

“How Firm Is Your Foundation?”
Jude 8-10

Introduction:

1. Please Head Back With Me To The Book Of Jude!
 - Where We Have Been Looking:
 - At What It Looks Like When The Church Is Infiltrated:
 - By Those Who want To Remove Her From Its Firm Foundation:
 - Of Jesus Christ & His Word!
 - There Are Ungodly & Wicked People:
 - Who Want To Pervert The Very Truth:
 - Of The Gospel / The Good News Of Jesus Christ!
 - And We Need To Be Ready To:
 - As We Learned From Verse 3 To:
 - “Earnestly Contend For The Faith Which Was Once Delivered Unto The Saints!”
2. The Last Time We Were In Jude:
 - We Looked At Verses 5-7:
 - Where Jude Was Warning All Of Us:
 - Of The Great Danger Of Sin!
 - And He Used Three Examples From History:
 - Of God’s Own Righteous Judgment Of Sin:
 - “I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not. / And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. / Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire!”
 - In These Three Verses:
 - God Is Warning Us Of The Three Great Sins:
 - Of Unbelief – Like The Ancient Israelites! (5)
 - Of Rebellion – Like The Fallen Angels! (6)
 - And Of Immorality – Like Sodom & Gomorrha! (7)
 - And This Warning Was Meant For All Of Us!
 - We See This When He Writes In Verse 5:
 - “I Will Therefore Put You In Remembrance!”
3. This Morning We Come To:
 - The Next Three Verses – Verses 8-10:
 - Where Jude Begins To Describe The Infiltrators:
 - In Detail!
 - And We Need To Be Able To Identify These Kinds Of People In Our Own Churches As Well!
 - So What Are They Like?
 - How Can We Know Them When We See Them?
 - 8-10 - “Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities. / Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee. / But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves!”
4. What We Will Find From These Verses:
 - Is That When You Have The Wrong Spiritual Foundation:
 - It Will Affect Everything Else!
 - Everything Else You Think About!
 - And Everything Else You Do!
 - So Even Though We Are Looking At A Detailed Description:
 - Of These “Filthy Dreamers”:
 - We Need To Examine Our Own Lives!
 - And Our Own Foundation!
 - And Ask This Question Personally:

- How Firm Is Your Foundation?
 - Because If You Do Not Have The Right Spiritual Foundation In Your Life – You Too Could Be In Danger Of What We Read Here!
- So - How Firm Is Your Foundation?
 - To Find Out – We Need To Look At:

1. *The Authority Of False Teachers:*

- What Is The Authority Of Your Life & Faith?
 - What Is The Foundation Upon Which You Are Building These Things?
 - What Was The Authority Of These False Teachers?
- In Jude 8 - Jude Begins To Describe Them By Saying:
 - “Likewise Also These Filthy Dreamers!”
 - He Ties These False Teachers:
 - To Those Who Received God’s Judgment In Verses 5-7!
 - And – “Likewise” – They Too Will Receive God’s Judgment For Their Sin As Well!
 - But He Calls Them “Dreamers!”
 - And With This Word:
 - We Discover The Authority For Their Lives And So-Called Faith!
 - Their Own Dreams! And:
- Dreams Are Imaginary!
 - They Are Made Up Of Some Of Our Own Experiences:
 - But Then Our Imagination Goes Wild!
 - Now This Does Not Necessarily Mean:
 - That These False Teachers Woke Up From A Dream With Some New Doctrine, And Started Teaching It:
 - Though Sometimes That Does Happen!
 - And The False Teacher Will Say That God Spoke To Him In A Dream!
 - But It Means That They Are Basing Their Teachings:
 - In Their Own Imagination:
 - And Even Their Own Interpretation Of Verses In The Bible!
 - They Forget 2 Peter 1:20 - “Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation!”
 - So Who Becomes Their Authority?
 - Themselves!
 - And Their Own Mind!
 - Instead Of Submitting To The Clear Teachings Of God’s Word:
 - They Are Putting Themselves Over God’s Word!
 - And Once The Foundation Of Your Authority:
 - Is No Longer God And His Word:
 - Then Anything Goes!
 - As We Will Soon See!
 - But Not Only Are Dreams Imaginary:
- Dreams Are Irrational!
 - **IE:** Have You Ever Dreamed A Dream That Seemed So Real, That When You Woke Up, You Wondered If You Were Even Asleep? And Yet, So Much Of What We Dream Is Impossible!
 - The Teachings Of These False Teachers Should Be Easily Identified & Refuted!
 - Because They Will Not Align Themselves With The Rest Of God’s Word!
 - But They Often Are Not:
 - Because Christians & Churches Have Strayed From Their Original Foundation!
- The Authority Of These False Teachers:
 - Is Their Own Imagination & Dreams!
 - Do Not Make The Same Mistake!
 - Make Sure You Are Building Your Life & Faith:
 - On The Firm Foundation Of:
 - Jesus Christ & His Word!
 - Remember That We Are: “Built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone!”
 - We Need To Check The Authority In Our Own Lives!

- Because When Your Authority Is Wrong, Then Look At What Else Will Go Wrong!
- How Firm Is Your Foundation?

2. ***The Activities Of False Teachers:***

- The Bible Tells Us In Matthew 7:18-20:
 - “A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. / Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. / Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them!”
 - God Instructs Us To Actually Make Judgments!
 - Which Is Contrary To What You Hear By Many Today!
 - They Often Repeat The Words Of Jesus In
 - Matthew 7:1 - “Judge not, that ye be not judged!”
 - But They Take These Words Completely Out Of Context:
 - Because They Forget That Jesus Also Instructs Us:
 - In John 7:24 - “Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment!”
 - In Other Words:
 - We Are Not To Make Judgments:
 - Based Upon Our Own Standards!
 - But We Are To Make Judgments:
 - Based Upon God’s Standards!
 - And We Are To Judge The Fruits:
 - Especially Of Those Who Claim To Be Teachers In The Church!
 - Matthew 7:20 - “By Their Fruits Ye Shall Know Them!”
 - And Once You Examine Their Fruit:
 - If It Is Bad Fruit – Then We Are Not To Eat It! And We Are To Avoid Them!
 - So What Activities Will We See In The Lives:
 - Of These False Teachers?
 - The Same Sins That Jude Mentions In Verses 5-7!
 - Because Verse 8, Jude Says:
 - “These filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities!”
 - Because Of Their Foundation / Authority Is Wrong:
 - Their Activities Will Be Wrong!
 - Immoral Activity:
 - They “Defile The Flesh!”
 - In The Same Manner As Those In:
 - Sodom & Gomorrah! (7)
 - And They Condone:
 - Any Kind Of Immoral Activity In The Lives Of Others!
 - Fornication / Adultery / Homosexuality!
 - “By Their Fruits Ye Shall Know Them!”
 - Rebellious Activity:
 - They Also “Despise Dominion!”
 - In The Same Manner Os Those:
 - Fallen Angels! (6)
 - They Rebel Against God:
 - And His Word!
 - Not Long Ago There Was A Preacher In Seattle Washington Who Was Known As “The Cussing Pastor!” Showed A Rebellious Spirit!
 - “By Their Fruits Ye Shall Know Them!”
 - Unbelieving Activity:
 - They Also “Speak Evil Of Dignities!”
 - Or “Glorious Ones!”
 - Now Some Thing This Is Talking About Angels – But The Word For Angels Is Not Used – Instead The Word For Glory Is Used!
 - I Believe It Refers To Those:
 - Who Reflect God In Their Lives & Character!
 - Much Like Joshua & Caleb, The 2 Spies Who Told The People To Go Into The Promised Land!

- But How Did The Unbelieving Israelites Respond?
 - They Wanted To Stone Them With Stones!
- Don't We See This A Lot Today?
 - Those Who Are Godly:
 - Are Spoken Against!
 - But Those Who Are Ungodly:
 - Are Promoted!
 - Many Times Even In The Church!
 - Some Churches Have Seen Revolts:
 - Of Those Young In The Faith Trying To Remove The Influence Of An Older, Even Godly Generation Of Christians!
- "By Their Fruits Ye Shall Know Them!"
- And The Fruit Of Ones Life:
 - Reveals The Root!
 - What About Your Own Activities & Fruit?
 - Are There These Kinds Of Sins:
 - In Your Life & In Your Heart?
 - Immorality / Rebellion / Unbelief!
 - We Must Repent Of These Sins:
 - And Turn To & Trust In Jesus:
 - To Save Us From These & To Help Us Overcome Them In Our Lives!
 - We Must Return To The Lord Jesus:
 - Who Is Our Firm Foundation!
 - How Firm Is Your Foundation?
 - But We Need To Also Look At:

3. ***The Audacity Of False Teachers:***

- Those Who Have Their Own Imagination As Their Authority:
 - Are Often Very Bold & Arrogant & Audacious!
 - We See This In:
 - Jude 9 - "Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee!"
 - Here Jude Is Referring To Something:
 - That Does Not Seem To Be Found Elsewhere In The Bible!
 - It May Refer To:
 - An Event In Zechariah 3:2 - Where Satan Is Accusing Joshua The High Priest!
 - It May Refer To:
 - Something In Another Book That Is Not Part Of The Bible!
 - It May Refer To:
 - An Oral Jewish Tradition That Was Well Known In That Time!
 - Or It May Be Something That God Revealed To Jude:
 - For This Specific Occasion!
 - But No Matter What It Refers To:
 - It Is The Truth - And This Actually Happened!
 - But The Point Of This Verse:
 - Is To Show That Even Michael The Archangel:
 - In Service To The Lord!
 - When He Was Disputing With The Devil:
 - About The Dead Body Of Moses:
 - Did Not Take Things Personally & Try To Fight The Devil On His Terms!
 - No - He Left It All In The Hands Of The Lord:
 - And Simply Stated - "The Lord Rebuke Thee!"
 - And The Devil Could Not Stand Against The Lord!
 - Yet These False Teachers:
 - For Lesser Matters:
 - And With Lesser People:
 - Speak Against Those Whom God Has Blessed Or Placed As Authorities In Their Lives!
 - And It All Started:

- With Their Authority!
 - Themselves! Their Own Imaginations!
- And Now They Defend It:
 - In Pride & Boldness!
- But How Should We Live Our Lives Of Faith?
 - James 4:8-10 - “Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. / Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. / Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up!”
- Is There Humility In Your Life?
 - When The Lord Jesus Is The Foundation Of Your Life, Humility – Not Pride & Arrogance – Will Be The Hallmark Of Your Life!
 - How Firm Is Your Foundation?
 - One Other Thing We See Is:

4. ***The Atrocity Of False Teachers:***

- Jude 10 - “But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves!”
 - They Are Really Living:
 - Not As The Most Enlightened Ones:
 - But According To Their Own Instincts!
 - Like A “Brute Beast!”
 - In 2 Peter 2:12, Peter Writes Pretty Much The Same Thing - “But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption!”
 - **IE:** I’m Not Much Of A Hunter - Haven’t In A Long Time - Last Animal I Tried To Get Was A Woodchuck That Was Chewing Up My Mom’s Garden - Ended Up Trapping An Opossum - Wasn’t To Happy About It! But This Verse Describes Animals That Are Hunted! It Is Said That False Teachers Are Like Animals! How?
 - They Follow The Same Desires!
 - **IE:** Animals Have Instincts - To Know Where To Eat / To Know What To Eat / Water Source - Hunters Use This Information To Find The Best Places To Hunt!
 - False Teachers Are Like “Natural Brute Beasts!”
 - Like Animals! Living The Same Way / For The Same Things! Acting As If There Is No Difference!
 - Only Live & Follow After Their Base Desires! Nothing Noble Or Higher Motivates Them!
 - “Natural” - Focused On Their Flesh!
 - How To Satisfy Their Natural Desires Alone!
 - They Make The Same Decisions!
 - **IE:** Animals Aren’t Known For Their Intelligence - Get Excited About The Memory Of An Elephant / The Communication Of Dolphins / The Training Of A Dog - But They Cannot / Do Not Reason, Think-Through Their Decisions! Not Made In “The Image Of God!” People Are! Designed For Something Greater!
 - “Brute” - “A+Logos” - “No Logic” - No Capacity For Logic / Reasoning / Thinking Things Through!
 - It Takes Very Little Thought To Sin!
 - Just Follow Your Flesh!
 - But, A Gospel / Christ Saturated Logic Is What God Uses To Keep Us From Sin!
 - They Have The Same Destiny!
 - “In Those Things They Corrupt Themselves!”
 - Their Own Doctrine Will Be Their Destruction!
 - Their Own Teaching Will Be Their Judge!
 - They Will Eventually Be Taken By Their Own Trap!

Conclusion:

1. So - How Firm Is Your Foundation?
 - We See From This Detailed Description Of False Teachers:
 - That If You Are Building Your Life & Faith:
 - On The Wrong Foundation:
 - Everything Else Will Be Out Of Place!
 - When Your Own Imagination Is The Basis Of Authority In Your Life:

- Instead Of Holiness:
 - You Will Pursue After Unrighteousness!
 - In Immorality / Rebellion / Unbelief!
 - Instead Of Humility:
 - You Will Live In Pride & Arrogance!
 - Instead Of Walking Freely In The Spirit:
 - You Will Live In Bondage To Your Own Flesh!
2. How Firm Is Your Foundation?
- When Jesus Is Your Foundation:
 - And His Word Is Your Authority:
 - You Will Then Be Able To “Walk In The Spirit” & “Not Fulfil The Lust Of The Flesh!”
 - 1 Corinthians 3:11 - “For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ!”

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