

## 05. The Book of Jude—1:6-7

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(3/11/20)

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As we said last time, the Book of Jude falls into 2 main sections—

- **A Call to Action Against Apostasy—verses 3-19**
- **A Command to Christians to Live Faithfully—verses 20-23**

### I. A Call to Action Against Apostasy—verses 3-19

#### A. Christians—contend earnestly for the faith against apostates—verses 3-4

**Jude 1:3-4 (NKJV)**

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

Now, having said that—much of what follows is meant by Jude to identify these “**certain men**” (apostates/false teachers) who have crept into the churches “**unnoticed**” (*‘secretly, undercover’*).

#### B. Christians—remember God has judged apostates in the past—verses 5-7

**Jude 1:5 (NKJV)**

<sup>5</sup> But I want to remind you, though you once knew this...

Jude is talking to those who knew the Jewish Scriptures (both Jew and Gentile Christians) calling them to remember how God in the past has judged apostates and then gives 2 examples—**apostate Israelites (verse 5); and apostate angels (verses 6-7)**.

### 1. The example of apostate Israelites—verse 5

**Jude 1:5 (NKJV)**

<sup>5</sup> 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.

To fully understand the point Jude is making—we must interpret the passage correctly.

First of all, keep in mind that, even though God delivered the entire nation of Israel from Egypt—that didn’t mean that each Jew delivered was *personally* saved.

There were 3 groups of people that came out of Egypt:

1. *Those Jews who were genuinely saved, that were strong in their faith and Spirit-filled.*

2. *Those Jews who were genuinely saved, but who were weak in their faith and carnally minded.*
3. *The mixed multitude (probably made up of some Gentiles)—those who were ‘religious’ unbelievers that said they believed in the God of Israel but who didn’t have saving faith.*

I believe in verse 5 that Jude primarily has in mind *unbelieving* Jews (and some Gentiles) who were delivered from Egypt but who were killed by God with the fiery serpents for their unbelief (manifested in murmuring and complaining)—Numbers 21:4-9.

The point Jude seems to be making is that apostates, like the ‘tares’ Jesus warned us about—look as genuine as the real thing (‘wheat’)—at least for a while.

Think about Judas and how ‘real’ he looked—so much so that the other disciples didn’t know he wasn’t a true child of God until Jesus told them in the upper room...

**“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.” (verse 5)**

This reminds me of people who start coming to church and it appears have been ‘*delivered from the world*’ by praying to receive Jesus as their Savior—and maybe even have some kind of religious or spiritual experience that makes it look like they’re saved.

But eventually go back to the old life (which for them isn’t ‘old’—it’s the only life they’ve ever known—their normal, fallen life).

#### **2 Peter 2:20-22 (NKJV)**

<sup>20</sup> 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. <sup>21</sup> 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. <sup>22</sup> 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.*”

#### **Matthew 12:43-45 (NKJV)**

<sup>43</sup> “When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none. <sup>44</sup> Then he says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’ And when he comes, he finds *it* empty, swept, and put in order. <sup>45</sup> Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last *state* of that man is worse than the first. So shall it also be with this wicked generation.”

The lesson—not everyone who says “*Lord, Lord*” is going to make it into heaven—often a person is an apostate and doesn’t even realize it! This is why we are commanded in Scripture:

#### **2 Peter 1:10 (NKJV)**

<sup>10</sup> Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble.

#### **1 Corinthians 11:31 (NKJV)**

<sup>31</sup> For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged.

But as we said last time, many commentators see in Jude verse 5 a reference to carnal believers. Those who died in the wilderness after having refused to enter the Promised Land due to the giants that lived there—that number included *unbelievers* (mixed multitude) and *carnal* believers. (Numbers 14:26-38)

In fact, Paul the apostle uses what happened in the wilderness and those who died there—as a lesson to Christians not to fall into the same error as those people did—

**1 Corinthians 10:1-11 (NKJV)**

<sup>1</sup> Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup> all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup> all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup> and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup> But with most of them God was not well pleased, for *their bodies* were scattered in the wilderness.

**[Numbers 14:29]**

<sup>6</sup> Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. **[Numbers 11:4-6]** <sup>7</sup> And do not become idolaters as *were* some of them. As it is written, "*The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.*" **[Exodus 32:6]**

<sup>8</sup> Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell **[Numbers 25]**; <sup>9</sup> nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents **[Numbers 21:4-6]**; <sup>10</sup> nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer. **[Numbers 16]** <sup>11</sup> Now all these things happened to them as **examples**, and they were written for our instruction...

One pastor said—

*"Paul explains that the meaning of these events is not limited to their historical value. They have significance for us today. The punishments that came upon the disobedient Israelites not only were **'an example'** to their fellow Hebrews but also to believers in every age since. More than that they were given for **'our instruction'** (nouthesia) is more than ordinary teaching. It means 'admonition' and carries the connotation of warning. It is counsel given to persuade a person to change behavior in light of judgment."*

Now, getting back to those who wandered in the wilderness for forty years until they died—this represents how carnal Christians never reach the 'promised land' God has for them (unless they repent and start walking by faith). They never enter into their own personal 'promised land' ('life of the Spirit') and possess all of the '*great and precious promises*' God has given to them.

Instead they wander aimlessly thru their Christian life and die in a spiritual wilderness (murmuring, complaining, unbelief) without ever enjoying the power, blessing and fruitfulness of the life of the Spirit.

The word "**pleased**" in verse 5—"*But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness*"—is the same Greek word translated "**disqualified**" in 1 Corinthians 9:27 (a word used by Paul for losing heavenly rewards—not losing salvation).

The point Paul is making is that, even with all the blessings and advantages that Israel enjoyed—they had been delivered by God from Egypt; they enjoyed supernatural protection, provision and guidance from God in the wilderness.

Even with all of those blessings and how well they started—most of them didn't finish well and wound up dying in the wilderness. When Paul says that "*with most of them God was not well pleased*"—that has to be one of the great understatements in the Bible!

Out of 2 ½ to 3 million people maybe 1.5 million adults 20 and above (the age of accountability)—only 2 (Joshua and Caleb) wound up making it into the Promised Land. Paul is warning all Christians to learn a lesson from this in 1 Corinthians 10:6—"*Now these things became our examples...*"

The lesson is that we can be saved and enjoy the blessings and protection and provision and leading of God in our lives as Christians and still stop short of entering into all the fullness that God has for our lives as His people.

It's possible to know the Lord but still live a carnal unproductive life for Him—a spiritual wilderness existence. The wilderness represents carnality, complaining, unbelief—and a state of arrested spiritual development. There are many Christians in America who live in a spiritual wilderness their whole Christian life because they refuse to believe the promises of God for victory, protection and provision.

Since they are carnally minded, they constantly complain about what God hasn't given to them instead of thanking Him and being grateful for what He has provided! As such, they lust more for the things of the world than they desire the presence and knowledge of God in their lives.

Paul is telling us that Israel made the same mistake—they lusted after the things of Egypt even after God had delivered them and had been so good to them.

#### **1 Corinthians 10:6 (NKJV)**

<sup>6</sup> Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted.

The history of God's people in the Old Testament is full of examples of those who let carnality and lust keep them from going all the way in the relationship with God.

One pastor and author—

*"The warning through Jude is clear. The people of Israel started out from Egypt well enough. They had many blessings from God along the way. But they did not endure to the end, because they did not believe God's promise of power and protection.*

*This example gives two lessons. First, it assures us that the 'certain men' causing trouble will certainly be judged, even though they may have started out well in their walk with God. Jude says, "The certain men might have started out well. But so did the children of Israel, and God afterward destroyed those who did not believe." Secondly, it warns us that we also must follow Jesus to the end, and never be among those who did not believe. The final test of our Christianity is endurance. Some start the race but never finish it."*

So, the first example Jude gives of how God has judged apostates in the past was the example of **apostate Israelites**.

#### **2. The example of apostate angels—verse 6**

#### **Jude 1:6-7 (NKJV)**

<sup>6</sup> 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; <sup>7</sup> 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.

I have to say that this is one of the strangest and most controversial statements in the entire Bible! As we said with the previous verse—to properly understand the point Jude is making—we must interpret the passage correctly. To do that, we must go back to Genesis 6—the passage I believe Jude had in mind when he made this statement.

#### **Genesis 6:1-2 (NKJV)**

<sup>1</sup> Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, <sup>2</sup> that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they *were* beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose.

I believe ‘**sons of God**’ is a reference to angels and ‘**daughters of men**’ is a reference to human women. I hold to this view because the term ‘sons of God’ in the Old Testament—*always* refers to angels.

However, this in and of itself wouldn’t be enough to convince me that Genesis 6:1-4 is talking about fallen angels coming down to the earth to cohabit with human women. What really drives this view home to me is that this incident is mentioned not once or twice—but three times in the New Testament! (Jude mentions it once, and Peter twice—once in each of his two Epistles).

The point Jude is making is that fallen angels left heaven (‘their own domain’; ‘their proper abode’—NASB) and came to the earth to commit sexual immorality by going after strange flesh. He uses Sodom and Gomorrah as an example of what it is he’s referring to—just like homosexual sex is *unnatural*—so is sex between fallen angels and human women!

Those that disagree with this interpretation claim that angels are spirit beings and therefore *sexless* which means they are incapable of having sex with women let alone producing children with them. Well we know that angels can take human form and did so many times in the Old Testament—Genesis 18 being one example. (Hebrews 13:2)

To say that angels are incapable of having sex with women is something the Bible never says—and history refutes. There are many documented accounts of women in the occult that have had sex with demons!

- “Are you telling me they had children by these fallen angels?”

Well Genesis 6:4 says so—

**Genesis 6:4 (NKJV)**

<sup>4</sup>There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore *children* to them...

In the Book of 1 Enoch (which is not inspired scripture, but may still contain some accurate, historical information) we read—

*“And it came to pass when the children of men had multiplied that in those days were born unto them beautiful and comely daughters. And the angels, the children of heaven, saw and lusted after them, and said to one another: ‘Come, let us choose us wives from among the children of men and beget us children ... [They] took unto themselves wives, and each chose for himself one, and they began to go unto them and to defile themselves with them, and they taught them charms and enchantments ... And they became pregnant, and they bare great giants ... And there arose much godlessness, and they committed fornication, and they were led astray, and became corrupt in all their ways.”*

Once again those who don’t believe Genesis 6 is talking about fallen angels getting married to and having sex with human women point to what Jesus said in Matthew 22:30—*“For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven.”*

They say that Jesus (here in Matthew 22:30)—is saying that angels are sexless and never marry so Genesis 6:1-2 can’t be talking about angels marrying human women.

However, Jesus never said angels were sexless in Matt.22:30 nor did He say they never marry—He was speaking about faithful angels (*angels of God in heaven*), not rebellious ones.

Henry M. Morris says with regard to this,

*"When Jesus said that the angels in heaven do not marry, this does not necessarily mean that those who have been cast out of heaven were incapable of doing so."*

It is significant that when the angels are referred to in Scripture it is always with the masculine pronoun "he," and they are always described as men—that's why they are called the 'sons of God'.

**Genesis 6:1-4 (NKJV)**

<sup>1</sup> Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they *were* beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose... There were **giants** on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore *children* to them...

The word 'giants' in verse 4 is "nephilim" and is a word that literally means '**mighty**' or '**fallen ones**'.

I personally believe that these were half human, half demon hybrid creatures—

**Genesis 6:4 (NKJV)**

<sup>4</sup> There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore *children* to them. **Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.**

We are told in Scripture that these giants were on the earth before and after the Flood. These would include Goliath and his brothers (the Bible tells us they had six fingers on each hand and six toes on each foot).

This group would include races of giants like the Anakim and the Emim and others—people that lived in the land of Canaan (Deuteronomy 1:28; 2:10).

This, I believe, is one of the reasons God told Joshua and the children of Israel to utterly wipe out the people living in Canaan—because the people of the land had become corrupted with demon seed (at least a large portion of the population).

**And that is exactly what I believe is going on in Genesis 6!**

Satan had his angels come down to the earth to try to comingle and corrupt the human race with demon seed to keep the Deliverer (Messiah Jesus) from being born so as to crush Satan's head (authority) and free the earth from his control (Genesis 3:15).

If Satan was successful there would be no way a Messiah could deliver the world who was himself a half demon, half human hybrid—and this plan of Satan's almost succeeded—

**Genesis 6:7-11 (NKJV)**

<sup>7</sup> So the LORD said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them." <sup>8</sup> But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. <sup>9</sup> This is the genealogy of Noah. Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God. <sup>10</sup> And Noah begot three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. <sup>11</sup> The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.

- Noah was a "**just**" (righteous) man because of his *faith*.
- The word "**perfect**" comes from a Hebrew root that means 'uncontaminated'.
- But it also says in verse 9 that Noah "**was perfect in his generations**".

Noah and his family may have been the only ones left on the earth still pure and uncontaminated by demonic inbreeding—which would explain the Flood.

*“Do you really expect us to believe that fallen angels came down to the earth to contaminate the human race with demon seed to keep the Messiah from being born—and that was why God sent the Flood to purge the earth of demon half-breeds!? That’s ridiculous!”*

Maybe, but if I’m wrong why didn’t God send *revival* and a great awakening to the earth instead of wiping out all living things—both man and animals?

#### **1 Peter 3:18-20 (NKJV)**

<sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, <sup>19</sup> by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup> who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while *the* ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water. (Comment)

#### **2 Peter 2:4-5 (NKJV)**

<sup>4</sup> 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; <sup>5</sup> 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; (Comment)

#### **Jude 1:6-7 (NKJV)**

<sup>6</sup> 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; <sup>7</sup> 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.

Listen, the point that Jude is making with regards to apostates is that:

- They can be found in heaven and earth.
- They can have a special position given to them by God—whether they are His chosen people Israel, angels in heaven, Judas chosen to be one of Jesus’ apostles—or even those who shepherd God’s people in the Church!

Don’t let these special relationships with God fool you—they don’t bring a guarantee that a person (or even an angel) is really someone who belongs to God. ***The real test is continuing in the faith and demonstrating faithfulness to God throughout the course of their lives!***

#### **1 John 2:19 (NKJV)**

<sup>19</sup> They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but *they went out* that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.

#### **Hebrews 3:14 (NKJV)**

<sup>14</sup> For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end,

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