

## 10. The Book of Jude—1:14-15

a message by Pastor Phil Ballmaier  
(4/29/20)

Find the Study Audio & Video [Here](#)

All throughout Jude's epistle he has been admonishing Christians ("soldiers of Christ") to stand up for God's truth against the lies and false doctrine of apostates.

And now, as he brings this section to a close, in verses 14-15 he assures us that someday God is going to finish this war against all ungodly sinners by defeating them once and for all when Jesus comes back.

At that time, He will remove them from the earth (cast them into Hades) before He establishes His Kingdom and eventually—they will stand before Him, be judged and cast into the Lake of Fire (Hell) forever (Revelation 20:11-15).

### Jude 1:14-15 (NKJV)

<sup>14</sup> Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, <sup>15</sup> 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."

Last week to end our study and set up tonight's study—we talked a little about Enoch (who appears prominently in Genesis chapters 4 and 5). Jude tells us that Enoch was the seventh from Adam—in other words, he was the seventh generation from Adam.

He is called "*the seventh from Adam*" to identify him as the godly Enoch—since Cain also had a son named Enoch. (Gen. 4:17)

As I said last week, he was the great-grandfather of Noah, and he lived at a time of great wickedness upon the earth—and yet we read:

### Genesis 5:24 (NLT2)

<sup>24</sup> [Enoch was] walking in close fellowship with God. Then one day he disappeared, because God took him.

Remember last week we said that Enoch appears in Hebrews 11—the 'Great Hall of Faith' chapter. And of course, Enoch's name appears there because of his faith in God—but in particular, for believing something God revealed to him.

I believe his faith was rooted in a revelation that God gave to him—a revelation that had to do with coming judgment! I believe that God revealed to Enoch that He was going to judge and destroy mankind because of his wickedness—a judgment we know as the Flood.

Furthermore, it seems that God also told him that he was going to have a son born to him and that the year his son died the flood would come. And so based on this prophecy, when Enoch's son was born, he named his son Methuselah ("*when he dies it shall come*")—by faith!

The Bible records that in the year Methuselah died—the Flood came upon the earth. And so, I think it's safe to say that the great motivating factor in Enoch's life that caused him to live a holy life during one of the most wicked periods in human history—was the prophecy God gave to him that the world back then was coming to an end—that God was going to judge it and (for the most part) wipe it out and start over!

And Jude implies that not only did Enoch *believe* the prophecy God gave him—he went everywhere *preaching* about this coming judgment to anyone who would listen to him.

The reason that Jude talked about Enoch was because he was an example of someone who “*earnestly contended for the faith*” (v.3).

In other words, he faithfully preached the truth of God which included proclaiming coming judgment (he taught the whole counsel of God!)—and so should we as the people of God in our day!

Enoch's 'end times' faith and faithful life becomes a testimony to God's people today who are living close to His judgment coming upon the world once again—that we also need to be living lives of holiness while we proclaim His coming.

In other words, as Enoch “*walked with God*” in those dark days before the first worldwide judgment came back then—so must we, as the people of God, walk with God before the final worldwide judgment comes in these last days as well!

In that regard Enoch's life becomes more than just a testimony to the Church—it becomes a type of the Church!

**Hebrews 11:5 (NKJV)**

<sup>5</sup> By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, “*and was not found, because God had taken him”*; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

In other words, his faith and faithful living so pleased God that the Lord ‘raptured’ him off the earth before the Flood came.

In that regard he becomes a type of the Church—and his life is a testimony to us in our day that God will rapture his Church off of the earth before the next worldwide judgment comes as prophesied in the book of Revelation Chapter 4:1 (rapture) and then Chapters 6-19 (judgment).

Peter talks about this also when he said—

**2 Peter 2:9 (NKJV)**

<sup>9</sup> *then* the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment,

“*Wait a minute; Enoch was only one man whereas the Church is made up of many members—so how could Enoch be a type of the Church?*”

Paul said in Romans 12:5, “So we, being many—are one body in Christ...”

Enoch was only ‘one body’, that’s true—but so is the Church one body as well! So, God gave to Enoch a prophecy—that as long as his son Methuselah lived God’s judgment would be withheld (I bet every time the kid got a cold Enoch panicked).

It's important to note that Methuselah becomes a type of God's grace—and as such he lived the longest life in the Bible (969 years!).

Peter talks about the grace of God being longsuffering—

**2 Peter 3:9 (NKJV)**

<sup>9</sup> The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

And so, we know that God gave Enoch a prophecy about worldwide judgment coming in his day.

But not only that, Jude tells us that God also gave him a prophecy about worldwide judgment coming in the future as well (I believe in our day).

The remarkable thing about this prophecy is that, even though Enoch lived close to the beginning of the human race (7<sup>th</sup> generation from Adam)—God revealed to him the Second Coming of Jesus Christ and the judgment of the human race before Jesus sets up His Kingdom.

I think we would be shocked if we knew the extent of what God revealed to His Old Testament saints about the gospel and eschatology. (Job 19:25-27; Dan.12:9-13; Gal.3:8)

**Jude 1:14-15a (NKJV)**

<sup>14</sup> Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, <sup>15</sup> to execute judgment on all...

**Revelation 19:11-21 (NKJV)**

<sup>11</sup> Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. <sup>12</sup> His eyes *were* like a flame of fire, and on His head *were* many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. <sup>13</sup> He *was* clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. <sup>14</sup> And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses [*Jude 14*]. <sup>15</sup> Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. <sup>16</sup> And He has on *His* robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. <sup>17</sup> Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, <sup>18</sup> that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all *people*, free and slave, both small and great." <sup>19</sup> And I saw the beast [*Antichrist*], the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. <sup>20</sup> Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. <sup>21</sup> And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh.

**Jude 1:14-15 (NKJV)**

<sup>14</sup> Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, <sup>15</sup> 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."

## Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints.

In the Greek, the largest number is ‘ten thousand’ and so when Jude says that the Lord Jesus is coming back to the earth with ‘**ten thousands (plural) of His saints**’—it probably means an innumerable number (Rev.5:11).

The Greek word for ‘**saints**’ is a word that means ‘*holy ones*’ and probably refers to both ‘*Christian saints* (all believers in Christ—the Church)’ and God’s *angels*.

### Matthew 25:31 (NKJV)

<sup>31</sup> "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.

### Colossians 3:4 (NKJV)

<sup>4</sup> When Christ *who is* our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

### 1 Thessalonians 3:13 (NKJV)

<sup>13</sup> so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints [Christian believers in Christ].

## To execute judgment on all the ungodly.

Jude says in verse 15 that the Lord Jesus will come with ten thousands of His saints to execute judgment on the ungodly (the Lord Himself will judge and not those with Him)—

### John 5:22, 27 (NKJV)

<sup>22</sup> For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son... <sup>27</sup> and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man.

### Acts 17:31 (NKJV)

<sup>31</sup> because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead."

### 2 Timothy 4:1 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> 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:

Jude uses the word “**ungodly**” four times to describe the *character* of these apostates, and the word “**all**” four times to emphasize the *completeness* of this judgment—in other words how that none of these rebels will escape this coming judgment.

The Greek word for ‘**ungodly**’ is *asebas* and is defined by one scholar this way—

*"It basically means, 'godless, without fear and reverence of God'. It does not mean irreligious (these people are those who worshipped the Antichrist), but one who actively practices the opposite of what the fear of God demands. Asebēs is characterized by immoral and impious behavior (secular ungodliness or pagan immoral worship)."*

**[The Lord is coming] to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way.**

The Greek word for **'convict'** is a word that means *"to expose,"* or *"prove guilty,"* which includes showing someone his crimes and culpability.

God keeps meticulous records of every violation of His law that a person commits in their lifetime—and will use this 'leger' on the day of judgment to prove their guilt in the Supreme Court of the universe.

**Revelation 20:12 (NKJV)**

<sup>12</sup> And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is *the Book of Life*. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.

Jesus Christ will judge these unsaved people on the basis of what is written "in the books"—what books?

**1. The Word of God**

**John 12:48**

He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him--the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.

Every sinner will be held accountable for the truth he or she has heard in this life.

Many of these will think that God has made a terrible mistake because they went to church and heard the Bible taught and the gospel preached. But that was the problem—they *heard* the Word but never really *lived* any of it—

**James 1:22-23 (NKJV)**

<sup>22</sup> But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. <sup>23</sup> For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror;

**Matthew 7:21-23 (NKJV)**

<sup>21</sup> "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. <sup>22</sup> Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' <sup>23</sup> And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

**2. The Ledger of God**

What is this ledger? It's what Paul, in Colossians 2:14, called—

*"...the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us"* Col. 2:14 (NASB)

*"...the record that contained the charges against us."* Col. 2:14 (NLT)

The Bible says that every sin that a person commits against God's Law (of which the Ten Commandments are part of) is a debt that he or she owes Him, a debt that has to be paid.

Just like when a criminal finishes his time in prison we say, *"He has paid his debt to society."*

God keeps meticulous records of every word, thought and action that violated His Law. Every sin is a crime against a Holy God and is written in His book—His ledger, and they must be paid for.

**Ecclesiastes 12:14 (NKJV)**

<sup>14</sup> For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil. [The motives of the heart—Matt.5:21-28]

Jesus came to earth to pay our debt—

**Isaiah 53:5-6 (NKJV)**

<sup>5</sup> But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. <sup>6</sup> All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

**Colossians 2:14 (NASB)**

<sup>14</sup> having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

Jesus on the cross said, *"It is finished ("paid in full")—"I owed a debt I could not pay; He paid a debt He did not owe!"*

If a person refuses to receive what Jesus Christ did on Calvary—His death which paid for all of their sins—then they will have to stand before God someday and be sentenced to pay for their own crimes against God.

*"That's OK I know I'm a good person and when I stand before God I'll plead my case and show Him all the 'good things' I've done. I believe He'll be fair and let me into Heaven."*

J.Vernon McGee—

*"Yes, my friend, you will be able to get a fair trial there. Your life is on tape, and Jesus Christ, the Judge happens to have the tape. I think He will have it on a television screen so that you can watch it, too ("This Was Your Life"). Do you think your life can stand the test?*

*Are you willing to stand before God and have Him play the tape of your life?*

*I do not know about you, but I could not make it. Thank God for His grace—"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" (Eph. 2:8)."*

But besides that, you need to understand—your 'case' has already been decided—the verdict was pronounced in the Garden of Eden—all the children of Adam are guilty.

*"In Adam all die"*—because all bear Adam's guilt—and then everyday people add to that guilt by continuing to break the commandments of God.

At the Great White Throne Judgment, you won't plead your case—the case has already been decided and the verdict has been rendered—GUILTY! Jesus came to pardon those who were already condemned—already pronounced guilty.

**John 3:17-18**

For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

This is why we don't see any legal representation for these people—there is no defense attorney.

### 1 John 2:1-2

My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

The only One who could have defended them as their Advocate (Attorney for the defense) they rejected.

*"So if these people have already been found guilty then what purpose does the Great White Throne Judgment serve?"— To determine the degree of punishment they will endure in Hell!*

God doesn't send people to Hell for the wicked things they have done any more than He brings people to Heaven for the good things they have done.

Whether a person winds up spending eternity in Heaven or Hell depends on whether they received or rejected Jesus Christ as their Savior while on the earth. These people are going to Hell not for the wicked things they have done but for rejecting Christ.

But notice they are judged by their *works* (v.13c) because their works (evil deeds) will be used by God to determine their degree of punishment in Hell just as a Christian's good works done for the Lord will determine their degree of reward in Heaven.

There are degrees of punishment in hell—

### Matthew 11:20-24 (NKJV)

<sup>20</sup> Then He began to rebuke the cities in which most of His mighty works had been done, because they did not repent: <sup>21</sup> "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. <sup>22</sup> But I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the day of judgment than for you. <sup>23</sup> And you, Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades; for if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. <sup>24</sup> But I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for you."

### Luke 12:47-48a (NKJV)

<sup>47</sup> And that servant who knew his master's will, and did not prepare *himself* or do according to his will, shall be beaten with many *stripes*.

<sup>48</sup> But he who did not know, yet committed things deserving of stripes, shall be beaten with few...

People think they're "good people", they think their good deeds outweigh their bad deeds so they are confident that if God judges them by their works He will certainly let them into Heaven, so God gives them what they want—they will stand before God clothed in the filthy rags of self-righteousness and He will judge them by their works!

There is a third book mentioned in Revelation 20—

### 3. The Book of Life

### Revelation 20:12 (NKJV)

<sup>12</sup> And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is *the Book of Life*. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.

**Revelation 20:15 (NKJV)**

<sup>15</sup> And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

This book's imagery corresponds to the registry of citizens kept by ancient cities.

You see back then whenever a child was born their name was written in the official registry of that city which meant they were recognized as an official citizen of that town. When they died their name was blotted out signifying, they were no longer a resident of that city.

When a person is born their name is written into the Book of Life (different from the Lamb's Book of Life) which is the official list of all who have been invited to become citizens of Heaven forever.

If they go through life refusing to receive Jesus as their Lord and Savior and die—their name is blotted out—they refused God's invitation to live with Him forever in Heaven.

Now that's different from those who God, in His foreknowledge, knew would receive Jesus as Lord and Savior during their life—their names have been written in His Book of Life of the Lamb (Rev.13:8) from the foundation of the world and will never be blotted out.

Their names are written on the official registry of Heaven where they will live forever as its official citizens.

(Luke 10:20 the Greek verb "written" in Luke 10:20 is in the perfect tense: "it is once-for-all written and stands written.")

**To execute judgment on all...the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."**

**Jude 1:16 (NKJV)**

<sup>16</sup> These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage.

**Matthew 12:33-37 (NKJV)**

<sup>33</sup> "Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or else make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for a tree is known by its fruit. <sup>34</sup> Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. <sup>35</sup> A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things. <sup>36</sup> But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. <sup>37</sup> For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

**Psalms 5:9-10 (NKJV)**

<sup>9</sup> For *there is* no faithfulness in their mouth; Their inward part *is* destruction; Their throat *is* an open tomb; They flatter with their tongue. <sup>10</sup> Pronounce them guilty, O God! Let them fall by their own counsels; Cast them out in the multitude of their transgressions, For they have rebelled against You.