

Γυδεδε

Pure Dynamite in a Small Package



Zechariah 4:6 (NKJV) *'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the Lord of hosts.*

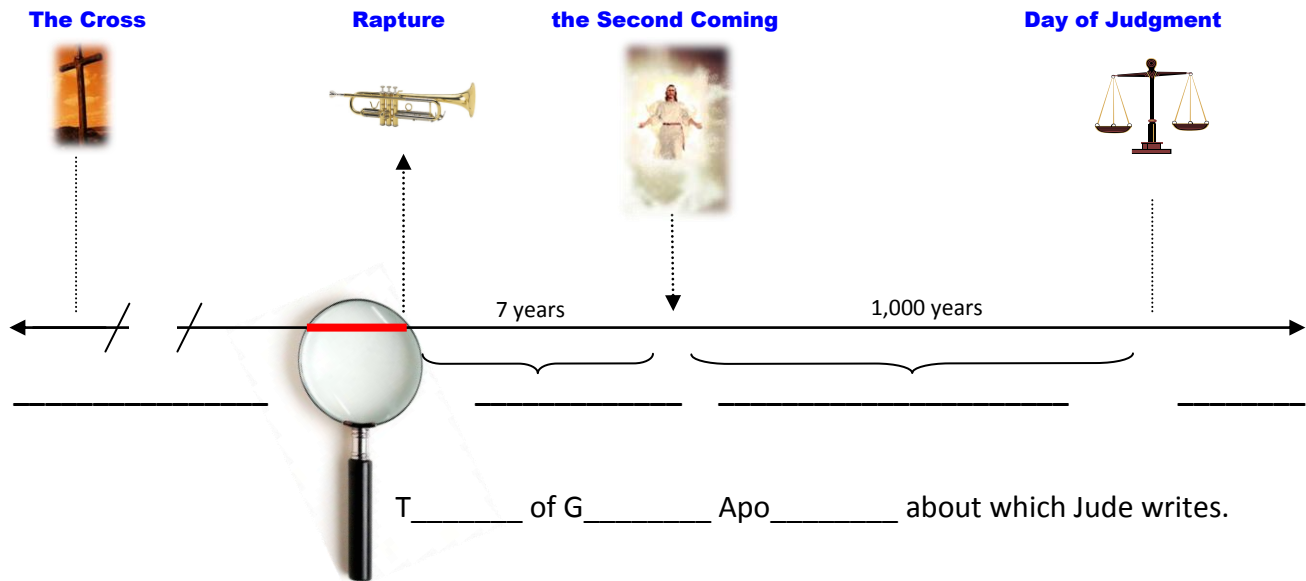
The Book of Jude, though just 25 verses long, is one of the most powerful books in the Bible. It is written for our generation today, upon whom the end of the ages is come. While Acts chronicles the beginning of the Church and the acts of the Apostles, Jude chronicles the end of the Church and the acts of the apostates. This is the only book in the Bible dedicated entirely to the great apostasy. The same heresies pointed out in Jude appear to be actively working in our society, and could be laying the foundation for the rampant apostasy of the Tribulation period...

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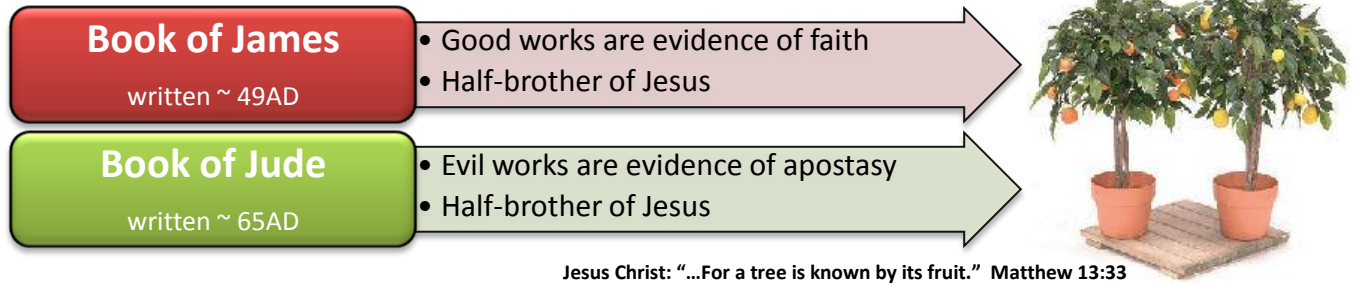
1. The Background of the Book of Jude

Although the Book of Jude is only 25 verses long, it is an incredibly deep and powerful letter written to believers in our age, with instructions that tell us how to deal with much of what we see going on around us today.



Who was Jude?

- Greek: *Ioudas* and a derivation of the Hebrew name _____, which means _____
- Possibility #1: one of the t_____ ap_____:
 - Luke 6:13-16; Acts 1:13 –
 - Compare to Matthew 10:2-4 –
 - John 13:31,36, 14:5, 8, 22 –
- Possibility #2: the younger brother of J_____:
 - Matthew 13:53-55, Mark 6:3 –
 - Psalm 69:7-8 –
 - John 7: 1-5 –
 - Acts 1:14 –
 - If Jude is the brother of J_____ and J_____, neither Jude nor J_____ believed in J_____ as M_____ until after _____
 - Ja_____ wrote the Book of Ja_____ and became the leader of the Church at Jer_____



Q1: Why study the Book of Jude and its 25 verses?

Apostasy

- Greek: *apostasia*; a fa_____ aw_____ from, defection or withdrawal from a belief once held; an aban_____ of the faith.

Consider the marks of apostasy from these verses:

Scripture Reference (NKJV)	Marks of Apostasy
1 Timothy 4:1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dep_____ from the fai_____ ▪ Replacing Scripture with:
2 Timothy 4:3-4 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, <i>because</i> they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; ⁴ and they will turn <i>their</i> ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unwilling to endure _____ ▪ Desire for _____ ▪ Deliberately ignore _____ ▪ Embrace _____
2 Peter 2:1 But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, <i>and</i> bring on themselves swift destruction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fal_____ tea_____ in the body ▪ Deni_____ of Ch_____ as L_____ and Sav_____ ▪ Embracing secret her_____
2 Peter 3:3 knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scof_____ about prop_____ ▪ Walking according to self

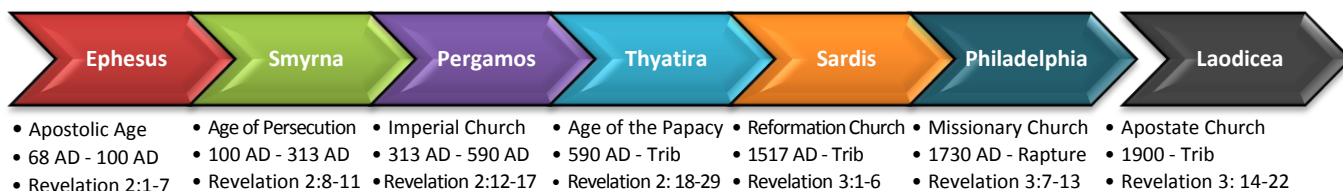
Structural Outline of the 11 parts of the Book of Jude (Chuck Missler – A Commentary on Jude):

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Verse</u>
1. Assurance for the Christian	1 – 2
2. The Believer and the Faith	3
3. Apostates Described	4
4. Apostasy in the Old Testament	5 – 8
5. Apostasy in the Supernatural Realm	9 – 10
6. A Trio of Ancient Apostates	11
7. Apostasy in the Natural Realm	12 – 13
8. Apostasy in Old Testament Prophecy	14 – 16
9. Apostasy Described	17 – 19
10. The Believer and the Faith	20 – 23
11. Assurance for the Christian	24 – 25



Q2: As you look at the outline above, what conclusions can you draw about the Book of Jude?

Q3: Read Revelation 3:14-22. How does Jude, a book focusing primarily on apostasy, seem to fit the time period of Church of Laodicea?



2. Assurance for the Believer – Jude 1-2

Jude 1-2 (NKJV) 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: **2** Mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

Bondservant – *dulos* (Greek); *ebhedh* (Hebrew)

Exodus 21:1-6 (NKJV)

Now these *are* the judgments which you shall set before them: **2** If you buy a Hebrew servant, he shall serve six years; and in the seventh he shall go out free and pay nothing. **3** If he comes in by himself, he shall go out by himself; if he *comes in* married, then his wife shall go out with him. **4** If his master has given him a wife, and she has borne him sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall be her master's, and he shall go out by himself. **5** But if the servant plainly says, 'I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free,' **6** then his master shall bring him to the judges. He shall also bring him to the door, or to the doorpost, and his master shall pierce his ear with an awl; and he shall serve him forever.



- **Romans 1:1 (NKJV)** Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called *to be* an apostle, separated to the gospel of God...
- **Colossians 4:12 (NKJV)** Epaphras, who is *one* of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you...
- **James 1:1 (NKJV)** James, a bondservant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ...
- **2 Peter 1:1 (NKJV)** Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ...

Q1: If Jude was Jesus' half-brother, why would he refer to himself in Jude 1 as "a (bond)servant of Jesus Christ and a brother of James" instead of the Lord's brother? Based on your answer, what conclusions can you make about where he was spiritually?

Q2: Who is Jude's letter written to?

- Called – *kletois* (*kletos*)
- Sanctified – *eegapeemenois* (*agapao*) -
- Preserved – *teteeremenois* (*tereo*) –

Note how and when these active workings of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit operate:

Called / Chosen	Sanctified / Beloved	Preserved / Kept
John 15:16	John 14:23	1 Peter 1:3-5
John 6:65	John 16:27	Rev. 3:10
2 Thes. 2:13-14	John 17:20-23	I Thes. 5:23
Romans 8:28-30		

Jude 2: Mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

- Mercy – *eleos*
 - Mercy is _____
 - Implies fai_____ on the part of its object and points to a Christian’s continual need for acknowledging sin, confession, repentance, etc...the inner court ritual.
 - Where we have the L_____, we have de_____ and fa_____
 - Numbers 15:32-36:
- Peace – *eirene*
 - Isaiah 57:20-21 – the wicked have no p_____
 - Philippians 4:6-7 – with peace, there is no w_____ (which is a sin we need forgiven)
 - John 14:27 – Jesus Christ gave us _____ and we should not be _____

■ Love – *agape*

- Love appears in Jude 1, 2, and 3, so it must be impo_____
- John 13:34-35 – love is our badge of ide_____
- I John 4:17-19:



- In Revelation 2 & 3, love characterizes the Church of _____, and lack of love characterizes the Church of _____, and the Church of _____ was admonished for having lost its first love.
- According to I Corinthians 13:4-8a, *agape* love has the following characteristics:

■ Mercy, peace, and love are both directional and an agency of each member of the Godhead:

- Mercy is ___ward and is most closely associated with God the _____
- Peace is ___ward and is most closely associated with God the _____
- Love is ___ward and is most closely associated with God the _____

■ Multiplied – *plethuno* (root word *plethos*)

- Multiplication of mercy, peace, and love is a _____ natural phenomenon and therefore is not found in an unsa_____ person.
- This is why the Christian ought to be significantly dif_____ from unbelievers in that all three of these spirit-driven qualities should be obvi_____ to the watching world.

Q3: Look at the beginning of Romans 1:7, Galatians 1:3, Ephesians 1:2, 1 Peter 1:1-2, James 1:1, and Revelation 1:4. How is Jude’s ‘greeting’ different from what is written in the epistles to churches and believers, from Paul, Peter, John, and James? What conclusion can you draw from this, given the primary topic of Jude?

3. Contenders and Pretenders – Jude 3-4



Jude 3-4 (NKJV) 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. **4** 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.

- Beloved – *agapetos*
- Diligent – *spoude'en*
- Common salvation – *koinos soteria*
- I found it necessary – *anangkeen eschon*
- Contend earnestly – *epagnizomai* – a mil_____ term
 - *epi* –
 - *agnizomai* -



Q1: in Jude 3, Jude set out to write a letter about what topic? What happened to him as he began to write? [Hint: see 2 Peter 1:19-21]

- Other uses of *anangkeen eschon*:
 - Acts 17:3 –
 - I Corinthians 9:16

Q2: What are some key lessons for us that we see from how Jude responded?



Q3: What was the new topic of Jude’s letter, which the Holy Spirit want Jude to write about?

Contending is more than just being “engaged:”

Scripture	Contending Means...
<p>Luke 13:24 "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able.</p>	
<p>John 18:36 Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here."</p>	
<p>1 Corinthians 9:26 Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as <i>one who</i> beats the air.</p>	
<p>Colossians 1: 29 To this <i>end</i> I also labor, striving according to His working which works in me mightily.</p>	
<p>Colossians 4:12 Epaphras, who is <i>one</i> of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.</p>	
<p>1 Timothy 4:10 For to this <i>end</i> we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is <i>the</i> Savior of all men, especially of those who believe.</p>	
<p>1 Timothy 6:12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.</p>	
<p>2 Timothy 4:7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.</p>	

... contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. Jude 3b



Q4: What exactly is “the faith” for which we are exhorted to contend earnestly?

Q5: How do believers contend earnestly for the faith in our daily walk? Selected scriptures tell us:

- I Corinthians 16:15 – watch, _____ in the faith
- 2 Corinthians 13:5 - _____ yourself to see if you are in the faith
- Acts 17:11 - _____ the Scriptures daily to see if what was said is true
- 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 – _____ without ceasing and give _____ in everything
- Ephesians 6:13 – put on the entire armor of God so that you can _____
- Philippians 4:4-6 – _____ in the Lord always and be _____
- Hebrews 3:13 - _____ one another daily
- James 1:22 – be _____ of what the Word says
- I Peter 3:15 – always be ready to share the _____
- I Timothy 4:1-3 – warns that in the latter days, some will _____ from the faith

Q6: Regarding 1 Timothy 4:1, what will those who depart give heed to? In what ways is that happening today?

...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. Jude 4

Q6: What was the threat that Jude wrote to urge his fellow believers to contend earnestly for the faith?

Matthew 13:24-30; 36-43 NKJV

Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵ but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way. ²⁶ But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared. ²⁷ So the servants of the owner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?' ²⁸ He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' The servants said to him, 'Do you want us then to go and gather them up?' ²⁹ But he said, 'No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them. ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"³⁰



³⁶ Then Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field." ³⁷ He answered and said to them: "He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸ The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked *one*. ³⁹ The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. ⁴⁰ Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, ⁴² and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

Q7: Like the parable of the wheat and the tares (Matthew 13:24-30), the enemy had penetrated the church and posed an awful threat to the church (Jude 4a). What additional insight does Jesus' parable give us regarding the time that Jude 4a is speaking about?

...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.

Jude 4



Apostasy – apostasia

- A tu_____ a _____ from the truth (1 Samuel 15:11)
- Called fors_____, backs_____ and rebellion (Jeremiah 2:19 & 5:5)
- A rej_____ of the truth after following it (1 Timothy 1:18-20)
- Choosing or loving the w_____ after knowing about Christ (2 Timothy 4:10)
- Del_____ rejection is involved – not indifference, error or heresy alone (Jude 11)

Q8: Explain the phrase “certain men have crept in unnoticed.” Crept in where and unnoticed by whom? How could this happen?

Q9: Explain the phrase “who long ago were marked out for this condemnation.” How long ago, and what condemnation? What additional insight does Psalm 139:13-16 and Isaiah 46:9-11 provide?

If one looks at Revelation 2 & 3 as the outline of the seven churches between the Gospel period and the Second Coming, then God warned us of these individuals being part of every age:

Church	Time Period	Relevant Scripture	Type of Apostate
Ephesus	68AD-100AD	Revelation 2:4	Ones who had lost their first love
Smyrna	100AD-313AD	Revelation 2:9	Threatened by the synagogue of Satan*
Pergamos	313AD-590AD	Revelation 2:14-15	Follow doctrines of Balaam and Nicolatians
Thyatira	590AD-Trib	Revelation 2:20-24	Permit/practice doctrines of Jezebel
Sardis	1517AD-Trib	Revelation 3:1-2	Practice dead works
Philadelphia	1730AD-Trib	Revelation 3:9	Threatened by the synagogue of Satan*
Laodicea	1900AD-Trib	Revelation 3:15-17	Secular humanists, lukewarm works

*these churches apparently did not have apostates in them, but operating outside to oppose them

...ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ. Jude 4b

According to Jude 4b, the **three marks of an apostate** are:

Mark or Identifier	Ungodly: destitute of reverential awe towards God	Turns (perverts) the grace of God into lewdness	Denies our only Master and Lord Jesus Christ
	"ungodly" – Gr: <i>asebes</i>	"turn" – Gr: <i>metatithemai</i> – change, turn "lewdness" - Gr: <i>aselgia</i> lustful, lascivious	"denies" – Gr: <i>arneomai</i> – disavow, reject
Example	Cain, who offered the works of his hands in direct violation of how God wanted offering to be made, then argued when confronted (Genesis 4:2-10)	Balaam, who perverted the grace of God's gift to him of prophecy into "prophecy for hire" to an ungodly king (Numbers 22-24)	Korah, who rejected Moses as God's appointed leader and lead a rebellion against Moses and Aaron (Numbers 16)
Key Scriptures and Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2 Timothy 3:5 – in the last days, men have a form of _____ but deny its power. ▪ Romans 1:16 – unlike believers, denies the g_____ of Christ. ▪ 1 Timothy 6:19-20 – having known the Truth, now turn to and pro_____ worldly knowledge as truth. ▪ Romans 1:18-19 - denies God's wr_____ against their sin. ▪ Galatians 3:26-29 & John 1:12-13 – unlike Christians, apostates believe in and promote the "universal broth_____ of man," not sons_____ thru salvation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ephesians 2:8,9 – perverts the gospel message of gr_____ available to all, versus wo_____. ▪ Titus 2:11-13 – turn the pro_____ of Christ's return into "fiction." ▪ Matthew 15:1-7 – rej_____ of the Word of God occurs whenever one adheres to the tra_____ of men; loyalty to customs, causes and organizations, however worth_____. ▪ Promote an agenda of philo_____ and worldly bel_____ in place of the truth of Christ ("Greed is good" – Gordon Gekko). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Job 38 – the total sove_____ of Alm_____ God is denied. ▪ Acts 10:36 – apostates deny that Christ is L_____ of A_____. ▪ Romans 14:9 – apostates deny that Christ died, r_____, and l_____ and that His is Lord of all, whether living or d_____. ▪ Matthew 5:17-18 – apostates deny that Christ is the fulf_____ of all Messianic prophesies found in the L_____ (1st 5 Books) and the Pro_____ (the rest of the OT). ▪ Matthew 10:32-33 – apostates deny Jesus before m_____.
Other Uses of the Word	<p>"ungodly" Romans 4:5; 5:6; 1 Timothy 1:9 1 Peter 4:18; 2 Peter 2:5-6, 3:7 Jude 15</p>	<p>"turn" Galatians 1:6; Hebrews 7:11</p> <p>"lewdness" Mark 7:22; Romans 13:13; 2 Cor. 12:21; Galatians 5:19; Ephesians 4:19 1 Peter 4:3; 2 Peter 2:2, 7, 18</p>	<p>"denies" Matthew 10:33; 26:70, 72; Luke 12:9 Acts 3:13,14; 2 Timothy 2:12,13, 3:5 Titus 1:16, 2:12; 1 John 2:22-23</p>

Contemporary examples of contending earnestly for the face in the face of apostasy:

- Ministry support
- Issues of the day
- Financial turmoil

4. Remember What I Told You Not to Forget – Jude 5



Jude 5 (NKJV) 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.

- This is the first of three OT examples of apostasy
- Romans 15:4 (NKJV) For whatever things were written before **were written for our learning**, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

Q1: About how many people came out of Egypt with Moses?

Q2: About how many of these who were over the age of 20 entered the Promised Land?

Let's look at the record in Numbers 14, which follows the reports of ten of the spies about the giants in the land, and the recommendation of Joshua and Caleb to trust God and seize the land. Moses intercedes for the people that God would not destroy them with pestilence:

Numbers 14:20-24, 26-35 (NKJV): Then the LORD said: "I have pardoned, according to your word; **21** but truly, as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD — **22** because all these men who have seen My glory and the signs which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have put Me to the test now these ten times, and have not heeded My voice, **23** they certainly shall not see the land of which I swore to their fathers, nor shall any of those who rejected Me see it. **25** And the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, **27** "How long *shall I bear with* this evil congregation who complain against Me? I have heard the complaints which the children of Israel make against Me. **28** Say to them, 'As I live,' says the LORD, 'just as you have spoken in My hearing, so I will do to you: **29** The carcasses of you who have complained against Me shall fall in this wilderness, all of you who were numbered, according to your entire number, from twenty years old and above. **30** Except for



Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun, you shall by no means enter the land which I swore I would make you dwell in. **31** But your little ones, whom you said would be victims, I will bring in, and they shall know the land which you have despised. **32** But *as for* you, your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness. **33** And your sons shall be shepherds in the wilderness forty years, and bear the brunt of your infidelity, until your carcasses are consumed in the wilderness. **34** According to the number of the days in which you spied out the land, forty days, for each day you shall bear your guilt one year, *namely* forty years, and you shall know My rejection. **35** I the LORD have spoken this. I will surely do so to all this evil congregation who are gathered together against Me. In this wilderness they shall be consumed, and there they shall die."

Q3: Why did God deal so harshly with the Israelites?

Q4: What are the things those who were destroyed in the wilderness had in common with Caleb and Joshua?

Q5: God reserves the right to destroy the people if they become guilty of certain forms of unbelief, or other sins to which unbelief leads. However, if God can destroy those who fall into unbelief, how secure is our salvation? (Hint: see John 10:27-29)

1 Corinthians 10:1-12 (NKJV) Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, ² all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. ⁵ But with most of them God was not well pleased, for *their bodies* were scattered in the wilderness. ⁶ Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. ⁷ 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.*"* ⁸ Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell; ⁹ nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents; ¹⁰ nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹ Now all* these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹² Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.



Q6: What are the sins that the Israelites were guilty of? What is the lesson to us?

The ty_____ of the events recounted in 1 Corinthians 10 that serves as examples for our learning:

Historical Event/Person/Place...	...Is a Type Of:
Egypt	Devil and his armies
Moses	Baptism
Cloud by day, pillar of fire by night	Bread of Life; the Lord's Supper
Water from the rock that was struck	The Rock that is Christ
Crossing the Jordan	Life after justification, but still at war
The Years in the Wilderness	

- The carcasses of nearly 2 million Jews fell in the wil_____, with _____ returning to Egypt to die and _____ dying in the Promised Land, during their Wilderness wanderings.
- The journey from Horeb (where the Ten Commandments were given) to Kadesh-Barnea (the southern-most part of the Promised Land) took _____ days (Deuteronomy 1:2). But because of unbelief, the entire nation of Israel spent an additional _____ years getting to the Promised Land.
- God reserves the right to bring a prema_____ end to someone's life when they become guilty of certain forms of unbe_____, such as what those who died in the wilderness committed.



What is at the core of apostasy? It is the har_____ of hea_____ associated with a rebellion against God, as the Apostle Paul points out in his epistle to the Hebrews:

Hebrews 3:7-19 (NKJV)

Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: "Today, if you will hear His voice, **8** Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, in the day of trial in the wilderness, **9** Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, and saw My works forty years. **10** Therefore I was angry with that generation, and said, 'They always go astray in their heart, and they have not known My ways.' **11** So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest.'" **12** Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; **13** but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. **14** For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end, **15** while it is said: "Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion." **16** For who, having heard, rebelled? Indeed, *was it* not all who came out of Egypt, *led* by Moses? **17** Now with whom was He angry forty years? *Was it* not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? **18** And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who did not obey? **19** So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

- harden – *skleruno*

- the rebellion – *parapikrasmos*

- note that hearing (v7) is volitional on the part of _____

- testing God is permitted only in _____

Q7: Where does apostasy start (v10)?

Q8: In v11, what is "entering God's rest?"

Q9: in v12, to who does Paul's admonition apply?

Q10: List the specific signs of apostasy identified in vv12-13:

Q11: According to v13-15, how can apostasy be prevented?

Q12: Why does Paul illustrate that almost everyone of the adult wilderness generation failed to enter into the Promised Land?

Key lessons:

- Be very vig_____ of falling into apostasy yourself.
- Recognize what is at stake – entering into His r_____.
- Recognize that sin is dece_____ and claims lives.
- Because of Christ, we can cannot withstand.

5. The Nephillim Conspiracy – Jude 6

Jude 6 (NKJV) 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...

Jude 6 (KJV) And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, He hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto judgment of the great day...

This is second of three historical examples of corporate punishment of those who had fallen away from the truth in the Book of Jude (Jude 5 addresses the Israelites who died during the wilderness wanderings, and Jude 7 covers Sodom and Gomorrah). Jude assumes the readers are familiar with “the angels who did not keep their proper domain,” although this topic is rarely discussed in most churches.

Three Traditional Views of “The Angels That Sinned:”

Traditional View	Supporting Arguments For or Against
1. The readers were not intended to know any more than was presented in this verse.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Since the first and third examples of OT apostasy (Jude 5 and 7) are very familiar because they are referred to in multiple places in Scripture, it is likely that the OT should contain more information about the events associated with Jude 6.
2. These are angels associated with the fall of Lucifer from heaven.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ We learn about the fall of Lucifer, God’s anointed cherub, in two key OT passages, Isaiah 14:12-17 and Ezekiel 28:12-19, and in a key NT passage in Revelation 12:1-6. ▪ However, the angels associated with Lucifer’s fall are not currently bound, compared to the angels in Jude 6 who are currently held in “everlasting chains.” ▪ According to Isaiah 24:21-22 at a future judgment day, Satan and his angels will be imprisoned in “the pit” along with the evil inhabitants of Earth...most scholars believe this to be reflected in Revelation 20 as taking place during the Millennium.
3. These are the angels who precipitated the rise of the “Nephillim.”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There are collaborating verses in both the OT and NT to support this view, beginning with the events of Genesis 6 that precipitated the Great Flood.

Jude 6 (NKJV) 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...

- Angels – *aggelos*
- Keep – *tereo*
- Proper domain – *arche*
- Left – *apoleipo*
- Own abode – *idios oiketerion*
- Reserved – *tereo*
- Everlasting chains – *aidios desmon*
- Great day – *megas hemera*

Q1: In Jude 6, we find the second example of corporate punishment for apostasy...this time, who is being punished? What did they do to deserve punishment?

There is a parallel verse in **2 Peter 2:4 (NKJV)** that provides additional insights:

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...

Q2: What additional insights does this passage provide?

- See Luke 16:19-31 for Jesus' exposition on Hades hell and what goes on there...

To fully understand the Nephilim Conspiracy, we need to start with Genesis 3 and the fall of man...where the *nachash* (the "serpent" or the "shining one") had led Eve into sin, as Adam then followed her. God, in pronouncing judgment as a result of this act of disobedience, declares:

Genesis 3:14-15 (NKJV)

So the LORD God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all cattle, and more than every beast of the field; on your belly you shall go, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life. 15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel."

Q3: According to the Genesis passage above, what was God's announced plan to redeem Adam and his race of humans? What conditions did God establish for that redemption to take place?

God announced His plan to redeem mankind in Genesis 3:14-15. These are now new facts spoken for the first time. So Satan countered with a plan of his own...what if he could corrupt the bloodline of the human race to void the "seed of the woman?"

Genesis 6:1-14a NKJV

Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, **2** 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. **3** And the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he *is* indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years." **4** 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. **5** Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every intent of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually. **6** And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. **7** 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." **8** But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. **9** This is the genealogy of Noah. Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God. **10** And Noah begot three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. **11** The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. **12** So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. **13** And God said to Noah, "The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth. **14** Make yourself an ark of gopherwood...

v1: human repr _____ takes place to populate Earth.

- v2: sons of God – b'nai ha Elohim
- took wives for themselves –
- v3: God's response to this:
 - 120 years =
 - v4: giants –
 - and also afterward –
 - mighty men of old, men of renown –
- v5: state of mankind as a result of the Nephillim:
- v6: God was sorry/grieved He made man
- v7: destroy man and beast –
- v8: but Noah found grace
- v9 genealogy – *towledah*
- just man – *tsaddiyk*
- perfect – *tamiym*
- generations – *dowr*
- walked with God –

Q4: What does v9 mean?

- Corrupt – *shachath*
- Violence - *chamac*

Q5: Explain v11-12.

Q6: What was God's solution to the Nephillim?

Thus God preserved a pu____ remnant of the human race through the destru____ of the Flood. Like He did through His plan of salvation, God al____ delivered humanity from a predicament from which it could not extr____ itself.

Two Views of the Identity of the *B'nai ha Elohim*:

The Lines of Seth View	The Angel View
<p>Julius Africanus (a contemporary of Origen ca. AD 221) introduced the theory that the “sons of God” simply referred to the genealogical line of Seth, which was committed to preserving the true worship of God. Seemingly more appealing, the “Sethite theory” prevailed into the Medieval Church, and many still hold this view.</p> <p>This view, however, has several serious problems. There is no indication that the Sethites were distinguished for piety; they were not exempted from the charge of general wickedness which brought on the flood. In fact, Seth’s son Enosh was the one who introduced apostasy to that world. This is masked by a mistranslation of Genesis 4:25, which should read “...then men began to <i>profane</i> the name of the Lord.”</p> <p>Furthermore, when the faithful marry the unfaithful, they do not give birth to unnatural offspring! And the “daughters of men” were not differentiated with regard to the Flood. All were lost.</p>	<p>The early church viewed the <i>B'nai ha Elohim</i> as angels up through the late fourth century: Justin, Athenagoras, Cyprian, Eusebius, et al. (also Josephus, Philo, Judeaus, and the Apocrypha regard this traditional angel view).</p> <p>The “daughters of men” are the <i>Benoth Adam</i>, meaning the daughters of Adam, which included the offspring of Seth and Cain.</p> <p>The <i>B'nai ha Elohim</i> are referred to elsewhere in Scripture as angels (Job 1:6, 2:1; 38:7), and translated “sons of God” in Jude 6. The term, <i>son of God</i>, refers to a direct creation of God. Adam can rightly be referred to as a son of God, since he was directly created by God. Yet the descendants of Adam are sons (and daughters) of Adam since they are not God’s direct creation.</p> <p>Angels were not given the authority/capacity to procreate and produce angel children (see Matthew 22:23-30 esp. v30). However, angels have the ability to appear in human form as we see in Scriptures. So this group of rebellious angels, in human form, forcibly took human women and impregnated them to produce the Nephillim.</p>

- Taken from Dr. Chuck Missler, [A Commentary on Jude](#) and [A Commentary on Genesis](#), khouse.org

Virtually every ancient culture has a legend about ‘demigods’ that had sex with human women and produced superhuman offspring...then interfered capriciously in human history. Examples include:

Greek Titans

- Partly terrestrial; partly celestial
- Examples: Hercules, Apollo, Achilles
- Rebelled against their father Uranus
- After prolonged contest were defeated by Zeus and condemned into *Tartarus*
- *Titan* (Greek) = *Sheitan* (Chaldean) = *Satan* (Hebrew).



Similar ancient legends are common to these cultures

- Rome
- Sumerians
- Assyria
- Egypt
- Incas
- Mayan
- Gilgamesh
- Persia
- Greece
- India
- Bolivia
- South Sea Islands
- American Indian tribes (numerous)



Revelation 5:1-5 (KJV)

And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. **2** And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof? **3** And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. **4** And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. **5** And one of the elders said to me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.

The scene in Revelation 5 takes place in h_____, where _____ (seated on the throne) has a 7-sealed scroll in his r_____ hand (the hand of au_____). Of great concern is finding a _____ worthy of opening the scroll.

Q4: What is the 7-sealed scroll?

Q5: Why did it have to be a man (*oudeis*) to open it?

Q6: Where could this man be located?

The identity of the man who could open the scroll is:

Q7: According to Genesis 6:4, did the Flood put an end to the Nephillim?

These post-Flood include:

- Goliath and his four brothers (the sons of Anak (the Anakim or Anakites) -
- The sons of Anak (Numbers 13:33, Joshua 15:13-14, Judges 1:20)
- The Rephaites or Rephaim (walking dead) (translated giants in KJV: Deuteronomy 2:11, 20-21; Joshua 12:4, 13:12, 15:8, 17:15)
- Og, king of Bashun (13 feet tall?) (Deuteronomy 3:11)
- The Amorites (Amos 2:9)

Moses, when speaking to the Jews about entering the Promised Land, cautioned them about the inhabitants in the land who trafficked in the spirit world (Deuteronomy 7:1-5). God did not want His people intermarrying with these races, nor becoming susceptible to demonic influence.

In conquering the Promised Land, Joshua follows God’s instruction in “utterly destroying” the inhabitants (all the people and sometimes even the animals) of each town along the way:

- **Jericho: Joshua 6:21 (NKJV)** And they utterly destroyed all that *was* in the city, both man and woman, young and old, ox and sheep and donkey, with the edge of the sword.
- **Ai; Joshua 8:26 (NKJV)** For Joshua did not draw back his hand, with which he stretched out the spear, until he had utterly destroyed all the inhabitants of Ai.
- **Makkedah: Joshua 10:28 (NKJV)** On that day Joshua took Makkedah, and struck it and its king with the edge of the sword. He utterly destroyed them — all the people who *were* in it. He let none remain.
- **Lachish and Eglon: Joshua 10:34-35 (NKJV)** From Lachish Joshua passed to Eglon, and all Israel with him; and they encamped against it and fought against it. **35** They took it on that day and struck it with the edge of the sword; all the people who *were* in it he utterly destroyed that day, according to all that he had done to Lachish.

Q8: Why would a loving God instruct Joshua to “utterly destroy” all inhabitants of entire towns, even the babies, little children, and animals?

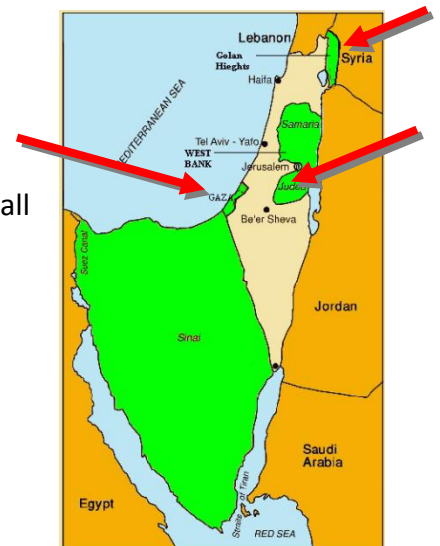


Matthew 24:36-40 (NKJV)

"But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. **37** But as the days of Noah *were*, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. **38** For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, **39** and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

Q9: Based on what we have studied about the Flood of Noah, what could Jesus be implying by His statement, “But as the days of Noah were,” as a condition on Earth prior to His Second Coming?

Q10: In Israel today, what do the Golan Heights, Gaza Strip and Hebron all have in common?



The Stratagems of Satan – The Power Behind the Persecution

Putting it all into perspective: As God systematically reveals His plan to redeem mankind, Satan systematically attacks who and what God has just revealed:

Early History	
Lead Adam into sin and death	Genesis 3
Corruption of Adam’s line through the Nephillim conspiracy	Genesis 6
Attacks on Abraham’s seed	Genesis 12, 20
Famine in the area where Jacob’s family lived	Genesis 50
Bondage in Egypt and the destruction of male children	Exodus 1
Pharaoh’s pursuit to kill the nation after they leave Egypt	Exodus 14
The populating of Canaan to lay down a minefield when Israel finally enters	Genesis 12:6
Satan-inspired plots against David to kill him	2 Samuel 7
Attacks on the Royal Lineage of David	
Jehoram murders his brothers	2 Chronicles 21
Athaliah murders all the royal line (but Joash is hidden and saved)	2 Chronicles 22
Hezekiah is assaulted in an attempt to kill him	Isaiah 36, 38
Haman attempts to exterminate the Jews	Esther 3
New Testament Attempts to Prevent Jesus’ Triumph Over the Grave	
Joseph’s fears about marrying his betrothed wife	Matthew 1
Herod’s attempt to wipe out all the babies	Matthew 2
Satan attempts to get Jesus to worship him	Matthew 4:1-11
Attempt to kill Jesus at Nazareth	Luke 4
Two storms on the Sea of Galilee that threaten to drown disciples and Jesus	Mark 4 & Luke 8
The cross (arrest, illegal trials, crucifixion)	
Attempts to Wipe out the Jewish Race (selected events)	
Continued persecution under a succession of Roman emperors	AD30 -70
Destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple under Titus Vespasian	AD 70
Plowing under of Jerusalem and building of Aeila Capitolina over top	AD 135
Persians sack Jerusalem	AD 614
Crusades result in widespread killing of Jews in the Holy Land	AD 1097-1254
Widespread persecution in Russia/Eastern Europe spark Jewish national awakening	AD 1881
Hitler, Stalin and Mussolini attempt to eradicate the Jews	AD 1931-1945
Arab forces invade Israel in an attempt to thwart the Jewish state	AD 1948
Egypt, Iraq, Syria and Jordan invade Israel in attempt to eradicate it	AD 1967
Rise of anti-Israel terrorist groups to eradicate Israel	AD 1964 - present
Active world-wide pressure to remove the Jews from Israel	Present

Q11: What are some key lessons for us to keep in mind from the Nephilim conspiracy?



6. Remembering Sodom and Gomorrah – Jude 7

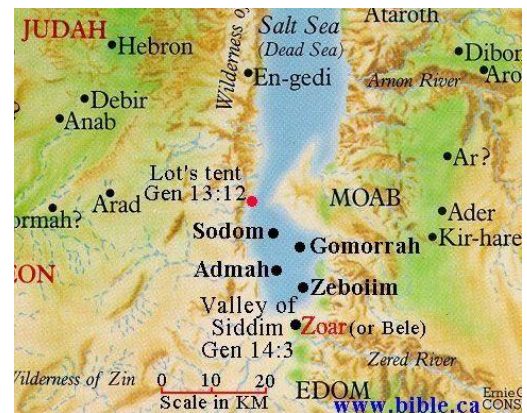
{Context: I want to remind you how God destroyed those who did not believe} **Jude 7 (NKJV)** ...as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

- This is the third of three examples of God delivering corporate punishment against apostate peoples.

Q1: The Book of Jude was written to believers and speaks of latter-day apostasy in advance of the Tribulation. What conclusions can you draw from Sodom and Gomorrah being used as an example for the **church**?

- Apostasy begins with inte_____ dou_____ and ends with physical degre_____.
- Because Sodom and Gomorrah are mentioned in conne_____ with apostasy, it means that at one time they had knowledge of the tr_____, and chose to deliberately fall aw_____ from it.
- The events of Sodom and Gomorrah occurred just _____ years after the flood, and Noah’s son _____ was still alive (and remained so for another 50 years after their dest_____)
- In addition to Sodom and Gomorrah, the five cities of the plain included:
 - Admah
 - Zeboim
 - Zoar

Q2: Where are these five cities now?



- Given themselves over to sexual immorality – *toutois ekporneuo*

- Strange flesh – *heteras sarkos*



- A. 1998 BC – Abraham, Terah and family leave Ur of the Chaldees and move to Haran – Genesis 11:31
- B. 1874 BC – Lot is born into the family and later learns his uncle’s business (shepherding)
- C. 1919 BC – Abraham and Lot leave Haran and go to Canaan – Genesis 12:4
- D. 1916 BC – Abraham and Lot separate; Lot chooses area of the Cities of the Plain and pitches tent towards Sodom – Genesis 13
- E. 1913 BC – Battle of the 9 Kings, Abraham rescues Lot and honors Melchizedek – Genesis 14
- F. 1910 BC – Ishmael born to Abraham and Hagar – Genesis 16
- G. 1898 BC – Abraham meets God at the Oaks of Mamre; Lot rescued; Sodom, Gomorrah et. al destroyed – Genesis 19
- H. 1896 BC – Isaac is born to Abraham and Sarah; Moab and Ammon born to Lot and his daughters – Genesis 19:30-38
- I. 1846 BC – Noah’s son Shem dies (first hand survivor of the Great Flood) – Genesis 11:10

Genesis 13:8-13 (NKJV) c1916 BC

So Abram said to Lot, "Please let there be no strife between you and me, and between my herdsmen and your herdsmen; for we *are* brethren. **9** *Is* not the whole land before you? Please separate from me. If *you take* the left, then I will go to the right; or, if *you go* to the right, then I will go to the left." **10** 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, like the land of Egypt as you go toward Zoar. **11** Then Lot chose for himself all the plain of Jordan, and Lot journeyed east. And they separated from each other. **12** Abram dwelt in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelt in the cities of the plain and pitched *his* tent even as far as Sodom. **13** But the men of Sodom *were* exceedingly wicked and sinful against the LORD.

Q3: What was the condition of the land of the five cities, according to this verse?

Q4: What was the condition of people inhabiting the area where Lot chose to live?

Genesis 14: The War of the Nine Kings

- The five cities of the plain are cap_____ by four surrounding kings
- Abraham and his private army super_____ saves the captives and defeats the four kings

Genesis 18: God reveals His plan to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah to Abraham


- God has had his fill of the wicke_____ of the people living in the cities of the plain
- God shares His plan with Abraham to de_____ the cities; Abraham nego_____ with God to spare Sodom if 10 righteous people are found there

Genesis 19: God’s angels remove Lot and his daughters from Sodom before the cities are destroyed.

- The angels physically transp_____ Lot out of the city.
He pleads to go to Zoar, while his wife turns ba_____ to Sodom and becomes a salt pillar.

Q5: Why does God wait so long (_____ years) to deal with Sodom, Gomorrah, et al?

Much is revealed by Lot's choices here...and later on. Lessons from Lot's Walk from Genesis:

- 
- Lot lifted up his eyes (13:10) -
 - He chose for himself (13:11) -
 - He separated himself from Abraham (13:11) -
 - He dwelt in the cities of the plain (13:12) -
 - He pitched his tent towards Sodom (13:12) -
 - He dwelt in Sodom (14:12) -
 - He was sitting in the gate of Sodom (19:1) -
 - His attempts at a righteous life were met with contempt (19:9) –
 - He lost his testimony completely (19:14) -
 - Last mention of him is in a dark cave (19:30) -

Yet **2 Peter 2:6-8 (NKJV)** reveals something we wouldn't derive from the Genesis account:

{God turned} the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemning them to destruction, and making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly; **7** delivered righteous Lot, *who was* oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked **8** (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented *his* righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing *their* lawless deeds)...

Q6: This was said about Lot after all of his downward steps and acts. How can Lot, who lived for 18 years and increasingly identified himself with Sodom, be called "righteous" especially in light of God's declaring all of the city unrighteous and judging it the way he did?

Jesus Himself tells us to remember what happened at Sodom and Gomorrah...

Luke 17:24-33 (NKJV)

For as the lightning that flashes out of one *part* under heaven shines to the other *part* under heaven, so also the Son of Man will be in His day.

25 But first He must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation. **26** And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the

days of the Son of Man: **27** They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark,

and the flood came and destroyed them all. **28** Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; **29** but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed *them* all. **30** Even so will it be in the

day when the Son of Man is revealed. **31** "In that day, he who is on the housetop, and his goods *are* in the house, let him not come down to take them away. And likewise the one who is in the field, let him not turn back. **32** Remember Lot's wife.

32 Remember Lot's wife.



Q7: To what event does Jesus tie both the "days of Noah" and the judgment of Sodom?

Q8: Why ties these events together?



Q9: What (specifically) should we remember about Lot's wife? The only mention of her is in **Genesis 19:15-17, 26 (NKJV)**: When the morning dawned, the angels urged Lot to hurry, saying, "Arise, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be consumed in the punishment of the city."

16 And while he lingered, the men took hold of his hand, his wife's hand, and the hands of his two daughters, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city. **17** So it came to pass, when they had brought them outside, that he said, "Escape for your life! Do not look behind you nor stay anywhere in the plain. Escape to the mountains, lest you be destroyed."

26 But his wife looked back behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

7. Ancient Sins Reappear in the Church – Jude 8

Jude 8 (NKJV) Likewise also these dreamers defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of dignitaries.



- Likewise also – *homios mentoi kai*:
- These dreamers – referring to v4, “those certain men” who have cre_____ in unno_____ into the church and who now exert an evil influence there. This includes the false teachers and their fol_____, who are at heart:
 - As unbel_____ and disobedient as the Israelites who died in the wild_____,
 - As rebellious against the auth_____ of God as the fallen an_____, and
 - As impure and unho_____ as those who practiced perv_____ in the cities of the plain.
- They def_____ the flesh (defile – *miaino*: to pol_____, taint or contam_____)
- They reject auth_____ (authority – *kuriotes*: God’s established gove_____.)
- They speak evil of dignitaries (speak evil of – *blashemo*: vilify or speak impiously against).

1. They Defile the Flesh

2 Peter 3:3 (NKJV) ...knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts...

Galatians 5:19-21a (NKJV) Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, **20** idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, **21** envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like...

Matthew 15:16-20 (NKJV) So Jesus said, "Are you also still without understanding? **17** Do you not yet understand that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and is eliminated? **18** But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. **19** For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. **20** These are *the things* which defile a man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man."

Q1: List the things that defile the flesh, according to these Scriptures.

Consider what **Romans 1:18-32 (NKJV)** tells us about how flesh can become defiled:

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, **19** because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them. **20** For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, **21** because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. **22** Professing to be wise, they became fools, **23** and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man — and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

24 Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, **25** who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

26 For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. **27** Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.

28 And even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; **29** being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; *they are* whisperers, **30** backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, **31** undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; **32** who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.

Q2: Is there any single human being to whom God has not revealed Himself, according to this passage? What are the implications of this?

Q3: According to the truths presented in this passage, explain how a failure to glorify God and be thankful to Him leads to the defilement of the flesh.

How apostasy leads to the defilement of the flesh:

1. Truth becomes kn_____ through God's revelation to all people.
2. By failing to glo_____ God and be tha_____ for this truth, God allows them to become futile in their thoughts and become fools.
3. As they begin worshipping other gods, God gives them up to uncl_____, which involves homo_____.
4. As they practice homosexuality, they become increasingly addi_____ to it.
5. They then throw God out of their thin_____ and instead gain a debased mind.
6. Totally debased, they practice those things which are not fitting for any human to practice while appr_____ of those who practice unfitting things (aka, defilement of the flesh).



2. They Reject Authority

Jude 4 (NKJV) 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.**

Matthew 22:21 (NKJV) And He said to them, "**Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.**"

Matthew 28:18 (NKJV) And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "**All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.**"

Philippians 2:9-11 (NKJV) Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, **10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow**, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, **11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

Old Testament examples of submitting to God's authority:

- Noah built the ark in obe_____ to God's command despite 120 years of criticism.
- Joseph submitted to Egyptian authorities before rising to the number ____ position of rule.
- Daniel submitted to the authorities of Bab_____ and Medo-Pe_____ kings yet faithfully prayed to God in obedience to Him.
- Nebuchadnezzar, a pagan king, declared God's sov_____ over all creation.
- David, after being named k_____ by Samuel, declared he would not touch S_____, the Lord's anointed ruler, until God elevated him to Israel's king.

1 Timothy 2:1-4 (NKJV) Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks be made for all men, **2** for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. **3** For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, **4** who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Q4: How does the passage above (written to Christians) set forth the principles under which we are to submit to authority? How should this work in the United States?

3. They Speak Evil of Dignitaries

In essence, apostates (those who once knew the truth) blaspheme (speak lies, evil, and revile) those in authority, whether God the Father, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, heavenly angels in authority, or God's messengers here on earth.



An extreme example by the extreme apostate...

Job 1:8-11 (NKJV) Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that *there is* none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?" ⁹ So Satan answered the LORD and said, "Does Job fear God for nothing? ¹⁰ Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. ¹¹ But now, stretch out Your hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face!"

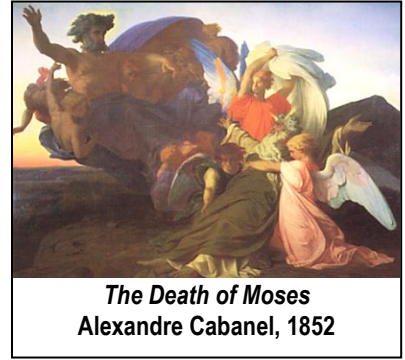
Job 2:3-5 (NKJV) Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that *there is* none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil? And still he holds fast to his integrity, although you incited Me against him, to destroy him without cause." ⁴ So Satan answered the LORD and said, "Skin for skin! Yes, all that a man has he will give for his life. ⁵ But stretch out Your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will surely curse You to Your face!"

Q5: How does Satan fit the definition of an apostate and Jude 8d (speaking evil of dignitaries) in these passages regarding his dialog with God about Job? (Hint: Ezekiel 28:12, John 8:44, Rev. 12:10)

Q6: In what ways does speaking evil of fellow Christians aid Satan's work of accusing the brethren?

8. A Rumble in the Heavens – Jude 9-10

Jude 9-10 (NKJV) 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!" **10** But these speak evil of whatever they do not know; and whatever they know naturally, like brute beasts, in these things they corrupt themselves.



The Death of Moses
Alexandre Cabanel, 1852

- Jude gives us an extr _____ exa _____ of *not accusing a dignitary*, who in this case is _____.
- Michael (*mikha'el*) =
 - Role: archangel –
 - Daniel: 10:13 – one of the c _____ pr _____; the 10:21 – p _____ of Is _____; 12:1 – a great p _____ who w _____ over the people of Is _____
- The devil (*diablos*) / Satan (*satan*) =
 - Role: adversary -
 - Rev. 12:10 – ac _____ believers 24/7; 1 Peter 5:8 – seeks to d _____ believers; Ephesians 6:4 – uses wi _____ to deceive believers; 1 John 3:8 – the fa _____ of sin.
- Moses (*mosheh*) =
 - Role: deliverer of _____ from E _____
 - Exodus: 3:10 – commis _____ by _____; 12:31-33 – le _____ the exodus; 16:2 – op _____ by the people; faithfully led the people for _____ years in the wilderness.

Deuteronomy 34:1-8 (NKJV)

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is across from Jericho. And the LORD showed him all the land of Gilead as far as Dan, **2** all Naphtali and the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, **3** the South, and the plain of the Valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar. **4** Then the LORD said to him, "This *is* the land of which I swore to give Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants. I have caused you to see *it* with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.'" **5** So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD. **6** And He buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth Peor; but no one knows his grave to this day. **7** Moses *was* one hundred and twenty years old when he died. His eyes were not dim nor his natural vigor diminished. **8** And the children of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days. So the days of weeping *and* mourning for Moses ended.

Q1: What was unusual about Moses' death and burial?

Jude 9a (NKJV) Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses...

- Contending – *diakrino'menos*
- Disputed – *dielegeto'*

Q2: Why does Satan oppose God and His revealed plans?

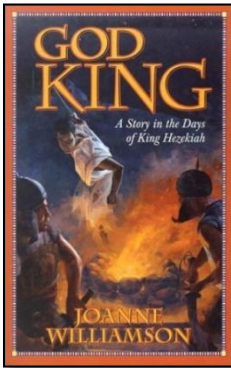
Q3: Why would two incredibly powerful angels battle over the body of a mortal?

Q4: Have the Jews ever idolized or made a fetish out of something not an idol or fetish?

Numbers 21:4-9 (NKJV) Then they journeyed from Mount Hor by the Way of the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; and the soul of the people became very discouraged on the way. **5** And the people spoke against God and against Moses: "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For *there is* no food and no water, and our soul loathes this worthless bread." **6** So the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died. **7** Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD that He take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. **8** Then the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery *serpent*, and set it on a pole; and it shall be that everyone who is bitten, when he looks at it, shall live." **9** So Moses made a bronze serpent, and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.



The same brazen serpent does not show up again in Scripture for 640 years...



2 Kings 18:1-4 NKJV Now it came to pass in the third year of Hoshea the son of Elah, king of Israel, *that* Hezekiah the son of Ahaz, king of Judah, began to reign. **2** He was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name *was* Abi the daughter of Zechariah. **3** And he did *what was* right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father David had done. **4** He removed the high places and broke the *sacred* pillars, cut down the wooden image and broke in pieces the bronze serpent that Moses had made; for until those days the children of Israel burned incense to it, and called it Nehushtan.

Q5: In what way did the use of the brazen serpent become perverted? What caused godly King Hezekiah to call it "Nehushtan" (worthless thing of brass) and destroy it? Could the body of Moses (or his gravesite) have become a similar fetish?

A Possibility: Future Role of Moses

John 1:19-21(NKJV) Now this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" **20** He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." **21** And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No."

Luke 9:28-33 (NKJV) Now it came to pass, about eight days after these sayings, that He took Peter, John, and James and went up on the mountain to pray. **29** As He prayed, the appearance of His face was altered, and His robe *became* white *and* glistening. **30** And behold, two men talked with Him, who were Moses and Elijah, **31** who appeared in glory and spoke of His decease which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. **32** But Peter and those with him were heavy with sleep; and when they were fully awake, they saw His glory and the two men who stood with Him. **33** Then it happened, as they were parting from Him, *that* Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; and let us make three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah" — not knowing what he said. **34** While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were fearful as they entered the cloud. **35** And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!" **36** When the voice had ceased, Jesus was found alone. But they kept quiet, and told no one in those days any of the things they had seen.

- Moses and Elijah are expe_____ to fulfill a future role, possibly _____ of Rev 11.
- Luke 9 – a possible pre-Tribulation staff meeting?

Jude 9-10 (NKJV) 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!" **10** But these speak evil of whatever they do not know; and whatever they know naturally, like brute beasts, in these things they corrupt themselves.

- Bring against - *epiphero*
- Reviling - *blasphemia*
- Accusation – *krisis*
- Rebuke - *epitimaō*

Q6: Armed with a better understanding of the body of Moses, what is the main point of Jude 9?

Q7: We learn something foundational about a term from its first use in the Bible. The first use of "judgment" is Exodus 12:12, and the first use of "judge" is Genesis 15:4. Bases on these passages, what can you conclude about God's "policy" about judgment and as a judge?

Q8: Does Satan deserve to be judged for what he has done? What do we know of God's plan to do this?

Q9: What does bringing a reviling accusation against Satan imply, on the part of the accuser?

Q10: What are some current and common examples of *bringing reviling accusations* against someone that today's Christians might be guilty of?

Q11: If we are not to judge people, is it OK to judge behaviors instead?



Fruit & the Root

Q12: From what we've studied so far, how is evil speaking against others linked to apostasy? Is it relevant to judge the level of apostasy in a culture by how much evil speaking is prevalent?

2 Peter 3:3-7 (NKJV) ...knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, ⁴ and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as *they were* from the beginning of creation." ⁵ For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, ⁶ by which the world *that* then existed perished, being flooded with water. ⁷ But the heavens and the earth *which* are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

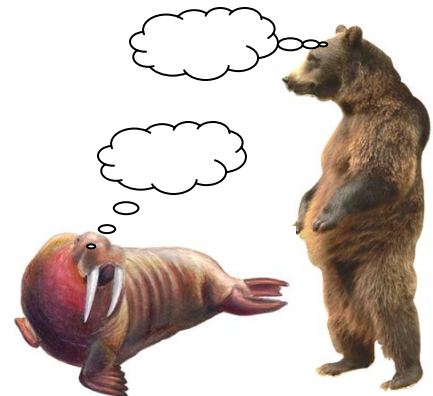
Q13: How does the 2 Peter passage above point to the level of apostasy in our current society, and based on this, where does the passage place us on God's prophetic timetable?

"There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death." Proverbs 14:10 and 16:25

Jude 9-10 (NKJV) 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!" **10** But these speak evil of whatever they do not know; and whatever they know naturally, like brute beasts, in these things they corrupt themselves.

- A single thought linking verses 8, 9 & 10: not ra _____ at dig _____
- "But these;" these refers to _____
- Circle the 2 different uses of "know" in verse 10:
 1. *oidasin* (root: *eido*) –
 2. *epistanti* (root: *apistomai*) –

Q14: Explain verse 10.



Apostates



1 Corinthians 1:18-25 (NKJV) For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. **19** For it is written: "*I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.*" **20** Where *is* the wise? Where *is* the scribe? Where *is* the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? **21** For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. **22** For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; **23** but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, **24** but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. **25** Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

1 Timothy 2:3-4 (NKJV) For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, **4** who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Believers



9. Three Men and a Warning – Jude 11

Jude 11 (NKJV) 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.

A literal rendering of this passage from the Greek might read: *In the way of Cain they went away, and in the wandering of Balaam for reward they rushed headlong, and in the rebellion of Korah they perished.*

- Other notable des_____ elements:
 - This verse is at the hea_____ of the epistle’s structure.
 - It is positioned midway between the supern_____ realm (vv6-9) and the nat_____ realm (vv. 11-12), with illustrations and examples from each realm.
 - It shows apostasy can be either corp_____ or indi_____.
 - The early examples are from his_____ (past) while the later ones are prop_____ (future).
 - The order of v11 describes a 3-step pro_____ of falling into apo_____.
 - The men mentioned are are not in chronological order.
 - All three men made ser_____ errors in jud_____ by making very bad choices.

1. Man from History >	Cain	Balaam	Korah
2. Key Scriptures:	Genesis 4, Hebrews 11:4	Numbers 22-24; 31:8,16	Numbers 16
3. Occupation:	Tiller of the soil (farmer)	Prophet	Prince in Israel
4. Step of Apostasy:	Entering a wrong path	Running riotously down that path	Finally, perishing at the end
5. Substituted this:	Way of Cain	Error of Balaam	Perishing of Korah
6. For this:	Way of Christ	Truth of Christ	The Life of Christ

Q1: What conclusion(s) can you draw from line 3 of the chart above?

Q2: What conclusion(s) can you draw from line 4 of the chart above?

Q3: What conclusion(s) can you draw from lines 5 & 6 of the chart above?

“There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.” Proverbs 14:10 and 16:25

A. The Way of Cain (Genesis 4; Hebrews 11:4)

Genesis 4:1-5(NKJV) Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, and said, "I have acquired a man from the LORD." ² Then she bore again, this time his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. ³ And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD. ⁴ Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, ⁵ but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.



Q4: What were the two sacrifices that were brought to God?

- Abel brought the sacrifice of _____ and it was accepted by God.
- Cain brought the sacrifice of _____ and it was not accepted by God.

Q5: Did Cain deny the existence of God?

Q6: Did Cain refuse to worship God?

Q7: Did Cain refuse to sacrifice to God?

After Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden, they knew that they were naked and made a covering of fig leaves (Genesis 3:7). God confronts them about their sin, curses the serpent and reveals His plan of salvation (Genesis 3:15). Then God made a covering for them of animal skins (Genesis 3:21). Was it that God didn't like fig leaves that He replaced the fig leaves with animal skins? Hebrews 9:22 (*without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins*) suggest a more fundamental reason behind replacing fig leaves with animal skins...

Q8: What were the fig leaves an example of?

Q9: What are some other pre-Levitical examples of the "Law" being in operation before it was given on Mt. Sinai?

Q10: According to Genesis 9:3, man was instructed for the first time that animals were to be a food source for him. Man was restricted to eating plants prior to the Flood (Genesis 1:29-30; 2:9,16; 3:16-18). This raises the question: what was Abel doing raising sheep?

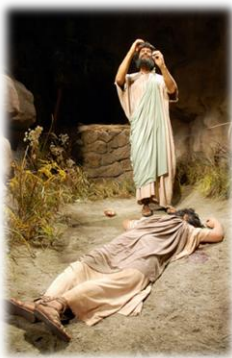
Hebrews 11:1,2,4 (NKJV) Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. ² For by it the elders obtained a *good* testimony. ⁴ By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.

Romans 10:3 (NKJV) For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God.

Romans 10:17 (NKJV) So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Key Points:

- True faith is ac_____ upon what we have heard or read in the Word of God, which is what Abel did by offering a sacrifice that required the shedding of blood.
- Natural man's attempts are almost always aimed at establishing his own right_____ instead of what God prescribes.
- It appears – although not expressly stated in Scripture – that God spo_____ directly to Abel or through Adam, Eve or Cain, regarding the requirement of shed blood, since faith that produces action comes from hearing the Word of God.
- We can offer our sacrifices to God today on the blood-basis of _____.



Genesis 4:6-9 (NKJV) So the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? ⁷ If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire *is* for you, but you should rule over it." ⁸ Now Cain talked with Abel his brother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him. ⁹ Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where *is* Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know. *Am* I my brother's keeper?"

Q11: How was Cain 'counseled' on what to do to rectify the situation? What are the clear lessons for us today regarding what God counseled Cain?

- After God's direct counsel, Cain still failed to approach God on the basis of _____.
- We blasp_____ God by declaring His Sal_____ incompl_____ whenever we attempt to add to it!
- Doctrine as revealed in the Bible is crit_____ for every Christian to both under_____ and to put into action by doing what God says to do, the way He says to do it, in **faith**.
- Jesus describes _____ gates (Matthew 7:13-14), one w_____ and one n_____.
- The **Way of Cain** is: _____
- Cain was saved unsaved because_____.



B. The Error of Balaam (Genesis 22-24; 31:8, 16)

- Balaam – name means _____
- According to Joshua 13:22, he was a so_____, which means that he practiced di_____, the act of obtaining secret knowledge about the future.
- He came from Aram, the town of P_____ on the Euphrates.
- Balak, king of M____, sent men to hire Balaam to curse the Jews for a f____, because he feared the Jews (Numbers 22:1-8).
- After consulting God, Balaam was prohi_____ from accepting the assignment, though quite unhappily (Numbers 22:9-20).
- God permits Balaam to go to Balak, with a restriction: _____ (22:20).
- God gets Balaam’s attention by: _____(22:21-35).

Q12: How does Moses (in Deuteronomy 23:3-5) summarize the events of Numbers 23 and 24?

Numbers 24 ends with Balaam attempting to curse Israel for a ____th time, and his utterance becoming a blessing yet again. We are told in 24:25, “So Balaam rose and departed and returned to his place; Balak also went his way.”

Q13: After his attempts at cursing failed, did Balaam give up? *Hint: see Numbers 25:1-9, 16-18 & 31:1-19.*

- Balaam clearly knew and unde_____ that God meant for the nation of Israel to be bl_____ and not cursed.
- In order to gain temporal riches, Balaam found another way to harm Israel, and suc_____ in causing Israel to sin and suffer the consequences.
- The **Error of Balaam** is: _____

Balaam also shows up in the following New Testaments Scriptures:

2 Peter 2:12-17 (NKJV) But these {false prophets and false teachers}, like natural brute beasts made to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of the things they do not understand, and will utterly perish in their own corruption, **13** and will receive the wages of unrighteousness, as those who count it pleasure to carouse in the daytime. *They are* spots and blemishes, carousing in their own deceptions while they feast with you, **14** having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin, enticing unstable souls. *They have* a heart trained in covetous practices, and are accursed children. **15** They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the **way of Balaam** the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; **16** but he was rebuked for his iniquity: a dumb donkey speaking with a man's voice restrained the madness of the prophet. **17** These are wells without water, clouds carried by a tempest, for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.

Revelation 2:14-15 (NKJV) But I have a few things against you, because you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality. **15** Thus you also have those who hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate.

The Error of Balaam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowingly rushing headlong down the w_____ p_____ despite God's repeated attempts to instr_____ you about the right path.
The Way of Balaam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Becoming a "hireling" by making a mar_____ for the gifts that God has given him (gre_____ for gain).
The Doctrine of Balaam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spiritual forni_____ by becoming marr_____ to the world and its ungodly systems, having known God's alternative.



Q14: In what way(s) does Balaam typify an apostate's *modus operandi*?

C. The Rebellion of Korah (Numbers 16)

Jude 11 (NKJV) 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.

- Perish – *apollumi*
- Rebellion - *antilogia*

Numbers 16:1-3 (NKJV) Now Korah the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, with Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab, and On the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took *men*; ² and they rose up before Moses with some of the children of Israel, two hundred and fifty leaders of the congregation, representatives of the congregation, men of renown. ³ They gathered together against Moses and Aaron, and said to them, "*You take* too much upon yourselves, for all the congregation *is* holy, every one of them, and the LORD *is* among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?"



- Korah – *Qorach*
- Izhar – *Yitshawr*
- Dathan – *Dathan*
- Abiram – *Abiyram*
- Korah (from the tribe of _____) and brothers Dathan and Abiram (from the tribe of _____), were pri_____ of Israel, and challenged Moses' and Aaron's leadership of the Jews.

Q15: What was their argument?

- "All are holy" promotes the sat_____ argument for:
 - the "universal broth_____ of man"
 - denial of children of God and children of _____ (John 8:44)
 - no need for either a medi_____, a sa_____ or the cro_____.

Q16: In Numbers 16:4-14, for what things do the rebels have low regard?

Q17: In Numbers 16:15-21, what do the rebel leaders attempt to do, and what is God's response?

Q18: In Numbers 16:22, of what is Moses intercession a picture?

Q19: In Numbers 16:23-27, what choices are offered by God through Moses?

Numbers 16:28-35 (NKJV) And Moses said: "By this you shall know that the LORD has sent me to do all these works, for *I have not done them* of my own will. ²⁹ If these men die naturally like all men, or if they are visited by the common fate of all men, *then* the LORD has not sent me. ³⁰ But if the LORD creates a new thing, and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them up with all that belongs to them, and they go down alive into the pit, then you will understand that these men have rejected the LORD." ³¹ Now it came to pass, as he finished speaking all these words, that the ground split apart under them, ³² and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, with their households and all the men with Korah, with all *their* goods. ³³ So they and all those with them went down alive into the pit; the earth closed over them, and they perished from among the assembly. ³⁴ Then all Israel who *were* around them fled at their cry, for they said, "Lest the earth swallow us up *also!*" ³⁵ And a fire came out from the LORD and consumed the two hundred and fifty men who were offering incense.



Q20: What is unusual about the punishment of Korah and the rebels? What future event(s) does it point to?

All three men – Ca_____, Ba_____ and Ko_____ - knew the tru_____ but willingly chose to instead follow their own pa_____ that leads to guaranteed destruction. Your enemy, s_____, will gladly have you follow any path but God's, and that path will certainly seem ri_____ to you, but in the end it will lead to your own death and des_____. (Proverbs 14:10 and 16:25).

10. "I Know You Are, But What Am I?" – Jude 12-13

Jude 12-13 (NKJV) These are spots in your love feasts, while they feast with you without fear, serving *only* themselves. *They are* clouds without water, carried about by the winds; late autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots; ¹³ raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame; wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.

We need to understand APOSTASY because it is all around us, it comes in attractive forms, and it will characterize the last days. Jude 1:12-13 describes apostates in five word pictures so that we might understand how apostasy affects both the body and those who are seeking the truth...

A. Spots in Your Love Feasts

- Spots – *spilades (spilas)*
- Confused with *spilos*

Q1: What is a love feast? Purpose? Attended by?



Q2: Why is a hidden rock a danger to a mariner?

Q3: According to Jude 12, how had the apostates managed to get inside the congregation, and what danger did they pose to the believers there?

Matthew 7:21-23 (NKJV) "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. ²² 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?' ²³ And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'



B. Clouds Without Water Carried by the Wind

Q4: a buildup of clouds should signal what?

Q5: What do the following passages tell us about rain?

- Hosea 6:3
- Zechariah 10:1
- Matthew 5:45
- Hebrews 6:7

Q6: What value does a waterless cloud provide? What is it a picture of?

Q7: Note that in Jude 12, the waterless clouds are carried about by the winds. What underlying spiritual truth does this suggest to you? (Hint: John 8:42-45)

C. Late Autumn Trees Without Fruit, Twice Dead, Pulled Up by the Roots

Q8: What is the expectation of a fruit tree in autumn?

Q9: What is significant about being “twice dead?”

What a Christian is designed to be...

Psalms 1:1-3 (NKJV) Blessed *is* the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; ² But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night. ³ He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.



Jesus Christ taught about bad plants that produce no fruit:



Matthew 13:24-30; 36-43 (NKJV)

²⁴ Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵ but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way. ²⁶ But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared. ²⁷ So the servants of the owner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?' ²⁸ He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' The servants said to him, 'Do you want us then to go and gather them up?' ²⁹ But he said, 'No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them. ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" ³⁶ Then Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field." ³⁷ He answered and said to them: "He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸ The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one. ³⁹ The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. ⁴⁰ Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, ⁴² and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

- Good seed = s_____ of the k_____ sowed by _____ in the world
- Tares = evil seed sowed by _____ that became obvious only when _____
- God will rectify the problem _____
- The fate of the tares is _____
- The fate of the good seed is _____

Q10: How are apostates like the tares of the field in Matthew 13?

*Proverbs 2:22 (NKJV) But the wicked will be cut off from the earth,
and the unfaithful will be uprooted from it.*

D. Raging Waves of the Sea, Foaming Up Their Own Shame

- Foaming up – *epaphrizo*
- Shame - *aischune*

Q11: God uses the term 'sea' to denote what, according to Isaiah 57:20-21?



Q12: What additional insight do the following verses shed upon 'the sea'?

- Psalm 104:5-9 (esp v9)
- Psalm 89:9
- Matthew 8:26-27
- Revelation 21:1

Q13: How are apostates like raging waves foaming out their own shame?

E. Wandering Stars For Whom Is Reserved The Blackness Of Darkness Forever

- Wandering – *planetes*
- Stars - *aster*

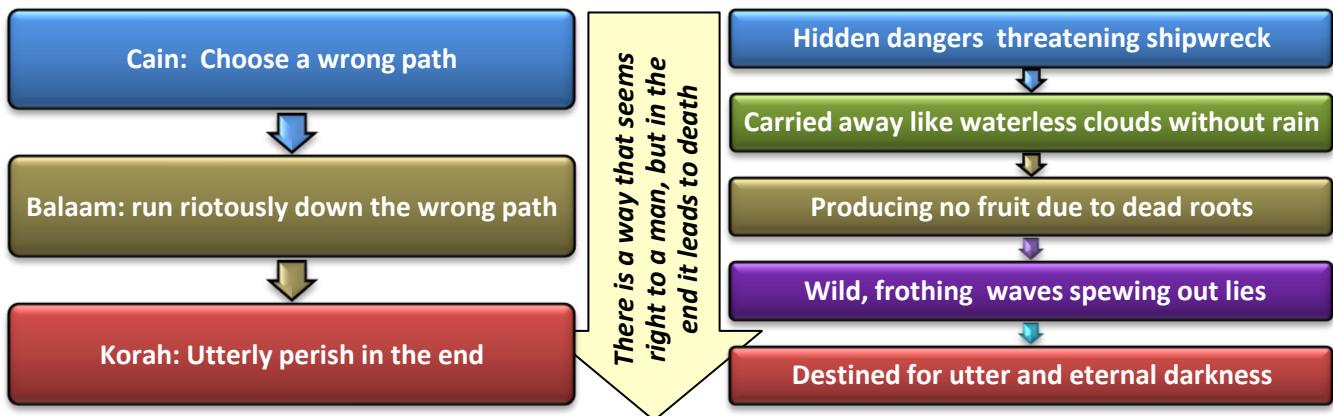
Q14: Why is a "wandering star" an apt description of an apostate?

Q15: What does Scripture say about the **fixt**ure of stars in the heavens?

- Genesis 1:16-17
- Judges 5:20
- Psalm 8:3
- Psalm 147:4
- Jeremiah 31:35

“...for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.”

Q16: Explain how a black hole in space might be the destiny of the “wandering stars.” Why would this be fitting justice from God?



Q17: In what ways do the five word pictures of Jude 1:12-13 point to the negative impact of apostates ...on the body of Christ?

...on those who are seeking the truth but who have not yet joined the body of Christ?

A Comparison of Apostates, Christ and True Believers

Jude 12-13	Significance	Compared to Christ	Compared to True Believers
Hidden rocks	Hidden dan_____	R_____ of Salvation	Living st_____ (1 Peter 2:5)
Waterless clouds	False prom_____	Comes with the cl_____	Sources of Liv_____ Wa_____ (John 7:38)
Unfruitful trees	Barren profe_____	Tree of L_____	Trees of R_____ (Isaiah 61:3)
Raging waves	Wa_____ energy	Shepherd who leads me beside st____ wa_____	Peace like a r_____ (Isaiah 48:18)
Wandering stars	Ai_____ course	Bright and Morning _____	Shine like a star f_____ (Daniel 12:3)



11. The First Prophet? Jude 14-15

Q1: What is the difference between a prophet and a priest?

Jude 14-15 (NKJV) Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, ¹⁵ 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."

Q2: According to Jude, Enoch was a p_____. What event was he prophesying about? Where in the Old Testament do we have a record of him being a prophet?

Q3: When did Enoch make this prophesy? (Hint: read Genesis 5:18-25).

Q4: Why is it that 'new information' is given to us in books of the Bible other than those in which the character first appears or in which the incident occurs? In this case, Moses wrote what happened in Genesis sometime between 1450BC and 1400BC, while Jude was written sometime between 65AD-85AD, a space of 1500+ years.

FOR FURTHER STUDY: Consider the following examples of *new revelations* in the New Testament:

- 2 Peter 2:5 – Noah as a *preacher of righteousness*
- 2 Timothy 3:8 – the *names of the two magicians* who opposed Moses in Egypt
- Acts 20:35 – Jesus' words *more blessed to give than receive* not in gospels
- James 5:17 – Elijah prayed to stop the rain for 3½ years
- Acts 7:2-53 – words of Stephen adding additional information to OT incidents, such as Abraham not obeying God immediately to move to the Promised Land, and others.

What's in a name? II Timothy 3:16 tells us that "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness..." Is this statement true when you read through passages like the genealogies of Adam in Genesis 4:25 – 5:32? Let's take a closer look at what God wrote there, and discover that God reveals great truths to those who are diligent enough to dig into Scripture!

G E N	English	Hebrew	Born	Died	Strong's Number	Meaning of the Name	Primary Scripture Reference	Related Scripture Reference	Notes:
0	Adam	'adam	0	930	119, 121, 127		Genesis 2:7 Genesis 5:1-3		
1	Seth	sheth	130	1042	8352, 7896		Genesis 4:25 Genesis 5:3-6, 8	Genesis 3:15	
2	Enos	enowsh	235	1140	605, 582, 583		Genesis 4:26 Genesis 5:7-11	Genesis 2:17 Romans 5:12-13 Romans 6:23	
3	Cainan	keynan or qeynan	325	1235	7018, 7064		Genesis 5:9 - 14		
4	Mahalaleel	mahala'el	395	1290	4111, 410		Genesis 5:12-17		
5	Jared	yarad	460	1392	3382, 3381		Genesis 5:15-20		
6	Enoch	chanok	622		2585, 2596		Genesis 5:18-24	Jude 14-15, Hebrews 11:5, Proverbs 22:6	
7	Methuselah	methu- shelach	687	1656	4968		Genesis 5:21-27	Genesis 6:7-8 Genesis 7:6, 11	
8	Lamech	lamek	874	1651	3929		Genesis 5:25-28		
9	Noah	noach	1056	2006	5119, 5118, 5117		Genesis 5:28-32	Genesis 6:8, 7	
<p><i>What happens when you look at God's encoded message? You get God's plan of salvation revealed thousands of years before the Blessed God (Jesus Christ) descended to this Earth...</i></p> <p>Fill in the names: Adam Seth Enos Cainan Mahalaleel Jared Enoch Methuselah Lamek Noah</p> <p>And its meaning: _____ (is) _____ (a) _____ (but the) _____ (shall) _____ (that) _____.</p> <p>The Generation: 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</p>									

Q5: When Enoch was born, how many generations before him did the descendants of Adam begin to profane Gods name (literally, *call something by the name of the Lord*)? Coupled with what we learned about the Nephillim conspiracy, what does this say about the times in which Enoch lived?



Genesis 5:22-24 (NKJV) After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years, and had sons and daughters. ²³ So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. ²⁴ And Enoch walked with God; and he *was* not, for God took him.

Hebrews 11:5-6 (NKJV) 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. ⁶ But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Amos 3:3 (NKJV) Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?

Q6: What does it mean to walk with God (Genesis 5:22,24)? What can you describe about Enoch's walk with God from these three verses?



The First Walkathon?

Walking with God today:

- Colossians 2:6 – Walk in _____
- Galatians 5:25 – Walk in _____
- 2 Corinthians 5:7 – Walk by _____

Q7: Specifically what happened to Enoch at age 365? Has this happened since?

Leviticly speaking, Methuselah’s life became a model of God’s _____ and long _____, living longer than any human in the Bible (969 years). **2 Peter 3:9 (NKJV)** 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.

Four Facts Emphasized by Enoch’s Prophecy of Jesus’ Second Coming

Reference	Aspect of Jesus’ Second Coming	Other References
Jude 14	1. We know that the Lord’s return is sure and certain	Revelation 19:11-14, Philippians 3:21
Jude 15	2. We know who will accompany Jesus in His return	Deuteronomy 3:2
Jude 15	3. We know the purpose of Jesus’ return to Earth	Hebrews 9:26-28
Jude 15	4. We know what will happen as a result of His return	Matthew 25:31-46, Revelation 20:11-15

1. We Know That the Lord’s Return is Sure and Certain

"Behold, the Lord comes..."

- Comes – *erchomai*
- Over _____ prophecies of His second coming!
- Like history, _____ can change this event, occurring in God’s perfect timing.
- Matthew 24:30 (NKJV) *Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.*
- 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3 Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, ² not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. ³ Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come* unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition...
- John 14:28 *You have heard Me say to you, 'I am going away and coming back to you.' If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said, 'I am going to the Father,' for My Father*

2. We Know Who Will Accompany Jesus in His Return

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

- Ten thousands – *urias*
- Saints – *hagios*
- *Hagios* applies to more than _____

The Identity of the “Hagios” Who Accompany Christ on His Return

Reference	Who Specifically Accompanies Christ on His Return
Revelation 19:11-14; Revelation 19:7-8	
Zechariah 14:5	
Matthew 25:31	
Colossians 3:4	
2 Thessalonians 1:7	

3. We Know the Purpose of Jesus’ Return to Earth

- "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, **15** to execute judgment on all...
- Judgment – *krisis*
- *Krisis* is used _____ times in the New Testament: _____ specifically linked to the D_____ or H_____ of Judgment and _____ linked by implication to the final judgment; _____ speak of Christ’s or God’s judgment.

John 5:24-30 (NKJV) "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into **judgment**, but has passed from death into life. ²⁵ Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. ²⁶ For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, ²⁷ and has given Him authority to execute **judgment** also, because He is the Son of Man. ²⁸ Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice ²⁹ and come forth — those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of **condemnation**. ³⁰ I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My **judgment** is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.

Q8: According to Jesus’ own words, who will be judged, who won’t be judged, who does the judging and who doesn’t do the judging?

Romans 14:10 (NKJV) But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before the **judgment seat of Christ**.

2 Corinthians 5:10 (NKJV) For we must all appear before the **judgment seat of Christ**, that each one may receive the things *done* in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Q9: What is the “Judgment Seat of Christ” compared to the *krisis* judgment spoken of elsewhere in Scripture?

Jude 14-15 (NKJV) "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, ¹⁵ to execute judgment on all...

Who Specifically Will Be “Krisis Judged” by the Lord?

Reference	Who Specifically Accompanies Christ on His Return
Psalm 96:13	
Joel 3:12; Matthew 25:31-32	
Matthew 11:21-24 & 12:41	
2 Timothy 4:1; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9	
Jude 6, Isaiah 24:21	
Matthew 8:29	

Q10: According to Romans 2:2,6 &16, *according to what* will the judgment be carried out?

4. We Know the Result of Jesus' Return to Earth

"Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, ¹⁵ to execute judgment on all, **to convict all who are ungodly (1) among them of all their ungodly (2) deeds which they have committed in an ungodly (3) way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly (4) sinners have spoken against Him.**"

- Convict – *elegcho*
- All - *pantoon*
- Ungodly (1) – *psucheen*
- Ungodly (2) – *asebeias*
- Ungodly (3) committed – *eesebeesan*
- Ungodly (4) – *asebeis*
- Deeds – *ergoon*
- Harsh things – *skleeroon*
- Sinners – *hamartolos*
- Spoken against – *elalesson kat*

Q11: Upon Christ's return, what will happen to the "ungodly?"

Q12: What kind of chances will these individuals have to repent of their sins prior to Christ's return?

Matthew 12:36-37 (NKJV)

But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the Day of Judgment. ³⁷ For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."



Final Thoughts About Enoch: *Rapture Models in the Old Testament*

In Hosea 12:10, God tells us that He utilizes similitudes (or mo_____) as a linguistic figure of speech in order to communicate His truths:

Hosea 12:10 (KJV) *I {God} have also spoken by the prophets, and I have multiplied visions, and used similitudes, by the ministry of the prophets.*



According to passages like Revelation 3:10, John 5:24, Romans 5:4, and 1 Thessalonians 1:10 and 5:9, the Church will be spared from the Tribulation period through its Rapture.

Enoch serves as the first model for the yet future Rapture of the church:

- Enoch was raptured b_____ the Great Flood
- Noah and ____ family members were pres_____ through the Flood
- The rest of humanity per_____ in the Flood.

Other Possible Models:

- Lot had to be removed from Sodom before the angels could destroy it (Genesis 19:21-22).
- When Daniel's friends were thrown into to fiery furnace (and preserved through it) in Daniel 3, where was Daniel (who didn't go through the tribulation of fire)?
- Perhaps the most compelling is in Isaiah 26:19-21 (NKJV):
 - 19** Your dead shall live; *together with* my dead body they shall arise. Awake and sing, you who dwell in dust; for your dew *is like* the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead.
 - 20** Come, my people, enter your chambers, and shut your doors behind you; hide yourself, as it were, for a little moment, until the indignation is past.
 - 21** For behold, the LORD comes out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; the earth will also disclose her blood, and will no more cover her slain.

Q13: In the Isaiah 26 passage above, using what you know of eschatology (a study of the end things), define what is happening in each verse.

v19:

v20:

v21:

12. Apostates Past Are a Preview of Apostates Present & Future – Jude 16-19

Jude 16-19 (NKJV) These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling *words*, flattering people to gain advantage. ¹⁷ But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: ¹⁸ how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. ¹⁹ These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit.



Gina Grumbler, Cara Complainer, Larry Lust-Walker, Benji Boaster, Frannie Flatterer and Dorothy Divider.

Q1: Who specifically are the “these” in verse 16?

Q2: Thinking back to the examples provided in Jude 5-8, identify the “types” described in verse 16:

- Grumblers _____
- complainers _____
- Those who walked according to their own lusts _____

Q3: Who in Scripture are we told that speaks *great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage*?

A. Grumblers

- *Gogustes* –
- John 6:41-44 (NKJV) The Jews then **complained** about Him, because He said, "I am the bread which came down from heaven." ⁴² And they said, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How is it then that He says, 'I have come down from heaven'?" ⁴³ Jesus therefore answered and said to them, "Do not **murmur** among yourselves. ⁴⁴ No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.
- 1 Corinthians 10:9-11 (NKJV) ...nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents; ¹⁰ nor **complain**, as some of them also **complained**, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹ Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

Q4: What was the outcome of murmuring among Jesus’ disciples in John 6:59-66?

Q5: What additional insights do you glean from Psalm 106:24-29?

B. Complainers (Fault Finders & Whiners)

- *Mempsimoiros* –
- **Mark 7:1-10 (NKJV)** Then the Pharisees and some of the scribes came together to Him, having come from Jerusalem. 2 Now when they saw some of His disciples eat bread with defiled, that is, with unwashed hands, **they found fault**. 3 For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands in a special way, holding the tradition of the elders. 4 When they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other things which they have received and hold, like the washing of cups, pitchers, copper vessels, and couches. 5 Then the Pharisees and scribes asked Him, "Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashed hands?" 6 He answered and said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: 'This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. 7 And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.' 8 For laying aside the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men — the washing of pitchers and cups, and many other such things you do." 9 He said to them, "All too well you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition.
- Fault-finding apostates replace the comm_____ of G_____ with tra_____.
- They make God's word to no ef_____ by their practices.

Q6: Cite some current examples of how some (supposedly) Christian religions have replaced God's Word with traditions.

Fault finding may mark a profe_____ Christian as someone who has turned his back on the truth.

Numbers 11:1 (NKJV) Now when the people complained, it displeased the Lord; for the Lord heard it, and His anger was aroused. So the fire of the Lord burned among them, and consumed some in the outskirts of the camp.

Q7: Read the resume of the Apostle Paul in 2 Corinthians 11:22-28 and his commentary in Philipians 4:10-13. What conclusions can you draw on how Christians are supposed to handle adversity?

C. Walking According to Their Own Lusts

- Walking – *poreuomai*
- Lusts - *epithumai*

Q8: Read Mark 4:3-20 which is the Parable of the Sower and the Seed. In Mark 4:19, the same word (*epithumai*) is used as in the passage, the “desires (or lusts) of this world.” Explain how the desires of this world operate in opposition to what God desires for all people.



2 Peter 3:3-7 (NKJV) Knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, **walking according to their own lusts**, 4 and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation." 5 **For this they willfully forget:** that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, 6 by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. 7 But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

Q9: How does the passage in 2 Peter 3 connect the Last Days, walking according to one's own lusts, and apostasy? How close to fulfilling this prophecy are we right now?

D. They Mouth Great Swelling Words

- Mouth – *stoma*
- Great swelling - *huperongka*
- Words – *lalei*



Peter 2:18-19 (NKJV) 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. 19 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.

1 Timothy 4:1-2 (NKJV) Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, 2 speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron

Q10: Who will these apostates influence, and how will they do it?

E. Flattering People to Gain Advantage

- Flattering – *thaumozontes*
- Gain advantage – *charin oofelias*
- Literally, the use of pers_____ and impressive speech designed to manip_____ or sway someone's thinking or beliefs.
- D & E coupled together are a good definition of professional prop_____.

Q11: How do we see D & E at work in today's so-called modern church?

No wonder we believe we are entering the last days when we see these things in the church!

Jude 1:17-18 (NKJV)

But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: ¹⁸ how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. ¹⁹ These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit.

Our Admonishment: Remember the Words!

Proverbs 30:5-6 (NKJV) Every word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him. 6 Do not add to His words, lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar.

Psalms 119:162 (NKJV) I rejoice at Your word as one who finds great treasure.

Psalms 19:7-11 (NKJV) The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; 8 The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; 9 The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. 10 More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. 11 Moreover by them Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward.

Psalms 138:2c For You have magnified Your word above all Your name.

Jude, having walked us through a number of Old Testament ex_____ of apo_____, what they said and did, now turns out attention to the apostles by way of contrast...

Comparing and Contrasting the Five Marks of Apostates and Apostles

Marks of Apostates (Jude 16)	Marks of Apostles
They grum_____ about what or who they are opposed to (Jude 16a)	A thoro_____ godly man (Acts 1:21-25; 1 Cor 15:3-10)
They comp_____, find fau_____ and whine about their circumstances (Jude 16b)	One who was personally cho_____ by Jesus Christ for the apostleship (Acts 22:1-21).
They wa_____ according to their own lu_____ (Jude 16c)	One to whom Jesus Christ entr_____ the ministry of the apostles (1 Cor 9:2, Acts 22:10).
They mouth gr_____ sw_____ words (Jude 16d)	One who was pers_____ acquainted with the Lord's ministry (1 Cor 9:2; Acts 22:6-21).
They fla_____ people to gain adv_____ (Jude 16e)	One who was a wit_____ to His resurrection (Acts 1: 1:25, 1 Cor 15:6-8)

Q12: Without looking, can you list the Apostles of Jesus Christ who, under the influence of the Holy Spirit, wrote warnings about the coming apostates that would characterize the last days?

Q13: What do the following 'apostolic passages' tell us about the last days?

- a. 2 Timothy 3:1-5 (the 'speaker' is _____)
- b. 2 Peter 3:3-4 (the 'speaker' is _____)
- c. 2 Timothy 4:3-5 (the 'speaker' is _____)
- d. Matthew 24:23-25 (the speaker is _____ while the 'writer' is _____)
- e. 1 John 2:18, 19, 22 (the 'speaker' is _____)

Q14: Why are so many apostolic passages devoted to this line of warning in Scripture, and what are we to do as a result of having such testimony from these witnesses?

Biblical example of a "mocker" (false teacher): 3 John 5:9-10 NKJV

I wrote to the church, but Diotrophes, who loves to have the preeminence among them, does not receive us. **10** Therefore, if I come, I will call to mind his deeds which he does, prating against us with malicious words. And not content with that, he himself does not receive the brethren, and forbids those who wish to, putting *them* out of the church.

- Diotrophes means "Nou _____ by Jup _____."
- He was an offi _____ of the church to which the Apostle John was referring.
- His marks of apostasy:
 - Loving to have pre _____
 - Resists real Christian lea _____ and laypersons
 - Maliciously speaks ag _____ lea _____
 - Tries to rem _____ believers from the fellowship

13. Are Apostates Saved?



Jude 19 (NKJV) These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, who have not the Spirit.

- Sensual – psuchikos
- Cause divisions – apodiorizo
- Spirit – pneuma

NIV: These are the men who divide you, who follow mere natural instincts and do not have the Spirit.

KJV: These be they who separate themselves, sensual, not having the Spirit.

ESV: It is these who cause divisions, worldly, devoid of the Spirit.

The answer to the question – are apostates saved - involves 3 key concepts:

1. Who the 'apostates' are,
2. Were they ever saved, and
3. Can you lose the Holy Spirit, once given?

Q1: Who are the 'these' referring to in Jude 1:19a?

Q2: Are they indwelt by the Holy Spirit (1:19b)?

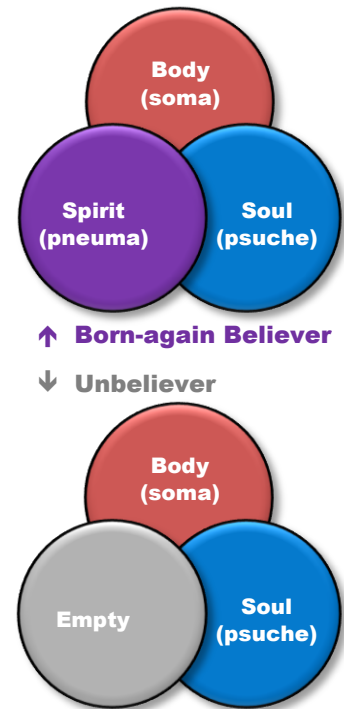
Q3: Do all believers have the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:9b; 2 Corinthians 1:21-22; Ephesians 4:30)?

Q4: Can someone profess to have the Holy Spirit and not have it (Matthew 7:21-23, 1 John 4:1-6, 1 Corinthians 12:3)?

Q5: Can someone lose the Holy Spirit once they receive it (Ephesians 4:30, 2 Corinthians 1:21-22, John 10:27-29)?

Q6: Can a preacher, Sunday School teacher, or church official be unsaved while occupying a leadership role in a Christian organization (Matthew 7:15, Acts 20:28-30)?

Believers are normally spiritual if they are obe_____ to the Word of God (1 Corinthians 2:15). Although they might be car_____ or immat_____ (babes) (1 Corinthians 3:1), they are never said to be sensual or nat_____ man. Only the uns_____ are referred to in Scripture as “nat_____ man” or sensual (psychikos). The unsaved are dominated by their five sen_____ and self (“soulish”). They do not receive or unde_____ spiritual things, which seem to them to be “foolish.” However noble they may be, they are still unsaved and without the Ho_____ Sp_____ indwelling them. There is NO scriptural support that natural man is ever anything other than unsa_____. Thus an apostate, regardless of how public or prominent they might be, is unsa_____ and lacks the distinguishing marks of a Christian. *Now if anyone does not have the spirit of Christ, he is not His – Romans 8:9.*



A Christian is:

- Ba_____ with the Holy Spirit (Acts 11:16)
- Ba_____ into the Body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12-13)
- S_____ by the Holy Spirit as a guarantee of in_____ by redemption (Ephesians 1:13-14)
- Indwelt by _____ (Galatians 2:20) and _____ (I Corinthians 3:16)
- T_____ by the Holy Spirit (John 14:26)
- L_____ by the Spirit and not _____ (Romans 8:13-14)
- W_____ in the Spirit (Galatians 5:16-18)
- W_____ God in the Spirit (Philippians 3:4)
- Ad_____ by God as his _____ (Romans 8:15-17)
- The only one who can truly say, “A_____” as both s_____ and h_____ of God (Galatians 4:6-7)

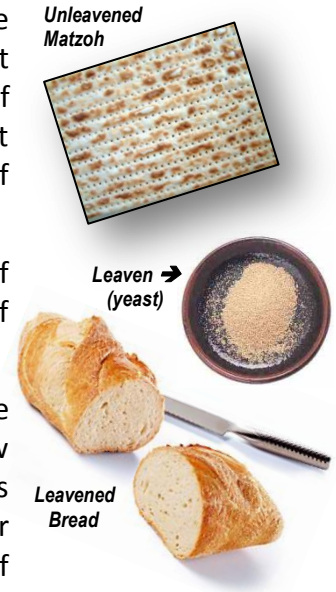
Q7: Given the above, how do apostates manage to fool people into believing they are Christian?

Case Study: Leaven in the Bread

Matthew 16:6,11-12 (NKJV) Then Jesus said to them, "Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees." 11 How is it you do not understand that I did not speak to you concerning bread? — but to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees." 12 Then they understood that He did not tell them to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

Luke 13:20-21 (NKJV) And again He said, "To what shall I liken the kingdom of God? 21 It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened."

1 Corinthians 5:6-8 (NKJV) ...Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? 7 Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. 8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.



Q8: In the passages above, what does the leaven (yeast) represent?

Q9: Were the Pharisees and Sadducees (of whom Jesus spoke) believers or apostates?

Q10: How did the average person view a Pharisee or Sadducee?

Q11: In John 8:37-59, Jesus confronts the Pharisees about the origin of their religious background, along with the origin of their current beliefs. What are they?

Q12: Given the above, what is behind apostasy, and how can a person truly know the truth and be set free from error?



14. Four “INGS” to Keep Us Living the Truth - Jude 20-21

Jude 20-21 (NKJV) But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, 21 keep(ing) yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

- “But” - in contrast with verse 19 (divisive, carnal, Spirit-less apostates)

Q1: Who is the ‘beloved’ in verse 20 - is it...(and why)...

- Israel, according to [Jeremiah 31:3](#), or
- the world, according to [John 3:16](#), or
- a select group of people, according to [John 14:15-21](#)

A. Building yourselves up on your most holy faith

- Building up – *epikodomeo* – compound of *epi*, _____ and of *oikodomeo*, _____ *epikodomeo* - _____
- *Epioikomomeo* is a present participle, indicating cont _____ ac _____ - it is a lif _____ process and it implies ad _____ something upon something else into the future.
- The concept of the *builder of the family name* is found in the Hebrew word _____.
 - Proverbs 1:8: *My son, hear the instruction of your father and do not forsake the law of your mother*
 - Proverbs 3:11: *My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord nor detest His correction*

Q2: According to Jude 20, who is responsible for doing the building? Why? For how long?

Q3: What is the foundation upon which you are to build?

2 Peter 1:5-11 (NKJV)

But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, 6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, 7 to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love.



Q4: Circle and number the nine activities Peter identifies to be part of the “building process.”

B. Praying in the Holy Spirit

Q5: What specifically does it mean to “pray in the Holy Spirit?” How is this different from what apostates can do?

Q6: What additional insight about praying in the Holy Spirit can you glean from the following verses:

- Ephesians 6:18
- Romans 8:26-27

Thus Christian prayer in its full New Testament meaning is prayer which is:

- Addressed to G_____ as Fa_____ ,
- In the name of _____ as Mediator, and
- Through the enabling gr_____ of the indw_____ Spirit.

C. Keep(ing) yourselves in the love of God

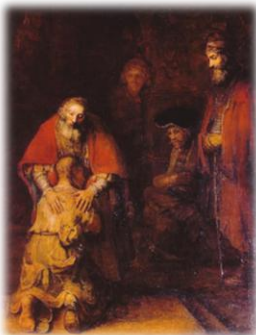
- Keep – *teereesate'*
 - Used _____ times in the New Testament
 - First use – Jesus tells the rich young ruler in Matthew 19:17 that if he wants to enter into life, he must _____
 - Jesus uses the same word _____ times in His seven letters to the seven churches of Revelation 2 and 3, of which _____ times are connected to promises to the overcomer.
- Who is responsible for doing the “keeping?” _____

Q7: Compare and contrast a believer *loving God*, versus being *kept in God's love*.



Luke 15:11-24 NKJV – Jesus tells the story of the “Prodigal Son”

"A certain man had two sons. 12 And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood. 13 And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. 14 But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. 15 Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. 16 And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. 17 "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! 18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, 19 and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.'" 20 "And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. 21 And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' 22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. 23 And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; 24 for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'



Q8: What did the young man do to remove himself from his father's love? Did his actions change the father's love for him?

John 15:9-10 (NKJV) "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. ¹⁰ If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.

Q9: What additional insights do you glean from the verse above about keeping yourself in God's love?

D. Looking for the Mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ Unto Eternal Life

- Looking for – *prosdechomai*

- Used in Luke 12:36 to describe _____
- Used in Titus 2:13 to describe _____

- Mercy - *eleos*

Q10: What is it that we are "looking for?"

Q11: How does looking *for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life* allow us to live the truth?

Jude 20-21 (NKJV) But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹ keep(ing) yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Q12: How are these two verses progressive by design?

15. Our Sacred Duty and Response – Jude 22-23

Jude 22-23 (NKJV) And on some have compassion, making a distinction; ²³ but others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.



- Compassion – *eleate*
- Making a distinction – *diakrinomenous*

- Save with fear – *sootze en phobo*
- Pulling – *harpatzo*
- Fire – *puros*
- Hating – *misountes*
- Garment defiled – *chitoona espiloomenon*
- Flesh – *sarkos* -

Three Groups of People in View, and Your Sacred Duty

Type of person specified in Jude 22-23	What You are Instructed to Do in Jude 22-23
Unbelievers that are seeking the truth but have sincere doubts	Practice comp_____ und_____ with them
People who are in imminent danger of spending their eternity in Gehenna hell	Practice urg_____ bol_____ in witnessing to them
Unbelievers beset with sin into which you find yourself attracted in the flesh	Practice cau_____ comp_____ lest you, too, become entangled in their sin

Some related advice:

1 Peter 3:15 (NKJV) 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...

James 1:5 (NKJV) If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

1 Timothy 4:13 (NKJV) Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.

James 5:19-20 (NKJV) Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, ²⁰ let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.

1 Corinthians 9:19-23 NKJV

For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more; ²⁰ and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law, that I might win those who are under the law; ²¹ to those who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those who are without law; ²² to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. ²³ Now this I do for the gospel's sake, that I may be partaker of it with you.



Q1: According to the Apostle Paul, what tips does he provide about becoming a lifestyle evangelist? How does Jude's advise help put these practices into effect?

Exercise: Pick an area of sin in which someone might be involved. How can you put into practice the advice of Paul, Peter, James and Jude in witnessing to them? Develop a possible plan below.



16. The Grand Doxology – Jude 24-25

Jude 24-25 NKJV Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, 25 To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen.

Q1: What is a “doxology?”

Q2: Who specifically is *able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory?* Whose glory is in view here?

Q3: What part in this process does the individual believer play?

Jude 24: **Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling,** and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy...

- Is able – *dunamai*
- Keep you – *fulaxai humas*
- From stumbling – *aptaistous*
- This passage has in mind that we are to continue to run the course of our lives and not give up **Hebrews 12:1b-2a (NKJV)** *...let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith...*

A literal translation of the first part of Jude 24 might be rendered:

Now to Je _____ Ch _____ (ministering with the Ho _____ Spi _____), Who is mig _____ ab _____ to carefully gua _____ from completely collapsing to the gro _____ in sinning (where _____ can no longer get up and con _____ in the race)...

vour name

vour name

Q4: Does this mean that you won't sin?

Psalms 37:23-24 (NKJV) The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and he delights in his way. 24 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; for the Lord upholds him with His hand.

Proverbs 3:21-26 (NKJV) My son, let them not depart from your eyes — keep sound wisdom and discretion; 22 So they will be life to your soul and grace to your neck. 23 Then you will walk safely in your way, and your foot will not stumble. 24 When you lie down, you will not be afraid; yes, you will lie down and your sleep will be sweet. 25 Do not be afraid of sudden terror, nor of trouble from the wicked when it comes; 26 For the Lord will be your confidence, and will keep your foot from being caught.



The only way you fall is to let go!

Isaiah 40:31 (NKJV) But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

1 Thessalonians 4:1 (NKJV) Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God...

Hebrews 12:1-2 (NKJV) Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Q5: According to these passages, how is it that a Christian keeps from stumbling to the ground? List at least five lessons for a godly walk from these passages.

Jude 24: Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, **and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy...**

- Present you – *stee'sai (histemi)*
- Faultless – *amoo'mous*
- Exceeding joy – *agalla'isei*

A literal translation of Jude 24 might thus be rendered:

Now to Jesus Christ (ministering with the Holy Spirit), Who is mightily able to carefully guard me from completely collapsing to the ground in sinning (where I can no longer get up and continue in the race), so I may endure (to the end of the race) and st_____ without sp_____, bla_____ or blem_____ in Christ's glo_____ (and Holy) pres_____ with great exu_____ and gladness.

Q6: According to John 17:24, what was Jesus asking His father for?

Q7: Name some locations Scripture says Jesus will be following His resurrection.

Q8: According to 1 John 3:2-3, how will we – as Christians – be able to do this?

1 Corinthians 15:51-54 (NKJV) Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed — ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. ⁵³ For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. ⁵⁴ So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

25	μόνω		θεῷ	σωτήρι	ἡμῶν	διὰ	Ἰησοῦ	Χριστοῦ	τοῦ
	To the only	wise	God	Saviour,	our				
	<u>3441</u>	<9999>	<u>2316</u>	<u>4990</u>	<u>2257</u>	<u>1223</u>	<u>2424</u>	<u>5547</u>	<u>3588</u>
	μόνοο		Theoó	Sooteéri	heemoón	διά	Ieesoú	Christoú	τού
	κυρίου		ἡμῶν	δόξα		μεγαλωσύνη	κράτος	καὶ	ἐξουσία
	be		glory	and	majesty,	dominion	and	power,	prò
	<u>2962</u>	<u>9999</u>	<u>1391</u>	<9999>	<u>3172</u>	<u>2904</u>	<u>2532</u>	<u>1849</u>	<u>4253</u>
	Kuriou		heemoón	dóxa	megaloosúnee	krátos	kaí	exousía	prò
	παντός	τοῦ	αἰῶνος	καὶ	νῦν	καὶ	εἰς πάντας	τούς	αἰῶνας,
	ever.		both	now	and				ever.
	<u>3956</u>	<u>3588</u>	<u>165</u>	<u>2532</u>	<u>3568</u>	<u>2532</u>	<u>1519</u>	<u>3956</u>	<u>3588</u>
	pantós	τού	aióonos	kaí	nún	kaí	eis pántas	toús	aióonas
									ámh̄n.
									Amen.
									<u>281</u>
									Ameén

Jude 25 (NKJV) To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen.

Jude 25 (KJV) To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Jude 25 (RSV) to the only God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and for ever. Amen.

Jude 25 (NIV) to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.

Jude 25 (ISV) to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus the Messiah, our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority before all time and for all eternity! Amen.

Q10: Is it correct to identify God as “our Savior” as Jude does to begin verse 25? Doesn’t Hebrews 5:9 and 12:2 clearly identify Jesus Christ as Savior?

What do the following verses reveal about this matter?

- I Timothy 1:1 and 2:3
- Titus 3:4-6
- Psalm 106:21
- Isaiah 60:16

Jude 25 (NKJV) To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, **be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen.**

- Glory – *doxa* – _____; a divine radiance that sh_____ (Luke 2:9), bl_____ (Acts 22:11), and is protected by s_____ (Revelation 15:8).
- Majesty – *megalosune* - _____; the regal pres_____ of the Ruler of the Universe (Hebrews 1:3), of whom Jesus Christ is set at His r_____ h_____ (Hebrews 8:1).
- Dominion – *kratos* - _____; sometimes appearing as *pantokratos* to describe an attribute of God (omn_____ (Revelation 19:6) or al_____ (2 Corinthians 6:18).
- Power – *exousia* - _____; the irresistible divine p_____ God gave His Son (Matthew 28:18) or God-delegated au_____ (Romans 13:1-2).

In Jude 25, the four attributes of glory, majesty, power and authority (dominion) are ascribed to God. (See also 1 Chronicles 29:10-13 and Revelation 4:9-11). Truly the human language shows its poverty when trying to describe God Almighty! As Jude draws to a close (verse 25b), he leaves us one last insight into God’s plan for us and for the completion of the ages:

Implied but not stated is *before all ages (time)...”* –

- ...before the most distant stars were created and before time began

Stated “...now...” -

- our little slice of time
- this is the only era we can impact

Stated “...and forever!”



Ephesians 1:3-11 (NKJV) Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, ⁴ just as

He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, ⁵ having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, ⁶ to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. ⁷ In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace ⁸ which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, ⁹ having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, ¹⁰ that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth — in Him.

Q11: How does God’s plan (as outlined in Ephesians 1 above) connect the past with the present and future?

AMEN – what is left to be said?

Appendix: How We Got Our Bible – A Chuck Missler Study, New Testament

The Old Testament was compiled over several thousand years; The New Testament was compiled within *one lifetime*: Four Gospels (Luke in two volumes); Pauline Corpus (and other epistles); circulated with LXX for instruction & worship; Luke & Paul *rely* on contemporary eye-witnesses!

Conspicuous NT Omissions

- Nero's persecutions after 64 AD.
- Execution of James, 62 AD.
- Jewish Revolt against Romans, 66 AD.
- Destruction of Jerusalem, 70 AD.

Jesus' Linguistics

- Common language: Aramaic (Mark 15:34).
- Also Spoke Greek (Mark 7:24-30).
- Spoke initially Greek to Mary until addressing her in Aramaic (John 20:11-18).
- Pilate fluent in Hebrew, Greek, & Latin (John 19:19).

Syntactic Peculiarities in NT

- Semitic sentence structure: Hebrew more likely than Aramaic.
- Mark quotes Luke in hundreds of places.
- Mark quotes Acts in 150 places.
- Mark knew Thessalonians, Corinthians, Romans, Colossians, James.
- 600 evidences of early date of Luke. [David Flusser, Hebrew University; Robert Lindsey]

The Role of the Amanuensis

- By hand: *Manu*-scripts.
- *uphre,thj*, (*Hyperetes*, "under-rower"): Silvanus (1 Pet 5:12); Tertius (Romans 16:22); John Mark (Acts 13:5); specialized skills, including shorthand.
- Shorthand Skills: Psalm 45:1. *ryhim rpeAs*, (the "ready writer" (KJV), or "skillful writer" (NIV); LXX: *ovxugra,foj*, (*oxygràphos*, a synonym for *tachygràphos*, or "shorthand writer.")
- Matthew was a former customs official (Mt 9:9) and would also have a working knowledge of tachygraphy; he would have been able to transcribe the Sermon on the Mount *verbatim!*
- Paul mentions *membranae*, a Latin word transcribed into Greek, referring to a parchment notebook, the predecessor to the subsequent codex, the ultimate departure from the scrolls (2 Tim 4:13).

Abbreviations

- Pressures on abbreviation (Zipf's Law); e.g., Deoxyribonucleic Acid = DNA or North Atlantic Treaty Organization = NATO.
- These writers coped with burdensome manual methods so abbreviations were inevitable. Their use was deliberate and standardized, reflecting a theological position.

Nomina Sacra ("Sacred Names")

- Christ Cristo,j, *Christos* Cr
- Jesus, *Vihsou/j Iesous* I/j
- God, *qeo,j, Theos* q,j
- Holy Spirit *pneu/ma, Pneuma* pna
- Lord *ku,rioj, kurios* kj Their use was deliberate and standardized, reflecting a theological position.

“The First and the Last”

- **“The First and Last”**: Isaiah 41:44; 44:6; 48:12; Rev 1:11; 22:3.
- **“The Alpha and Omega”**: Rev 1:8; 1:17, 18; 2:8; 21:6; 22:3.
- **“The Aleph and the Tau”**: The first and last letters of the Hebrew alphabet are a, *aleph*, and the t, *tau*. When used with a connector-bar, a *maqeph*, the two letter prefix, -ta, is used as a grammatical element to indicate a direct object. However, there are instances where ta is used as a pronoun to indicate the second person masculine singular.
- **hypocatastasis** (“putting down underneath”), a kind of grammatical pun: “a hidden declarative implied metaphor expressing a superlative degree of resemblance.”

Zechariah 12:10

And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me [ta] whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.

Early New Testament Manuscripts

- 6,000 copies of Greek New Testament, or portions thereof. Compare with Homer’s *Iliad* (about 650); Euripides Tragedies (about 330).
- Lapse for classical Greek: 800-1000 yrs; lapse for NT works: approximately one lifetime. For example, P64, a papyrus now dated before 66 AD (containing Matthew 26: 23, 31), written within the lifetimes involved

Significant Papyri

- **Oxyrhynchus Papyri**: Over 35 manuscripts containing papyrus manuscripts; P1 (Matthew), P5 (John 1, 16) P13 (Hebrews 2-5, 10-12), and P22 (John 15-16).
- **Chester Beatty Papyri**. P45 (2nd century) contains portions of all four Gospels and Acts; P46, contains all of Paul’s epistles except the Pastorals, and Hebrews, has been dated late 1st century; again, 20-30 years after they were written; P47 (3rd century) contains Rev 9-17.
- **Bodmer Papyri**: P66 (all of John, dated about 175); P72 (all of 1st and 2nd Peter and Jude, 3rd century); and P75 (large parts of Luke 3 - John 15, c.200).

The “Jesus Papyrus”

Redated in 1994: “A papyrus believed to be the oldest extant fragment of the New Testament has been found in the Oxford Library ... It provides the first material evidence that the Gospel according to Matthew is an eyewitness account written by contemporaries of Christ.”

Dec 24,1994, *The Times*, front page Advanced technology to the rescue: A scanning laser microscope can differentiate between layers of the papyrus, measuring the height and the depth of ink, as well as the angle of the stylus used by the scribe. Dr. Carsten Thiede, using a scanning laser microscope, and comparing with four other manuscripts— at Qumran (dated to 58 AD), at Herculaneum (dated prior to 79 AD), at Masada (dated to between 73-74 AD), and ones found at the Egyptian town of Oxyrynchus (65-66 AD)—has concluded that this is either an original of Matthew’s Gospel, or an immediate copy, written while Matthew and the other disciples and other eyewitnesses were still alive.

Nomina Sacra

Matthew 26 fragment uses I/j for Ihsou/j *Iesous*, Jesus and kj for ku,riouj, *kurios*, Lord. This indicates that the deity of Jesus was recognized centuries before it was accepted as official church doctrine at the council of Nicea in 325 AD.

The Gospel of Mark

A Qumran fragment, 7Q5, was written before 68 AD, within 36 years (or less) from the resurrection, while eyewitnesses were still alive.

The Alexandrian Codices

- **Codex Alexandrinus:** About 1630, Codex Alexandrinus was brought to England. A fifth century manuscript containing the entire New Testament.
- **Codex Sinaiticus:** 200 years later, a German scholar name Constantin von Tischendorf discovered the Codex Sinaiticus in St. Catherine's Monastery at (the traditional) Mt. Sinai. This manuscript, dated around 350 AD, is one of the two oldest manuscripts of the Greek New Testament.
- **Codex Vaticanus:** This had been in the Vatican Library since at least 1481, but was not made available to scholars until the middle of the 19th century. Dated slightly earlier (325 AD) than Codex Sinaiticus, is regarded by many as one of the most reliable copies of the Greek New Testament. (These have become controversial for a number of reasons.)

The English Bible

- **John Wycliffe (1329-1384):** Most eminent Oxford theologian of his day; he and his associates were the first to translate the entire Bible from Latin into English.
- **William Tyndale:** Born in 1494, in the age of the Renaissance; graduated in 1515 from Oxford, where he studied Greek and Hebrew. He committed his life to translating the Bible from its original languages for the common man.

1382 Wycliffe Bible (from Vulgate)
 1525 Erasmus' NT (Greek; TR basis)
 1526 Tyndale Bible (1st English NT)
 1534 Luther's Bible (1st German)
 1535 Coverdale's (1st complete)
 1537 Matthew Bible (from Tyndale's notes)
 1539 Great Bible (Coverdale's revision)
 1560 Geneva Bible (Whittingham, et al)
 1568 Bishop's Bible (Revised "Great Bible")
 1609 Douay/Rheims (Vulgate rendering)
 1611 King James Version

King James Version

James VI of Scotland becomes King of England (known as "James I"). In 1607, more than 50 scholars, through prayerful committees, reviewed 5556 manuscripts available; their major reliance was on *Textus Receptus*. The KJV was heralded as "the noblest monument of English prose."

Textus Receptus

At the end of 3rd century, Lucian of Antioch compiled Greek text to become primary standard throughout Byzantine world. From 6th – 14th century, majority of NT texts were produced in Byzantium in Greek. In 1525, Erasmus, using 5 or 6 Byzantine manuscripts, compiled first Greek text produced on printing press. Basis for Textus Receptus.

Gnostic Heresies

- Satan's Strategy (Gen 3: doubt; additions and amendments...)
- 55 AD, twisting begins (2 Peter 2:1-3).
- Disparaged existing writings; mixed Greek philosophy and concepts with the revelation of God.
- "All material is evil"; Aeons; emanations; distanced from the material universe...
- Thus, Christ was not "God in the flesh." Jesus was a phantom; only had the appearance of being there; no footprints in the sand; an apparition, etc.
- Already gaining momentum before John died (i.e., 1 John 1:1, 4:2,3; et al.).

- Gnostics known for mutilating the Scriptures: 56 AD, Irenaeus (of the Gnostics): “Wherefore they and their followers have betaken themselves to mutilating the Scriptures which they themselves have shortened.”
- Headquarters for Gnostics: Alexandria.

Textus Receptus Dethroned

- 1730s: Johannes Albert Bengel produced a text that deviated from the *Textus Receptus*, relying on the earlier manuscripts.
- 1831: Karl Lachman, produced a text that represented the 4th century manuscripts.
- 1857-72: Samuel Tregelles, self-taught in Latin, Hebrew and Greek, spent his lifetime in publishing a Greek text that came out—in six parts—from 1857 to 1872.

Westcott & Hort

- Brooke Foss Westcott and Fenton John Anthony Hort were Anglican churchmen who had contempt for the *Textus Receptus*.
- They began a work in 1853 that resulted, after 28 years, in a Greek New Testament based on the corrupt *Vaticanus* and *Siniaticus*.
- Both were influenced by Origen and others who denied the deity of Jesus Christ and embraced the prevalent Gnostic heresies of the period from the headquarters of the Gnostics, Alexandria.
- There are over 3,000 contradictions in the four gospels alone between these manuscripts. They changed the traditional Greek text in 8,413 places.
- 1845: They founded the Hermes Club—messenger of the gods; guide for departed souls.
- 1851: started a guild at Cambridge “to conduct serious and earnest inquiry into the nature of supernatural phenomenon.” Arthur Westcott, *Life and Letters of Westcott*, Vol 2, p.118.

B. F. Westcott: Westcott’s son said his father’s “faith in what for a better name one must call ‘Spiritism’” (B.F. Westcott, *Life of Westcott*, Vol 2, p.119). In a letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Westcott wrote: “No one now I suppose holds that the first three chapters of Genesis, for example, give a literal history—I could never understand how anyone reading them with open eyes could think they did.” *Life of Westcott*, Vol 11, p.69

Darwin? Hort wrote in April 3, 1860: “But the book which has engaged me most is Darwin. What may be thought of it, it is a book that one is proud to be contemporary with. My feeling is strong that the theory is unanswerable.” F. J. Hort, *Life of Hort*, Vol 1, p.416

Universal Fatherhood of God? Westcott believed in the Universal Fatherhood of God. In reference to John 10:28, 29 he wrote: “The thought which is concrete in verse 28 is here traced back to its most absolute form as resting on the essential power of God, in His relation of Universal Fatherhood.” B. F. Westcott, *The Gospel According to St. John*, p.159

Christology: Westcott said Christians were “Christ.” In reference to 1 John 2:20: “Christians are themselves in a true sense ‘Christ.’” B. F. Westcott, *The Epistles of St. John*, p. 73.

Adam’s Fall: Hort said, “I am inclined to think that no such state as Eden (I mean the popular notion) ever existed, and that Adam’s fall in no degree differed from the fall of each of his descendents.” F. J. A. Hort, *Life of Hort*, Vol 1, p.78.

Atonement: Hort writing to Westcott: “I entirely agree ... having for many years believed that the absolute union of the Christian (or rather of man) with the Christ Himself is the spiritual truth of which the popular doctrine of substitution is an immoral and material counterfeit—certainly nothing could be more unscriptural than the modern limiting of Christ’s bearing our sins and sufferings to His death, but that is only one aspect of an almost universal heresy.” (Ref. 1 Pet 2:24) F.J.A. Hort, *Life of Hort*, vol 1, p.430. Hort writes in a letter to F. D. Maurice: “Finally St. Paul’s mysterious words ‘without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins’—I have labored so utterly to apprehend in any measure what this idea is, that I hope you will deepen and widen the hints you have already given. I am quite conscious that I have given but few distinct objections to the common belief (redemption through the blood of the lamb) in what I have written, but so indeed it must be; language cannot accurately define the twinge of shrinking horror which mixes with my thought when I hear the popular notion asserted.” Arthur Fenton Hort, *Life and Letters of F. J. A. Hort*, Vol 1, p.122

Sinlessness of Christ: Westcott denies the sinlessness of Christ in reference to Heb 2:10. "The concept is that of bringing Christ to the full perfection of His Humanity which carries with it the completeness of power and dignity. This perfection was not reached 'til after death." B. F. Westcott, *The Epistle to the Hebrews*, p. 49.

Resurrection: Westcott states concerning the resurrection: "The resurrection seems to me to be the image of man unfallen to a higher life—not future but present. Not I shall be hereafter but I am." B. F. Westcott, *Life of Westcott*, Vol 2, p.77.

Roman Paganism: Hort writes to Westcott: "I have been persuaded for many years that Maryworship and Jesus-worship have very much in common and their causes and results." F. A. J. Hort, *Life of Hort*, Vol 2, p.50.

Heaven: Hort denies heaven as literal; re: 1 Pet 1:4, 'reserved in heaven': "It is hardly necessary to say that this whole local language is figurative folly." F. J. A. Hort, *The First Epistle of Peter*, p.39

Non-literal Views: Hort: "the true lesson is that the language which speaks of a ransom is but figurative." F. J. A. Hort, *The First Epistle of St. Peter*, p.77, 80 Hort refers to the appearing of Jesus Christ in 1 Peter 1:7 as "figurative." "There is nothing in either this passage or others on the same subject, apart from the figurative language of Thessalonians, to show that the revelation here spoken of is to be limited to a sudden preternatural theophany. It may be a long and varying process, though ending in a climax." F. J. A. Hort, *The Epistle of St. Peter*, p.44, 45.

Textus Receptus: Hort described the *Textus Receptus* as "vile" and "villainous." F. J. A. Hort, *Life of Hort*, Vol 1, p.211

Orthodoxy: Westcott admits, "How certainly I should have been proclaimed a heretic." B. F. Westcott, *Life of Westcott*, Vol 1, p.233.

Would you trust either one of these fellows to teach your Sunday School class?

What Does the Bible Say? (underlined text is missing in Westcott & Hort translations)

The Lord's Prayer: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. (Mt 6:13)

Christ's Mission: For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost. (Mt 18:11)

Hypocritical Targets: Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation. (Mt 23:14)

Second Coming: Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh. (Mt 25:13)

His Deity: The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; (Mk 1:1)

Repentance: When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. (Mk 2:17)

Eternal Judgment: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. (Mk 9:44)

Forgiveness: But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses. (Mk 11:26)

Virgin Birth: And Joseph ["father"] and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him. (Lk 2:33)

Word of God: And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God. (Lk 4:4)

Resurrection: And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet. (Lk 24:40)
Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; (Acts 2:30)
For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living. (Rom 14:9)

Salvation: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. (Jn 3:16)
And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. (Acts 8:37)

Paul's Call: And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do. (Acts 9:5,6)

Creator Role: *And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:* (Eph 3:9)

Deity of Christ: *For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,* (Eph 3:14)

Holy Spirit: *Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:* (1 Pet 1:22)

Atonement: *Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin;* (1 Pet 4:1)

Trinity: For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one. (1 Jn 5:7,8)

Second Coming: *Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.* (Rev 11:17)

Design Challenge: A Genealogy

- The number of words must be divisible by 7, evenly.
- The number of letters must also be divisible by 7, evenly.
- The number of vowels and the number of consonants must also be divisible by 7.
- The number of words that begin with a vowel must be divisible by 7.
- The number of words that begin with a consonant must be divisible by 7.
- The number of words that occur more than once must be divisible by 7.
- The number of words that occur in more than one form must be divisible by 7.
- The number of words that occur in only one form must be divisible by 7.
- The number of nouns shall be divisible by 7.
- Only 7 words shall not be nouns.
- The number of names shall be divisible by 7.
- Only 7 other kinds of nouns are permitted.
- The number of male names shall be divisible by 7.
- The number of generations shall be divisible by 7. (21)

This is the genealogy of Jesus Christ found in Matthew (in the Greek)!

Dr. Ivan Panin

- Born in Russia Dec 12, 1855.
- Exiled at an early age; emigrated to Germany, and the U.S.
- Graduated from Harvard in 1882.
- Discovered Christ.
- Discovered the heptadic structures underlying the Biblical text in 1890.
- Committed the rest of the 50 years of his life generating 43,000 pages of discoveries.
- Went to his Lord on October 30, 1942.

Last 12 Verses of Mark?

- Westcott & Hort: Last part of Mark (16:9-20) = a later addition?
- 150 AD: Irenaeus quotes it in his commentary! (He must have been clairvoyant.)
- Hypolatus, also, in 2nd century...several hundred years *before* the Alexandrian Codices.

The Last 12 Verses of Mark

- Appearance to Mary; disciples' disbelief 9-11
- Subsequent appearances 11-18
- Conclusion 19-20
- Simple narrative 9-14
- Christ's discourse 15-18
- Conclusion 19-20

Authentication Codes?

- An automatic security monitor, watching over every single letter of the text, that doesn't rust or wear out, running continually over several thousand years...
- Fingerprint signature of the Author.
- Non-compromisable design.

Sevens in the Bible

- Occur in over 600 passages: Some overt, some structural, some hidden.
- Heptadic Structures as a signature?

The Last 12 Verses of Mark

- Words 175 (7 x 25)
- Vocabulary 98 (7 x 7 x 2)
- Letters 553 (7 x 79)
- Vowels 294 (7 x 42)
- Consonants 259 (7 x 37)

Vocabulary:

- Total Vocabulary 98 (7 x 14)
- Found before in Mark 84 (7 x 12)
- Only here 14 (7 x 2)
- Used in Lord's address 42 (7 x 6)
- Not part of His vocabulary 56 (7 x 8)

Chances of Multiples of 7

For 2 72 = (7 x 7) 49

For 3 73 = (7 x 7 x 7) 343

For 4 74 = (7 x 7 x 7 x 7) etc. 2,401

For 5 75 16,807

For 6 76 117,649

For 7 77 823,543

For 8 78 5,764,801

For 9 79 40,353,607

Would you like to try this?

- 8 hrs/day, 40 hrs/wk, 50 weeks/year = 2000 hrs/year, or 120,000 min/year.
- 79 chances = 40,353,607 attempts @ average of 10 minutes/attempt = 403,536,070 minutes or 3,362 years! (*It gets worse...*)

Words

- Words, total 175 (7 x 25)
- Address of the Lord 56 (7 x 8)
- Rest of the passage 119 (7 x 17)
- vv.9-11 35 (7 x 5)
- vv.12-18 105 (7 x 15)
- v.12 14 (7 x 2)
- vv.13-15 35 (7 x 5)
- vv.16-18 56 (7 x 8)
- vv.19-20 35 (7 x 5)

Numerical (Gematrial) Values

Total: 103,663 (7 x 14,809)

- vv.9-11 17,213 (7 x 2,459)
- v.9 11,795 (7 x 1,685)
- v.10 5,418 (7 x 774)
 - 1st word 98 (7 x 14)
 - Middle 4,529 (7 x 647)
 - Last word 791 (7 x 113)
- v.11 11,795 (7 x 1,685)
- vv.12-20 86,450 (7 x 12,350)

Vocabulary:

- Total 98 (7 x 14)
- Not before in Mark 14 (7 x 2)
- Found later in NT 7 (7 x 1)
- Occurrences 35 (7 x 5) times
- Numeric value 8,246 (7 x 1,178)
- v.20 vocabulary 14 (7 x 2)
- found previously 7 (7 x 1)
- found only here 7 (7 x 1)

Word Forms:

- Total Forms 133 (7 x 19)
- Value of total 89,663 (7 x 12,809)
- Occur once 112 (7 x 16)
- Occurring more than once 21 (7 x 3)
- Occurring 63 times 63 (7 x 9)
- Total Occurrences 112 + 63 = 175 (7 x 25)
- Total Value 103,663 (7 x 14,809)

qana,simoj, *deadly*:

- Not found elsewhere in New Testament
 - Has a numeric value of 581 (7 x 83)
- Is preceded
 - in the vocabulary by 42 (7 x 6) words
 - in the passage itself by 126 (7 x 18) words

Chances of Multiples of 7

- For 10 710 282,475,249
- For 11 711 1,977,326,743
- For 12 712 13,841,287,201
- For 13 713 96,889,010,047
- For 14 714 678,223,072,849
- For 15 715 4,747,561,509,943
- For 16 716 33,232,930,569,601
- For 17 717 232,630,513,987,207
- For 18 718 1,628,413,597,910,449
- For 19 719 11,398,895,185,373,143
- For 20 720 79,792,266,297,612,001
- For 21 721 558,545,864,083,284,007
- For 22 722 3,909,821,048,582,988,049
- For 23 723 27,368,747,340,080,916,343
- For 24 724 191,581,231,380,566,414,401
- For 25 725 1,341,068,619,663,964,900,807
- For 26 726 9,387,480,337,647,754,305,649
- For 27 727 65,712,362,363,534,280,139,543
- For 28 728 459,986,536,544,739,960,976,801
- For 29 729 3,219,905,755,813,179,726,837,607
- For 30 730 22,539,340,290,692,258,087,863,249

till want to try?

- $734 = \sim 5.4 \times 10^{28}$ tries would be needed.
- There are $\sim 3.15 \times 10^7$ sec/year;
- 400 million tries per second?
- At 4×10^8 tries/sec, it would take about 4.3×10^{12} computer-years: = 1,000,000 supercomputers 4,300,000 years?
And that's with only 34 distinctive features of sevens; Panin has identified 75!

Comprehensive Design

- New Testament consists of 27 books; Terminations: each book begins and ends with a word: 2 x 27 = 54 words:
- Total vocabulary of 28 (7 x 4) in the Gospels 7 (7 x 1)
- Total gematrical value 46,949 (7 x 6707)
- Value of the shortest word, **o'**, 70 (7 x 10)
- Value of longest word, avpoka,luyij, 1512 (7 x 6 x 6 x 6)

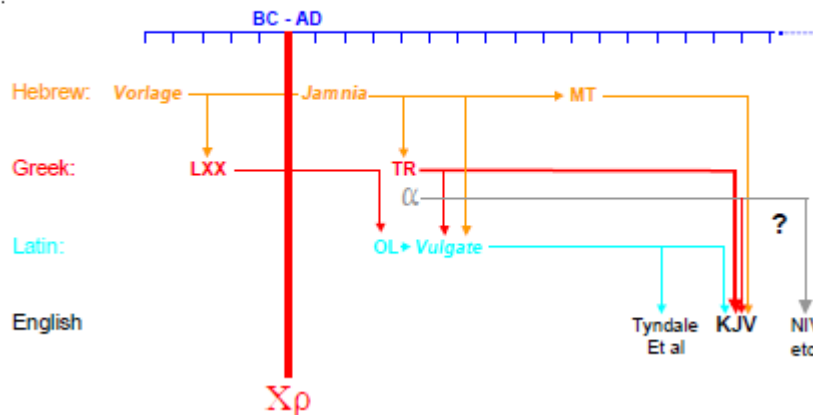
Unique Vocabularies?

- Vocabulary unique to Matthew
 - occurs 42 times (7 x 6)
 - with 126 letters (7 x 18).
- How could this have been organized?
 - prior agreement with other authors?
 - or was this Gospel written *last*?
- Gospel of Matthew
- Gospel of Mark
- Gospel of Luke
- Gospel of John
- James, Peter, Jude, and Paul ...each “written last.”

Don't Change Anything in Scripture:

- **Deuteronomy 4:2:** *Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.*
- **Revelation 22:18,19:** *For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.*
- **Psalm 12:6, 7:** *The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.*
- **Isaiah 40:8:** *The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.*
- **Deuteronomy 12:32:** *What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.*
- **Matthew 24:35:** *Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.*
- **Jeremiah 26:2:** *Thus saith the LORD; Stand in the court of the LORD'S house, and speak unto all the cities of Judah, which come to worship in the LORD'S house, all the words that I command thee to speak unto them; diminish not a word:*
- **Mark 8:38:** *Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; or him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.*
- **Psalm 138:2:** *I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.*
- Sir Frederick Kenyon, noted expert: “We have in our hands, in substantial integrity, the veritable word of God.”

History of the English Bible



References

The following references were consulted and utilized during the course of this study:

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The PC Study Bible, Complete Reference Library, Copyright 1996-2008 by Biblesoft, Inc.

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