

## **“The Acts of the Apostates”**

### **Jude 8-16**

**Introduction** - *“Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also your own selves shall arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.”* Acts 20:28-30

Jesus warned us, Paul warned us, Peter warned us, John warned us, now Jude is warning us! Beware of the Apostates, they are coming! They are here! It’s a sign of the last days. I Tim. 4:1.

So the call to *“earnestly contend for the faith once and for all delivered unto the saints”*, vs. 3.

- The Army, vv. 1-2
- The Commission, vs. 3
- The Enemy, vs. 4, see three things.

The Apostates, their past judgement, vv. 5-7.

1. Remember Israel, vs. 5
2. Remember the Angels, vs. 6
3. Remember Sodom & Gomorrah, vs. 7

Now today, the Apostates and their *present characteristics; and their coming judgement*.

Since the Apostates come in with such subtlety, Jude wants us to be able to I.D. them.

### **I. They Reject Divine Authority**, vv. 8-11

Jude shows us the daring nature of the apostates conduct; and how it is related to the sin of Israel(vs. 5), angels(vs. 6), Sodom and Gomorrah(vs. 7). See “likewise” or “in the same manner.” Note “these,” vs. 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, & 19, (these apostates.)

#### **1. The cause of their apostasy**, vs. 8.

*“These dreamers,”* so *“they live in an unreal world.”* Illus., we say *“you’re dreaming.”*

Their minds are numb to the truth of God’s Word! Some say they claimed dreams or visions from God?

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#### **2. The course of their apostasy, vs. 8-10.**

- A. They “defile the flesh,” vs. 8.
- B. They “despise dominion,” vs. 8.
- C. The “speak evil of dignities,” vs. 8.

#### **3. The characteristics of their apostasy, vs. 11.**

- A. “The way of Cain.”
- B. “The error of Balaam,” vs. 11.
- C. “The gainsaying of Korah,” vs. 11.

## **II. They Resort to Deliberate Hypocrisy, vv. 12-13**

Jude now uses five word pictures from nature to uncover their hypocrisy.

1. **“Hidden rocks,”** vs. 12, K.J.V. “spots” - the greek word can mean “hidden rocks,” N.L.T. “they are like dangerous reefs that can shipwreck you.”

Ask, *what’s the feast of charity?*

Lesson, “unseen danger.”

Remember vs. 4, “crept in unawares” and also, “feeding themselves.”

2. **“Clouds without water,”** vs. 12.

“They look like they can give spiritual help, yet they have nothing of true spiritual value.”. So false promise! Proverbs 25:14, “*Who so boasteth himself of a false gift is like clouds and wind without rain.*” II Peter 2:19, “*they promise liberty, but they can only give bondage.*” But God’s word is like “rain and dew.” Duet. 32:2, “*my doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distill as the dew.*”

3. **“Autumn trees,”** literally, “*tress of autumn.*”

- No fruit.
- No life, twice dead
- No roots

Point, “*it’s barren profession!*”

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4. **“Wild Waves,”** vs. 13. *“Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame.”*

- Isa. 57:20-21, *“The wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest whose waters cast up mire and dirt. There is no peace, saith my God to the wicked.”*

Lesson: It’s *“wasted effort,”* all they can produce is foam and shame!

5. **“Wondering Stars,”** vs. 13.

- It’s a *“meteor”* or *“shooting star.”*
- *“A wondering star has a uncontrolled moment of brilliance and then fades away into nothing”* The apostates promise enduring spiritual direction, but deliver a brief, aimless, and worthless flash.

**Illus.:** No help in navigation! Note, vs. 13, *“to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.”*

### **III. They Receive their Due Penalty, vv. 14-16**

We have the apostates future judgement. Enoch, Gen. 5, it’s similar to a passage in the apocryphal book of Enoch 1:9, written before 110 B.C.

It’s a prophecy before the flood. The last days before the second coming. It’s the second coming of Christ. Contrast with first coming, He’s coming to judge, vs. 15.

Note these facts:

1. **He is coming.** “Behold the Lord cometh.”
2. **He’s coming with his saints.**
3. **He’s coming to judge,** vs. 15.

It will be:

- Personal, vs. 14. *“The Lord comes.”*
- Universal, vs. 15. *“All.”*
- Just, vs. 15. *“Convince.”*

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**Jude gives us one last look at the apostates.**

**1. Discontented-** *“Murmurers , complains.”*

**2. Self-centered-** *“Walking after their own lust.”*

**3. Egotistical-** *“Mouth speaking great swelling words.”*

**4. Deceptively flattering-** *“having men’s persons in admiration because of advantage.”*

**Conclusion**

- They reject divine authority.
- Resort to deliberate hypocrisy.
- Will receive their due penalty.