

“CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH - PART 5” (Jude 1:11)

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INTRO: Jude exhorts believers to contend for the faith (v. 3) because of the infiltration of false teachers [apostates] in the church (v. 4). Jude then gives us three examples of previous apostates and their consequences (vv. 5-7).

8 CHARACTERISTICS OF THESE MODERN APOSTATES (8-11):

1) They defile the flesh (v. 8a), 2) They reject authority (v. 8b), 3) They speak evil of dignitaries (vv. 8c-9), 4) They speak evil of what they don't know (v. 10a), 5) They corrupt themselves in what they do know naturally (v. 10b) and, 6) They have gone in the way of Cain (v. 11a).

7. They Have Run Greedily in the Error of Balaam for Profit (v. 11b; Num. 22-24; 2Pet. 2:15-16).

- A. King Balak summons prophet Balaam (Num 22:1-8).
- B. Balaam's refusals to Balak's requests (Num. 22:9-20).
- C. The angel of the Lord & the donkey of Balaam (22:21-30).
- D. Balaam's conversation with the angel (Num. 22:31-35).
- E. Balaam's conversation with Balak (Num. 22:36-24:25).
- F. Balaam's bad counsel and death (Num. 25:1-3; 31:16, 8; 2Pet. 2:15-16).

THE APPLICATION: These apostates, like Balaam, are motivated by greed for financial/political gain & act accordingly.

- 1) They prostitute their gifts for money & power – greed!
- 2) Their actions lead others into sin.
- 3) They think they will get by without any consequences.
- 4) God turned curses into blessings (Deut. 23:5)!

8. They have Perished in the Rebellion of Korah (v. 11c; Num. 16).

- A. Korah led a revolt against Moses (Num. 16:1-3).
- B. Moses pleads with Korah (Num. 16:4-5).
- C. The earth swallows them up (Num. 16:6-35)!
- D. The people complained, and a plague killed 14,700 people (Num. 16:41-50)!
- E. Destruction will also come to these modern apostates!

CONCLUSION: Modern Balaam's & Korah's are coming down! They're not going to get away with it!