

## Week of September 24, 2017

<u>This Week's Focus</u>: Jude's salutary prayer, purpose for writing his epistle, and three pictures of destruction for false teachers.

This Week's Text: Jude 2-7

## Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What is Jude's three-fold prayer for the recipients of his letter? Reference verse 2. Do you frequently desire and pray this three-fold prayer for others and yourself?
- Define mercy. What do we deserve for our sinful rebellion toward our Creator? How has God displayed his compassionate mercy (hesed) toward undeserving sinners like us?
- Discuss the difference between having peace with God (Romans 5:1) and experiencing the inward peace of God (Philippians 4:6-7). Which aspect of peace is Jude is referencing in his epistle? How is the inward peace of God different from the false peace that the world offers? Reference John 14:27, 16:33.
- Do you remind yourself daily of God's incredible love for you? Reference John 17:23 and Romans 8:31-39? What does it mean that "God is love"? Reference 1 John 4:8. In what way is God's mercy, peace, and love multiplied to us?
- What was Jude's original intention for writing a letter to this church? Why did he feel compelled to write this letter instead? What does it mean to "contend for the faith"? Give some examples of the non-negotiables of the Christians faith that we should defend.
- How do we faithfully defend the unchanging truths of Scripture in a culture that wars against absolute truths? Discuss why it is important that our contending for the faith is informed by love for others.
- What two heresies are the ungodly false teachers spreading in the church? Reference verse 4. What is antinomianism? Compare and contrast antinomianism (hyper-grace) and legalism (man-made religion). How are each perversions of the gospel?
- What three examples of God's judgement does Jude mention in verses 5-7? Why does he remind them of these historical examples of judgement?

- Who does Jude say exacted judgement on Israel in the desert? What was their sin? How does this relate the false teachers' sin and their impending judgement?
- Who are the angels that Jude references? How does their sin relate to the false teachers' sin? Like the angels, what type of judgement will the false teachers experience if they don't repent?
- What was the primary sin that marked the city of Sodom and Gomorrah? How did God judge the cities for their sexual deviance? Besides homosexuality, what other sexual immoralities are wrong/sinful according to Scripture? Discuss how the gospel is the hope of salvation for all people and how God's forgiveness covers all sin, sexual or otherwise. Reference 1 Corinthians 6:9-11.