

Jude

Blaspheming Glory

1. Look at Jude 1:1-4 to review last week's lesson. Who is Jude? Who is Jude writing to? What did he want to write about? What did he find it NECESSARY to write about instead? Why did this message take precedence? What kind of people were already creeping into churches? What were they doing? How were they doing it?
2. Read Jude 1:5. What does Jude remind his readers? What do you know about the children of Israel when they were wandering through the wilderness? What kind of sins did they commit?
3. Reread Jude 1:5. Which sin does Jude list as the sin that caused them to be destroyed in the wilderness? What do you think it means to "believe"? Why is not believing such a big deal to God?
4. The Greek word translated "believe" in verse 5 is the **verb** form (pisteuo) of the **noun** (pistis) translated as "faith" in verse 3. Verse 3 says to "contend for the faith" (Pistis - noun). This means to fight for the truth we believe about the gospel. Verse 5 says the Israelites were destroyed because they didn't believe (pisteuo- verb). How does belief as a verb (action) look different than belief as a noun? How does belief (verb) lead to other sins?
5. Read Psalm 106:21-26. What does verse 24 say the children of Israel did in the wilderness that angered God? What does verse 25 say it led to? What does verse 26 say was the ultimate consequence?
6. Read Hebrews 3:17-19. What does verse say was the sin that kept the children of Israel out of the Promised Land?
7. Read Jude 1:6. What was the sin of the angels? What are some things that God has placed under human authority? What are some things/people who have authority over us? (Romans 13:1, Matt. 28:18, Hebrews 13:17, 1 Peter 2:13, Luke 9:1, 1 Cor. 11:3). Are humans in a higher or lower position of authority than angels? (1 Cor. 6:3, Hebrews 2:9).
8. In what ways do sneaky people who push their "dreams" and "thoughts" as an equal to God's Word, step outside their "position of authority"? Have you ever seen this happen? Why do you think God chooses "chains" to be the punishment for those who refuse to submit to authority?
9. Read Jude 1:7. What are the 2 sins of Sodom and Gomorrah? What is the difference between these 2 sins? (Romans 1:26-28). What was their punishment? What are we supposed to do, if we see people spreading a false message of safety to our friends/family who are living in this sort of lifestyle? (Jude 1:3)
10. The three examples above illustrate 3 dangerous sins that lead to death: 1. unbelief (children of Israel) 2. Rejecting authority (rebellious angels) 3. Indulging in sexual sin (Sodom and Gomorrah).

Jude 1:8 says that these “people” who have crept into churches unnoticed *rely on their dreams (over the Bible’s authority), defile the flesh (indulge in unrepentant sexual sin and still teach and lead at church!), reject authority, and blaspheme the glorious ones.*

Blaspheme comes from a derivative of 2 words “blapto” and “pheme” which mean “hurt” and “fame”. The word translated “glorious ones” is really just one word “doxa” which means “Glory”.

In other words, this verse is saying, that the lifestyles of these kind of people “hurts the fame” of “Glory”.

How is the fame of God’s Glory hurt by this type of people? Why can’t He just ignore these people? What are WE (true believers) supposed to do when we see this happening? (v. 3)