

## **Earnestly Contend for the Faith**

### **A Description of False Teachers**

Jude 8-11

#### **1. A Comparison: False Teachers and The Three Examples (v.8a)**

Jude had stated that the condemnation of the false teachers is certain and had been set in motion a long time ago (v.4) by referring to three well-known examples of God's judgment. Now he goes on to connect the sins of the current false teachers with those of the same notorious groups.

#### **2. A Way of Conduct: One Error, Three Results (vs.8b-10)**

##### **A. The Authority: "by dreaming"**

Jude is referring to the justification used by the false teachers for teaching things that are contrary to the faith (cf. v.3). The danger of placing subjective revelation on a level with the Scripture or in prioritizing subjective revelation above Scripture is not a problem only for Jude's audience.

##### **B. The Activity:**

##### **I. They Defile**

While there are many ways to defile oneself, the context is clear that Jude is primarily referring to sexual defilement (Jude 4, 16; cf. 2 Pet. 2:13, 14, 18, 19). Sexual sin is frequently warned about, and it is incongruous with faithful devotion to God (cf. Mk. 7:21-23; see also 1 Cor 6:9-10; Gal. 5:19-21; Col. 3:5-7; 2 Tim 3:1-7).

##### **II. They are Hostile**

In their teaching the lordship of Jesus is discarded (cf.v.4). They replace the lordship of Christ and His Word with the supreme authority of their own dreams and ideas.

##### **III. They Revile**

Maligning and rebuking the evil spirits was one of the notable features of these false teachers. They express a willingness to do what neither Michael (v.9) or the Lord Himself does (cf. Zech. 3:1-4). They express confidence in things which are obscure while they ignore those things which are clear.

#### **3. A Bad Company: Three Examples of Sinful Leaders (v.11)**

A. Cain: Anger that Brought a Life of Sin (Gen. 4:1-11)

B. Balaam: Greed that Justified Sensuality (Num. 22:20, 20; 31:16; Josh. 13:22)

C. Korah: Discontentment that Brought Rebellion (Num. 16:1ff)