

Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

WOE UNTO THEM! FOR THEY HAVE GONE IN THE WAY OF CAIN.

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SUNDAY EVENING, AUGUST 21, 2022

SCRIPTURE READING: **JUDE 1:10-11**

Jude 1:11, **Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain,** and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.

1. BACKGROUND

- a. The **Book of Jude** was written by Jude, the brother of James and the half-brother of the Lord Jesus. **Matthew 13:55, Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas?** A careful analysis of this verse provides vivid information about Mary the mother of Jesus and her other children. This refutes the false notion that Mary was a perpetual virgin.
- b. Jude is a short name for Judas, however as we peruse the Scriptures we also find there were other people by the name of Judas.
- c. There were three men by the name of Judas. The other two men were both among the twelve Apostles. The best-known Judas is Judas Iscariot, who betrayed the Lord Jesus. The other Judas is identified by the distinguishing factor that Judas said unto Jesus in **John 14:22, Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?**
- d. As we study this Epistle, we will find some very fine golden nuggets even though it is a very short book of one chapter.
- e. Two half-brothers of the Lord Jesus wrote Epistles; Judas wrote the **Book of Jude** and James wrote the **Book of James**.
- f. Neither James nor Judas identified themselves as brothers of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 1. James in **James 1:1** introduces himself as a servant of God. **James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.**
 2. Jude introduces himself as a servant of Jesus Christ, the brother of James in **Jude 1:1, Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called:** God has not only preserved His Word but has also preserved His believers in Jesus Christ. **Romans 8:1, There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.** **Psalms 37:28, For the LORD loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever; but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.**
 3. The question arises sometimes of why Judas and James did not capitalize on this blood relationship with the Lord Jesus.
 4. I believe it is obvious that His family did not understand His mission, as to why He came into the world. **John 7:5, For neither did his brethren believe in him.**
 5. It was not until after the resurrection that they really understood that Jesus was the Messiah. **Hebrews 10:12, But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;**
 6. The resurrection is what confirmed to them that Jesus was truly who He claimed to be.
 7. **Psalm 69** gives us a glimpse of the misunderstanding during those growing up years in Nazareth with Jesus. In **verse 21** there is a direct reference to the cross. **They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.**
 8. Although His brothers had been with Him and had grown up with Him, they did not understand

who He was. **John 7:5, For neither did his brethren believe in him. 2 Corinthians 5:16, Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more.**

9. After the resurrection, Jude and James realized that human relationship didn't mean much at all because they were sinners who needed to be saved by grace.
- g. Although Mary was highly favored among women, she was not highly favored above women. In **Luke 1:47**, she confessed her need for a Saviour. **And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.** We must be careful not to put her in a position where God did not intend for her to be.
- h. The theme of the **Book of Jude** is assurance in the days of apostasy.
 1. Apostasy may be defined simply as a falling away from the faith. **2 Timothy 4:3, For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;**
 2. God warns us that there will be a time when apostasy would invade the Church, false prophets and false teachers and deceptive practices. **2 Peter 2:2, And many shall follow their pernicious ways: by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. Acts 20:29, For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.** Deceptive advertising practices have persuaded people to embrace these new versions of the Bible. In his book, Dr. Stauffer is quoted as saying, "The deceptive advertising ploy used by Crossway Books to convince people to use the ESV is completely false. The ESV claims to be another Bible in the succession and lineage of the King James Bible, when the ESV is actually just a rehash of the corrupt RSV. The website puts forth the following information: *The ESV carries forward the trusted legacy of the Bible in English – the legacy established first in the Tyndale New Testament (1526) and the KJV Bible (1611). With this legacy as the foundation, the ESV Bible (2001) reflects the beauty and majesty of the original languages, first captured centuries ago by these early Bible translations. But the ESV also provides the most recent evangelical Christian Bible scholarship and enduring readability for today. The ESV translation process itself was based on the trusted principles of essentially literal translation, which combines word-for-word accuracy with readability and literary excellence. Likewise, the ESV translation team was built on the trusted foundation of over 100 evangelical Christian scholars and pastors worldwide, committed to the truth, authority, and application of the Bible to all life. The ESV Bible – for the church today and for generations to come.*" Dr. Stauffer goes on to say, "Not one of the modern versions has ever made it past a single generation, much less into the generations to come. The ESV website continues with a most notable confession by stating that the King James (1611) **WAS** the standard for **almost** four centuries (1611 – 2011). I guess they mean that the King James Bible was the standard for 390 years (until 2001) when the new kid on the block was produced."
 3. We must be careful to be alert this day and time of false concepts. Dr. Stauffer is quoted again by saying, "They admit that it was the KJB that **UNITED** the church, indicating that the disunity in churches has resulted from the multitude of voices in lieu of the single voice with a single standard recognized by the Bible-loving Christians for over 400 years." Again, the ESV website is quoted, "*The King James Version was the standard Bible used by the English-speaking world for almost four centuries. It was the one Bible that united the Church, strengthened believers, and brought untold millions of souls to Christ...With the greatest respect for the KJV and deep gratitude to its translators for their work, the English Standard Version Translation Team endeavored to carry on the KJV's historic translation legacy in a way that is fresh and compelling for today and that will endure for generations to come.*"
 4. It seems that Jude intended to write on some other subject, but he was moved by the Holy Spirit; he needed to wave a red flag on apostasy entering the Church.
 5. The Spirit of God prompted Jude to give us fair warning about the day of apostasy.
 6. He was to develop this subject which has become a great doctrine of the Scripture.
 7. The Spirit of God tested his purpose before He could embark upon his subject and directed him to another channel.
- i. He gives us the most vivid account we have of apostasy and presents it in a very dynamic manner.
 1. Jude hangs out a red flag such as we would see on a busy highway in which the Christian must travel. **Psalms 23:4, Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Psalms 23:6, Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.**
 2. Jude describes an all-inspired language frightening conditions that will come in the future.

3. We could refer to it as something similar to a burglar alarm that sounds a warning of impending danger.
4. Apostasy has indeed broken out into the Churches and did not come through the front door or in boldness, but through the side door while nobody was watching and not alert. **Matthew 13:25, But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.** As an example, Keith Danby, president and CEO of the International Bible Society is quoted as follows concerning the upcoming NIV2011 bible: "And we'll make sure we get it right this time." Also, Maureen Girkins, president of Zondervan, is quoted as saying, "The divisive TNIV and the cherished 1984 NIV will not be published after the NIV2011 comes out. **We need to undo the damage** caused by attempting to publish a gender inclusive NIV in 1997 which failed miserably."
5. It appears like an Atom Bomb exploding even in the early Church as a warning and continues to erode sound doctrine even in our day. **2 Thessalonians 2:7, For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.**
- j. Jude gives us the only record in Scripture regarding the contention of Satan with Michael the Archangel over the body of Moses. **Jude 1:9, Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.**
- k. Jude records prophesy of Enoch, which is found nowhere else in Scripture.
- l. He also sees the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ to sit on the Throne of David and rule and reign for a thousand years.
- m. This little **Book of Jude** is a remarkable and exciting book.
- n. When we analyze some themes of this book, we will notice Christians need to be aware of false teachings infiltrating their Churches. So many believers are asleep in the pews and are nonchalant in their respect for the Preserved Word of God. **Colossians 2:8, Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.** We must be aware that it was God Himself, who cannot lie, that told us through the Scriptures, He has preserved His Word for every generation. **Psalms 12:6-7, The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. 7: Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.**
 1. Godly people can be detected by their beliefs, their actions and their words. **John 7:17, If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.**
 2. Believers should be merciful to unbelievers.
 3. Jesus Christ will cleanse all believers and present them without fault to God. **Hebrews 8:7, For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. Jude 1:24, Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,**
 4. The judgment of God upon unbelievers is sure to come and is of great certainty. **Hebrews 9:27, And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:**
 5. Jude also reminds us of Godless men bearing false doctrine about Jesus Christ and the Christian walk is polluting the Churches. The wholesale embrace by the Christian community of the corrupt Greek and Hebrew text, put forth by Westcott and Hort in which the new versions are based, is absolutely astounding.
- o. Jude reminds us that the people of God were previously judged because of unbelief. We must remember that those who belong to Him will be chastised. **Hebrews 12:7-8, If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? 8: But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.**
- p. He gives us three examples:
 1. The angels who were disobedient.
 2. The corruption of Sodom and Gomorrah.
 3. The judgment of Israel as a result of their unbelief.
- q. Jude encourages the faithful to remain strong and true and to show mercy to those who doubt.
- r. The power and authority of Jesus Christ is **proclaimed with great joy.**
- s. We must reflect on this on every single occasion.

2. INTRODUCTION

- a. Please refer to the August 21, 2022 Morning Message for the Introduction.

3. TWO POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

c. But these speak evil of those things which they know not.

1. **Jude 1:10, But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves.**
2. The word "know" is very interesting as used in this verse.
3. It has two broad meanings: To "know" means I am able to mentally comprehend, and I have knowledge of a particular subject. To "know" also refers to the ability to understand what is happening concerning God's program.
4. Some think knowledge is confined to what you can pour into a test tube or what you can look at under a microscope. This is where modern man has gone wrong.
5. Knowledge should also represent the supernatural ability of God that reaches a higher plane.
6. We know the Word of God is true and we know Jesus Christ is the Saviour of the world.
7. This, my friend, we cannot pour into a test tube.
8. The Bible says plainly in **1 Corinthians 2:14, *But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.***
9. Until a person comes to know Jesus Christ as personal Saviour, it is impossible for them to understand and properly interpret Scripture.
10. We have been reminded we need to focus on things that are unseen.
11. **2 Corinthians 4:18, *While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.***
12. This is an awful picture of the apostate condition Jude is explaining to us.

d. Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain.

1. **Jude 1:11, Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.**
2. We must respect the Word "WOE UNTO THEM," which is a denunciation of the apostate condition they are involved in.
3. Let's consider Cain:
 - a. The background of Cain says he was a religious man but a natural man.
 - b. He believed in God and believed in religion, but he thought he could come to God by his own merit.
 - c. He denied the fact he was a sinner.
 - d. He rejected redemption by the blood.
 - e. He thought he could do it his own way. **Hebrews 11:4, *By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.***
 - f. The way to God is by sacrifice.
 - g. That sacrifice is only through the shed blood of Jesus Christ.
 - h. In order to be righteous Jesus must forgive us of our sins, cleanse us by His blood, and we must stand in His righteousness before God.
 - i. Religion will not do the job.
 - j. It is the sinful nature God must deal with. **2 Peter 1:4, *Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.***
4. They ran greedily after Balaam for a reward.
 - a. **2 Peter 2:15** is the way of Balaam. ***Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;***
 - b. **Revelation 2:14** is the doctrine of Balaam. ***But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.***
 - c. Balaam was a man who was hired by the King of Moab to curse Israel.
 - d. The error of Balaam in the **Book of Jude** is he thought God would have to punish Israel for

- their sin.
- e. He did not realize God could forgive Israel the same way He forgives any sinner; through the blood of Jesus.
 - f. He did not understand God would forgive the Nation Israel if they would only turn to Him.
 - g. God will forgive you of your sin today if you will turn to Christ and allow His blood to cleanse you from all sin.
 - h. Invite the Lord Jesus into your heart to be your Saviour.
 - i. **Number 22 thru 25** tells us this man Balaam could not bring a curse against the Nation Israel so he told Balac to send the Moabite women into the camp of Israel so he would be able to bring fornication and idolatry in their homes through mixed marriages. **Revelation 2:14, But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.**
 - j. God warns against believers and unbelievers marrying. **2 Corinthians 6:14, Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?**
5. The gainsaying of Core.
 - a. Core came to the conclusion Moses was not the only one who had access to God.
 - b. He rejected God's choice of Moses to lead the children of Israel.
 - c. He wanted to improve on that which was sacred, so he intruded into the priest's office.
 - d. In effect he asked, "has God only spoken to Moses." **Numbers 16:28, And Moses said, Hereby ye shall know that the Lord hath sent me to do all these works; for I have not done them of mine own mind.**
 - e. This man was a rebellious man, rebelling against God.
 - f. Jude says this type of rebellion would be characterized in the last days.
 6. Cain did not believe you needed to come to God by faith and that you needed a blood sacrifice because man is a sinner.
 7. He believed religion was all you needed.
 8. Balaam involved the thinking a Holy God must punish sin and sinners cannot be forgiven.
 9. However, we know Jesus Christ paid the supreme sacrifice for the sin of mankind and believing the record God has given we can come to Christ.
 10. We must be careful in challenging God's authority and when called we must perform the mission, He has called us to.
 11. The pulpit should be used to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to a lost and dying world and not a place to talk about economics, politics, and other thing foreign to the Word of God.
 12. The message should be plain and clear; **sinners need to come to Christ to be saved.**

4. CONCLUSION

- a. Do you know Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour?
- b. If you do not, today needs to be your day of salvation.
- c. **Romans 3:23, For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;**
- d. **Romans 3:10, As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:**
- e. **Romans 10:9-10, That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10: For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**

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