

**“What They Are”
Jude 1:12-16**

Jude 1:12-13 – These are the men who are hidden reefs, caring for themselves, clouds without water, autumn trees without fruit, wild waves of the sea, wandering stars,

Jude 16 – These are grumblers, finding fault

Jude 3

Jude 8 – “Yet in the same way these men, also by dreaming” – “living in a subjective dream world of unreality.”

Thought Of Our Passage: The Ungodliness Of The False Teachers Is Revealed In Their Character, Being Dangerous And Bringing Judgment.

We will look at 2 areas in our study:

- 1. Jude 12-13 The Character Of The False Teachers**
- 2. Jude 14-16 The Judgment Of The False Teachers**

1. Jude 12-13 The Character Of The False Teachers:

Jude 1:12

These are the men who are, Jude is describing, false teachers/apostates. In Jude 5-11, he has described what they do, Jude 1:11.

6 Metaphors From Nature Of Those Perverting God’s Truth:

Description #1 – Hidden Reefs: “are hidden reefs in your love feasts when they feast with you without fear,”

“hidden reefs” – or “spots;” only used here in the NT; “a ledge or reef of rock in the sea, (covered by the water), the waves dashed the ship against the rocks.” KJV Jude 1:12 – “These are spots in your feasts of charity”; Peter called them in 2 Peter 2:13 – “They are stains and blemishes,”

Spot’s from a distance but are really dangerous reefs.

“in your love feasts” – The Corinthians practiced this, 1 Corinthians 11:20-22.

Description #2 – Selfish Shepherds: “caring for themselves;” – or “feeding,” means “shepherding, shepherding themselves, to pastor,” Acts 20:28.

NLT, 2 Corinthians 11:20

Ezekiel 34:2

Description #3 – Empty Clouds: “clouds without water, carried along by winds;”

Luke 12:54

God’s Word Is Compared To Rain And The Dew:
Deuteronomy 32:2.

Empty Promise: No enrichment, refreshment, nothing that helps spiritually, Proverbs 25:14.

Promising Liberty, But Give Bondage: 2 Peter 2:19.

Description #4 – Dead Trees: “autumn trees without fruit, doubly dead, uprooted;”

Fruitless, Barren And Useless: “autumn trees without fruit,” – An orchard in autumn, the farmer expects fruit. But these trees are fruitless!

Evidence Of True Salvation Is Producing Spiritual Fruit: John 15:8 – “that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.” – Fruitless Because They Deny The Source! Jude 1:4 – “deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.”

Matthew 7:16 – “You shall know them by their fruits”

“doubly dead,” – dead in appearance and dead in reality;
“uprooted;” – “plucked up by the root.” This is why they are “twice dead.” These men were dead in their sins and were dead as they lived, 1 Timothy 5:6.

Jude 13

Description #5 – Wild Waves: “wild waves of the sea, casting up their own shame like foam;”

"wild waves of the sea," – "raging, savage, fierce waves of the sea;" Noisy And Dangerous!

Jude 16 – "they speak arrogantly,"

Their Unruliness: "casting up their own shame like foam;" – Literally, "to foam at the mouth" as "waves in uninterrupted succession, dashing themselves."

Isaiah 57:20

Philippians 3:19

Description #6 – Wandering Stars: "wandering stars, for whom the black darkness has been reserved forever."

Their Disobedience: "wandering stars," – Meteors, falling stars.

"Black ("blackest") darkness has been reserved forever." – False Teachers.

2. Jude 14-16 The Judgment Of The False Teachers:

Jude 14

"that Enoch," – All that we know about Enoch from Scripture is found in Genesis 5:18-24; Hebrews 11:5.

"in the seventh generation from Adam," – Genesis 5:4-20.

"prophesied, saying," – He ministered as a prophet and announced the coming judgment. This quotation is from an apocryphal book called The Book of Enoch.

Jude's Present Application From The Oldest Prophecy: "It was also about these men that Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied, saying,"

Personal Judgment: "Behold, the Lord came" – This coming judgment of Jesus Christ on the scene. Not the flood, or a famine, fire and brimstone but God Himself. This shows the seriousness of the event, and also its finality, James 5:9.

"with many thousands of His holy ones," – When Jesus returns, He will do so with the angels, Matthew 25:31, and the saints, Col 3:4; 1 Thess 3:13.

Jude 15

Universal Judgment: "to execute judgment upon all," – None will escape.

Just Judgment: "and to convict" – "to prove to be wrong, to convince, to prove guilty of sin," John 5: 22.

Moral Judgment: "all the ungodly" – The word "ungodly" is used 4X in this one verse! 2 Peter 3: 7

Ungodly – "no reverence for God, total moral and spiritual breakdown, living without God."

"of all their ungodly deeds" – arise from ungodly person's character. The very sins will be dealt with, Revelation 20: 12.

"and of all the harsh" – "rough, stern, uncivil;" "things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."

Jude 16

Jude Cites 5 Ungodly Practices:

#1 – "These are grumblers," – "smoldering discontent expressed in loud outspoken outcries, or muttered undertones against God," Exodus 17: 3; 1 Corinthians 10: 10.

Philippians 2: 14 – "Do all things without grumbling or disputing;"

#2 – "finding fault," – "to find fault, to complain;" With "lot or fate;" it means "to find fault, dissatisfaction with ones lot in life." (Attitude)

#3 – "following after their own lusts;" – Jude 1: 10

Jude 1: 18 – following after their own ungodly lusts."

2 Peter 2: 14 – "having a heart trained in greed,"

#4 – "they speak arrogantly," – "speaking haughty words, great swelling, noisy words;" to impress ignorant people, 2 Peter 2: 18.

#5 – "flattering people" – "admiring faces, show respect to faces."

"for the sake of gaining an advantage." – Leviticus 19: 15;
James 2: 1-9.

Application:

1. False Teachers Pose A Great Danger In The Church. Like **Hidden Reef's** – Shipwreck; **Selfish Shepherds** – Caring Only For Themselves; **Empty Clouds** – False Promises; **Dead Trees** – No Fruit; **Wild Waves** – Noisy And Unruly; **Wandering Stars** – Disobedience.
2. God's Judgment Rightfully Falls Upon The Ungodly. How Gracious Of God To Continually Warn Us In Scripture So That We Can Repent And Be Saved.