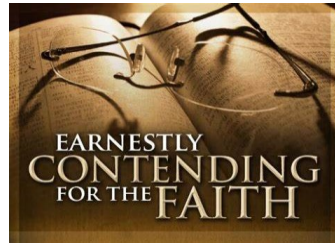


JUDE 1:8-11

In this next section of Jude’s letter some things are mentioned that, though familiar to his readers, may seem strange to us. As we work through them, be careful not to lose sight of the fact that he’s emphasizing the pending judgment of the “godless men” he referenced earlier.



⁸ In the very same way, these dreamers pollute their own bodies, reject authority, and slander celestial beings. ⁹ But even the archangel Michael, when he was disputing with the devil about the body of Moses, did not dare to bring a slanderous accusation against him, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!" ¹⁰ Yet these men speak abusively against whatever they do not understand; and what things they do understand by instinct, like unreasoning animals--these are the very things that destroy them. ¹¹ Woe to them! They have taken the way of Cain; they have rushed for profit into Balaam's error; they have been destroyed in Korah's rebellion.

We don't have the specifics of what the false teachers were saying and doing, but it was tied to their message that grace was somehow a license to sin. How would someone “pollute their own body?”

Whose authority were they rejecting?

When did the archangel Michael dispute with the devil over the body of Moses?

Why wouldn't he make a “slanderous accusation” against Satan?

What do we know of Cain and Balaam and Korah?

Reading on, Jude writes...

¹² These men are blemishes at your love feasts, eating with you without the slightest qualm--shepherds who feed only themselves. They are clouds without rain, blown along by the wind; autumn trees, without fruit and uprooted--twice dead. ¹³ They are wild waves of the sea, foaming up their shame; wandering stars, for whom blackest darkness has been reserved forever.

What was a love feast?

Thinking of the word pictures here of things observed in nature what is Jude trying to get across?

Points to Ponder

Why don't we have a Biblical record of the dispute Jude mentions?

What would Jude say to believers who rebuke the devil today?

If you weren't familiar with the Bible stories that Jude mentions, how did it make you feel?

Did anyone living in our time come to mind when Jude gave his description of the false teachers in his time?

