if you depart ever so little from Scripture." -John Wesley, 1758

Jude 5-7

"But I want to remind you, though you once knew this, that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe. And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day;

as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire."

Judgment From God

- Those who, "...deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ" can expect judgment from God and eternal fire.
- The Lord did it in the past and He will do it in the future.
- "And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire." -Revelation 20:15

A Harsh Reminder

- Jude now gives three examples of what the Lord does to those who distort truth and rely on their own reasoning and understanding and those who follow their false teaching.
- Jude uses the Biblical record to remind them of what they "once knew".
- Every believer should see the examples that Jude gives and know instantly of what he is referring to. If we don't know then it shows we need a greater understanding of the Bible.
- "As for the root facts, the fundamental doctrines, the primary truths of Scripture, we must from day to day insist upon them. We must never say of them, 'Everybody knows them'; for, alas! everybody forgets them." -Spurgeon

The Egyptian Example

- The Lord saved Israel from bondage by the Egyptians.
- Israel doubted God's wisdom, protection and promise to take them into the Promise Land and conquer it.
- The Israelites who died in the desert were choosing to die in their unbelief that God could conquer their enemies.
- The sin of unbelief led to their death in the wilderness.

The Angelic Example

- Left"; "*apoleipo*" : to leave behind, to forsake, to desert (compare 2 Tim 4:13,20)
- "Proper Domain"; "*oiketerion*" : literally own habitation or spiritual body; used in 2 Cor 5:2 of the resurrected body of men
- "Strange "; "*eteros*" :different in kind
- These angels, i.e. "sons of God in Genesis 6:2, left behind for good their spiritual bodies; to lust after strange flesh; different than their own kind.
- It appears that the demonic forces which are about to be released from the abyss were supernaturally transported there by God reserved for the day of judgment when they will serve God's purposes.
- "As the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.- **Matthew 24:37**

The Result Of This Union Between The Angels And The Daughters Of Men

- "There were **giants** on the earth in those days..."--**Genesis 6:4**
- "Giants": "*nephilim*" : fallen ones ; they were giants in size and ungodly in nature.
- Unnatural monsters of iniquity.
- "*Nephilim*" used only here and Numbers 13:33

Og of Bashan

- **Og**, king of Bashan in **Deuteronomy 3:11**
- "For only Og king of Bashan remained of the remnant of the giants (rephahim). Indeed his bedstead was an iron bedstead. (Is it not in Rabbah of the people of Ammon?) Nine cubits is its length(13.5') and four cubits its width(6'), according to the standard cubit.
- A Standard cubit is 18", however some though 21-25"

9' GIANT IN UTAH GRAVE



These Angels Are Reserved For Judgment

- "For if God did not spare **the angels who sinned**, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be **reserved for judgment**; and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly"--**2 Peter 2:4-5**
- The abyss is an intermediate place of punishment for fallen angels.
- The fallen angels who are cast there are said "**to be reserved for judgment**".
- They are not only to be judged themselves but are executors of God's judgment when the bottomless pit is unlocked during the tribulation period.

The Sodom And Gomorrah Example

- The cities of Sodom and Gomorrah are given by Jude as examples to "...the vengeance of eternal fire" that awaits those who deny the Lord Jesus.
- "Look, this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom: She and her daughter had pride, fullness of food, and abundance of idleness; neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. And they were haughty and committed abomination before Me; therefore I took them away as I saw fit."- **Ezekiel 16:49-50**
- The sins of Sodom that the Lord judged them for were not only homosexuality but also: Pride, living in abundance and not helping the poor and needy.

Steady Progression Of False Teaching

- When Lot chose to go to Sodom it was beautiful. "And Lot lifted his eyes and saw all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere (before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah) like the garden of the LORD...."- **Genesis 13:10**
- There was a steady progression of darkness that crept into the city of Sodom.
- Lot became tormented by the City of Sodom and in the end was only able to save his two daughters from the corruption.
- Peter said: "...righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds)..." **2 Peter 2:7-8**

The United States

- **The Decline of the family:** "Nearly half (48 percent) of American children are born to a mother who is not married. Forty-three percent of American children live without a father in the home. About 50 percent of Americans over 18 are married, compared with 72 percent in 1960."
- **The Decline of education:** "Compared with nearly all of American history, the average American school teaches much less about important subjects such as American history, English grammar, literature, music, and art. Instead schools are teaching much more about "social justice," environmentalism, and sex."
- **The end of male and female:** "Whatever one's position on same-sex marriage, one must acknowledge that at the core of the argument for this redefinition of marriage is that gender doesn't matter. Marriage is marriage and gender means nothing, the argument goes." **Feelings are more important**

www.nationalreview.com/article/416543/americas-decay-speeding

Jude 8-10

"Likewise also these dreamers defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of dignitaries. Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

But these speak evil of whatever they do not know; and whatever they know naturally, like brute beasts, in these things they corrupt themselves."

More Sins Of These False Teachers

- The word “likewise” links the “certain men” in Jude 4, to the previous examples Jude just gave, i.e., the Israelites, the fallen angels, and the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.
- Jude says these men likewise defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of people in authority.
- “Today, our culture encourages us to **reject authority** and to recognize *self* as the only real authority in our lives. We can do this with the Bible, by choosing to only believe certain passages. We can do it with our beliefs, by choosing at the “salad bar” of religion. Or we can do it with our lifestyle, by making our own rules and not recognizing the proper authorities God has established.”-Guzik
- “Today we are witnessing the destruction of the church from the inside—it’s an inside job.”-Mcgee

Michael And The Devil

- Jude gives an example of two archangels doing battle with each other over Moses’ body.
- Moses body was buried by God (Deuteronomy 34:6) and Moses appeared at the Mount of Transfiguration in Matthew 17:3.
- Where Jude actually got the account he is referring to is not clear. Some say it was from The Assumption of Moses which is an apocryphal book.
- Apocryphal books are recognized by the Septuagint and the Latin Vulgate but not the Biblical canon.

- “Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him. And the LORD said to Satan, “The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?”-Zechariah 3:1-2
- The point Jude is making these people speak about things they do not understand as the authority. And yet, they speak evil towards people in authority.
- “**Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshy mind, and not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God.**”-Colossians 2:18-19

Natural Knowledge

- Jude says these certain men speak from what they know naturally.
- “How ironical that when men should claim to be knowledgeable, they should actually be ignorant; when they think themselves superior to the common man they should actually be on the same level as animals, and be corrupted by the very practices in which they seek liberty and self-expression.”-Green
- It is interesting how applicable this is in our own day. People teach from their own natural philosophical presuppositions expecting people to believe their ideas to be the ultimate authority.
- They become like brute beasts, insecure and defensive, claiming superior intelligence over the simple minded Bible believer.

2 Timothy 4:1-5

- “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: **Preach the word!** Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. **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; **and they will turn their ears away from the truth**, and be turned aside to fables. **But you be watchful in all things**, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.”

Jude 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.”

The Way Of Cain

- In Hebrews 11, we are told “...Cain brought.....Abel also brought.”
- There are two ways to God with two very different outcomes.
- Genesis Four is not a myth or old wives tale but history made for our learning and in this case it is the first example of worship.
- Cain's offering is built upon fantasy while Abel's is built upon faith.

ABEL'S WAY	CAIN'S WAY
SACRIFICE BY DEATH	SACRIFICE OF MERIT
BLOOD	SWEAT—WITHOUT BLOOD
FAITH	NO FAITH
PROVISION OF GOD	WORKS OF SELF

RELIGION KILLED ABEL; RELIGION KILLED CHRIST; BUT THE BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST SPEAKS OF THINGS GREATER THAN THE BLOOD OF ABEL. (HEB. 12:24)

THESE ARE THE TWO WAYS OF ACCESS TO GOD, EITHER WE ARE TRUSTING IN SOMETHING INSTEAD OF CHRIST, OR IN SOMETHING IN ADDITION TO CHRIST; OR WE ARE TRUSTING IN THE MERITS OF THE ONE SUBSTITUTE—JESUS CHRIST AND WHAT HE HAS DONE FOR US.