

Jude: Beware of False Prophets

Part 1

Jude 1:1-11

There are a plethora of verses in the Bible warning us against false leadership. They're called prophets, teachers, and sometimes leaders, but it is all similar. What God want us to do is be wary of those in position of power who might direct a few or many away from the Lord. The original concept for this lesson was to be in one single Bible Study. However, along with Jude there are some other parts of the Bible that dive into the topic of false prophets. This lesson will cover the first part of Jude with some examples from the Old Testament.

1.) Who is writing this epistle, and what is his reason for the letter?

Jude 1:1-4

2.) What are the three examples Jude use to reveal what will happen to people/beings who turn away from God?

Jude 1:5-7, 2 Peter 2:4-9

3.) What actions are the false leaders/prophets do that Jude states will corrupt them? (vs 10). Whom does he use as an antithesis to the false prophets and what action do they take? (vs 9).

Jude 1:8-10

4.) Who are compared to the false prophets?

Jude 1:11

Jude used three examples in verse 11. We will briefly study each and have a personal question regarding them.

5.) Who was Cain and what crime did he commit?

Genesis 4:1-8

6.) What happened to Cain because of his actions?

Genesis 4:9-15

7.) Murder does not have to be a physical death. It can also include character assassination. Why would a false prophet want to assassinate someone's character and what do they have to gain? How can we guard ourselves from harming someone's character?

The story of Balaam is long and covers three chapters (Numbers 22-24). For our purposes, we will only look at a few verses to see his character.

8.) In Numbers, the children of Israel had just conquered the Amorites and were on the edge of Moab. This made the Moabite king, Balak nervous. Balak came to Balaam for help to curse the children of Israel (Numbers 22:1-8). What did God say to Balaam?

Numbers 22:9-12

9.) Balaam gave his response to the King and some bargaining happened to change his mind (Numbers 22:13-17). What was the agreed upon price from Balaam and what did God tell him to do?

Numbers 22:18-20

10.) What event happened to Balaam on his way to the men from the King?

Numbers 22:21-35

11.) Would a false prophet/teacher lead people away from the Lord on purpose? Explain. What would they have to gain in leading a congregation away from the Lord?

12.) Who decided to rebel and how did Moses respond?

Numbers 16:1-5, 15

13.) What did God tell Moses and how did he deal with the rebels?

Numbers 16:20-21, 28-35

14.) Do we see people rebel from the church on false pretenses? Why would a person want to lead people away from the group?

Just a Thought

This is only the beginning of learning about false prophets. However, as you can see from the examples there could be a variety of ways that people can be lead astray or do something that sets them apart. There will be more in part two but make sure to listen to God for yourself. Build a personal relationship with Him so a false prophet will not dupe you.

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