

Jesus Will Reign

by Fred DeRuvo – Study-Grow-Know Ministries

The reason that Jesus needs to physically reign from His father David's throne in Jerusalem at some future point is to actually *prove* possession of the earth. The Antichrist wants to keep this from happening, so for the entire second half of the Tribulation he works to gain control of the world so that he can muster the world's forces in a last-ditch attempt to keep Jesus' feet from touching the earth.

Once Jesus physically comes to earth, the entire universe will see the proof that He owns this earth once again. He will then judge those on the earth and will reign for 1,000 years in Jerusalem. This does not mean he is not ruling now. It simply means that God – being legally-minded – will fulfill the Law that relates to His physical reign, just as He has fulfilled other aspects of the prophecies related to His birth, life, death, and resurrection. Not one jot or tittle will go unfulfilled.

When Jesus returns, He will vanquish evil, sequestering Satan to the Bottomless Pit for 1,000 years and dealing with any problems that come up during His reign immediately and with a rod of iron (cf. Psalm 2:9; Revelation 2:27). The entire swelling of evil will result in its final expulsion when Jesus judges all things. Of course, the final judgment – the Great White Throne Judgment – will occur at the end of His millennial reign (cf. Revelation 20:11-15).

All evil, ungodliness, and unrighteousness ultimately and inevitably lead to one place: *judgment*. It is because of all evil that this judgment is coming. Apostates help bring that judgment because they live ungodly and unrighteous lives, due simply to the fact that they themselves are ungodly and unrighteous and can do nothing else.

Notice the triple threat, so to speak. Jude calls these individuals ungodly because they have been participating in ungodly *deeds*, done in an ungodly *way*, and with ungodly *speech*. There is nothing good in them, three times evil. Evil completely permeates their lives because it has affected their way of life, the things they do, and the things they say. Evil and ungodliness cannot be separated from apostates because it is how they are composed.

Jude tags onto this the idea that the reality of the apostate's character can be seen in their *attitudes*. "*These are grumblers, finding fault, following after their own lusts; they speak arrogantly, flattering people for the sake of gaining an advantage.*"

Notice first of all that apostates are ultimately *grumblers*. They like to complain for a number of reasons. First, it upsets the established order and tends to confuse people, throwing them off balance a bit. Second, it can also work to make these apostates *seem*

more intelligent than others because they are seeing something that nobody else has noticed.

People generally like to surround themselves with people who are intelligent. It is the insecure person who finds people who are not of their own status because that makes them look better.

An apostate who complains about something in the church may ultimately be seen as a type of prophet, dutifully warning those in the church about some potential danger. In truth, the apostate is doing what he can to create factions, which will force people to take *sides*. Once those sides are created, the fabric of that church begins to fail, and it is not long before that church splits into two different bodies.

That's our show for today, folks. Thanks so much for joining me and please join me again for our next episode on the book of Jude. We have six more episodes before we move onto something else.

Until we meet again, I pray that the Lord will open your eyes to show you how blessed you are in Him!