

Contend Earnestly For the Faith Which Was Once For All Handed Down to the Saints

An Expositional Study of the **Epistle of Jude**

Chapter 11- The Gainsaying of Core **Jude 11** 122 The Gainsaying of Core- Part 4

WOSM Thursday 04/24/08

Welcome again my brothers and sisters in Christ. We are continuing to go over our verse by verse study of the Epistle of Jude and today I want to go on further into verse 11 to look at the three Old Testament people that Jude was comparing the heretics with. Let's read **Jude 11**:

Woe to them! For they have gone the way of Cain, and for pay they have rushed headlong into the error of Balaam, and perished in the rebellion of Korah.

Now we are continuing to examine the gainsaying of Korah so that we may take heed to ourselves that this sin is not in us. Jude gives us an ever escalating degree of judgment against the heretics in verse 11 that we need to take knowledge of. Notice in verse 11 how that Jude says that first the heretics "have gone"; then they "rushed headlong"; and finally, they "perished". So as Jude gives us these three Old Testament examples- we can easily see that this is the way that is *always* is with those who seek to pervert the right way of the Lord.

So, we see that heretics are never content with simply *not* serving God themselves- no, they also seek to destroy others too. Cain and his descendants ended up aligning themselves with Nimrod- who established his own pagan religion and built the Tower of Babel. Balaam ended up disgraced and dead- all over his covetousness and greed.

And now here we see that Korah's deception was typical of how false teaching and heresy comes in and takes over. Korah initially

deceived only Dathan and Abiram. But then these two men went out and deceived 250 other men of Israel into rebelling against Moses too. And when God confronted the band of Korah and openly and publicly judged them- still other men turned against Moses and finally God had to send in a plague that killed 14,700 men in order to take out of the camp the false teaching that one single man had brought in. Let's read that section of the Bible in **Numbers 16**:

1 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 *action*,

2 and they rose up before Moses, together with some of the sons of Israel, two hundred and fifty leaders of the congregation, chosen in the assembly, men of renown.

3 They assembled together against Moses and Aaron, and said to them, "You have gone far enough, for all the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LORD is in their midst; so why do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?"

4 When Moses heard *this*, he fell on his face;

5 and he spoke to Korah and all his company, saying, "Tomorrow morning the LORD will show who is His, and who is holy, and will bring *him* near to Himself; even the one whom He will choose, He will bring near to Himself.

6 "Do this: take censers for yourselves, Korah and all your company,

7 and put fire in them, and lay incense upon them in the presence of the LORD tomorrow; and the man whom the LORD chooses *shall be* the one who is holy. You have gone far enough, you sons of Levi!"

8 Then Moses said to Korah, "Hear now, you sons of Levi,

9 is it not enough for you that the God of Israel has separated you from the *rest of* the congregation of Israel, to bring you near to Himself, to do the service of the tabernacle of the LORD, and to stand before the congregation to minister to them;

10 and that He has brought you near, *Korah*, and all your brothers, sons of Levi, with you? And are you seeking for the priesthood also?

11 "Therefore you and all your company are gathered together against the LORD; but as for Aaron, who is he that you grumble against him?"

12 Then Moses sent a summons to Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab; but they said, "We will not come up.

13 "Is it not enough that you have brought us up out of a land flowing with milk and honey to have us die in the wilderness, but you would also lord it over us?"

14 "Indeed, you have not brought us into a land flowing with milk and honey, nor have you given us an inheritance of fields and vineyards. Would you put out the eyes of these men? We will not come up!"

15 Then Moses became very angry and said to the LORD , "Do not regard their offering! I have not taken a single donkey from them, nor have I done harm to any of them."

16 Moses said to Korah, "You and all your company be present before the LORD tomorrow, both you and they along with Aaron.

17 "Each of you take his firepan and put incense on it, and each of you bring his censer before the LORD , two hundred and fifty firepans; also you and Aaron *shall* each *bring* his firepan."

18 So they each took his *own* censer and put fire on it, and laid incense on it; and they stood at the doorway of the tent of meeting, with Moses and Aaron.

19 Thus Korah assembled all the congregation against them at the doorway of the tent of meeting. And the glory of the LORD appeared to all the congregation.

20 Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying,

21 "Separate yourselves from among this congregation, that I may consume them instantly."

22 But they fell on their faces and said, "O God, God of the spirits of all flesh, when one man sins, will You be angry with the entire congregation?"

23 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

24 "Speak to the congregation, saying, 'Get back from around the dwellings of Korah, Dathan and Abiram.'"

25 Then Moses arose and went to Dathan and Abiram, with the elders of Israel following him,

26 and he spoke to the congregation, saying, "Depart now from the tents of these wicked men, and touch nothing that belongs to them, or you will be swept away in all their sin."

27 So they got back from around the dwellings of Korah, Dathan and Abiram; and Dathan and Abiram came out *and* stood at the doorway of their tents, along with their wives and their sons and their little ones.

28 Moses said, "By this you shall know that the LORD has sent me to do all these deeds; for this is not my doing.

29 "If these men die the death of all men or if they suffer the fate of all men, *then* the LORD has not sent me.

30 "But if the LORD brings about an entirely new thing and the ground opens its mouth and swallows them up with all that is theirs, and they descend alive into Sheol, then you will understand that these men have spurned the LORD ."

31 As he finished speaking all these words, the ground that was under them split open;

32 and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, and their households, and all the men who belonged to Korah with *their* possessions.

33 So they and all that belonged to them went down alive to Sheol; and the earth closed over them, and they perished from the midst of the assembly.

34 All Israel who *were* around them fled at their outcry, for they said, "The earth may swallow us up!"

35 Fire also came forth from the LORD and consumed the two hundred and fifty men who were offering the incense.

36 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

37 "Say to Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, that he shall take up the censers out of the midst of the blaze, for they are holy; and you scatter the burning coals abroad.

38 "As for the censers of these men who have sinned at the cost of their lives, let them be made into hammered sheets for a plating of the altar, since they did present them before the LORD and they are holy; and they shall be for a sign to the sons of Israel."

39 So Eleazar the priest took the bronze censers which the men who were burned had offered, and they hammered them out as a plating for the altar,

40 as a reminder to the sons of Israel that no layman who is not of the descendants of Aaron should come near to burn incense before the LORD ; so that he will not become like Korah and his company — just as the LORD had spoken to him through Moses.

41 But on the next day all the congregation of the sons of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron, saying, "You are the ones who have caused the death of the LORD'S people."

42 It came about, however, when the congregation had assembled against Moses and Aaron, that they turned toward the tent of meeting, and behold, the cloud covered it and the glory of the LORD appeared.

43 Then Moses and Aaron came to the front of the tent of meeting,

44 and the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

45 "Get away from among this congregation, that I may consume them instantly." Then they fell on their faces.

46 Moses said to Aaron, "Take your censer and put in it fire from the altar, and lay incense *on it*; then bring it quickly to the congregation and make atonement for them, for wrath has gone forth from the LORD, the plague has begun!"

47 Then Aaron took *it* as Moses had spoken, and ran into the midst of the assembly, for behold, the plague had begun among the people. So he put *on* the incense and made atonement for the people.

48 He took his stand between the dead and the living, so that the plague was checked.

49 But those who died by the plague were 14,700, besides those who died on account of Korah.

50 Then Aaron returned to Moses at the doorway of the tent of meeting, for the plague had been checked.

If the Church becomes apathetic to the real danger of unbiblical teaching and grows weary of defending the Faith- this is what happens. The enemy comes in and it becomes a disaster. The Holy Bible says that one man brought death and destruction and eternal damnation to almost 15,000 souls because he rebelled against God's Holy Order in the congregation.

This is why we need to be alert and we need to make sure that what we believe is firmly taught in Scripture and is not simply the popular pronouncement of the day.

I tell you that the devil always has someone that is willing to deceive other people. The devil always has someone who is willing to be used to tear down everything that is good and holy and right and pure. And to think for one minute that this is not happening in our day is to be self deluding. We are at war right now over the Truth and it is shameful to see how many people have already given up.

21 centuries after the Resurrection there is as much debate going on right now about the Divinity of Jesus Christ; the Nature and Character of God and the Gospel that there was in Paul and John and Peter's day. We have fewer people today that understand serious, important, bedrock Christian Doctrines today than we did 500 years ago- and the blame for that lays at the feet of an effeminate ministry

that has lost its strength and courage to boldly and proudly proclaim God's Truth in the earth- even when people in the Church do not want it.

I tell you that now is not the time for wishy washy frightened men who have no firm convictions about anything to try to forge alliances with the enemy. We have a desperate need today for men of God, who aren't ashamed of the Gospel to rise up in their most holy faith and rightly and fully and fearlessly preach the whole counsel of God regardless of the results and to be faithful to God regardless of the circumstances.

I tell you that we need to realize that Jude was right and these heretics have crept into the Church, bringing their damnable teachings with them and we need to expose them and cast them forth so that God's Wrath doesn't come upon us all. And we need to encourage our own hearts to be faithful to God and to Jesus Christ and to God's Word and we need to earnestly contend for the Faith that was once and for all delivered to the saints. Well, I've got to stop right here. But please join me on the next broadcast as we continue our Journey through the Epistle of **Jude**. May God help us all.

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The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen. Be watchful and quicken your pace. Soli Deo Gloria. For the Glory of God alone.