

## Week of October 1, 2017

<u>This Week's Focus</u>: Jude warns his readers about the false teachers by describing their character, the depravity and devastation of their error, and their impending, eternal destruction.

This Week's Text: Jude 8-13

## **Observations and Questions for Discussion:**

- What three divine graces does Jude commend to his readers in his salutation? Reference verse.? What is his prayer for the church to whom he is writing? Reference verse 2. Do you reflect on God's grace in the gospel each day? Do you echo Jude's prayer for yourself and others?
- Why did Jude write his letter? What is antinomianism, and how is it a perversion of God's grace? Compare and contrast antinomianism and legalism. What does it look like to live in light of the gospel thereby avoiding both extremes?
- Discuss the following benefits of God's moral law in the life of God's people.
  - The law teaches us about the nature of God. Reference Leviticus 19:2.
  - The law teaches us about ourselves Reference Deuteronomy 10:12.
  - We are free from ceremonial, dietary, and ritual purity directives because Jesus fulfilled them for us.
  - The law graciously convicts us of unrepentant sin.
- Read verse 8. What are the characteristics of these false teachers? What did the false teachers rely on as their source of authority? Where did their dreams lead them?
- Where can we reliably turn to find God's will? Share some ways we can distinguish between good, godly authority and dangerous, false teaching. Will the Holy Spirit ever lead us to reject the lordship of Jesus Christ or the authority of Scripture?
- How does Jude describe the mental state of these apostates? Reference verse 10. Discuss how right thinking (specifically, meditation on the gospel) is a vital catalyst for right living. Why are our natural instincts or consciences undependable for living God-glorifying lives? Reference 1 Corinthians 2:14.

- How do the stories of Cain (Genesis 4:1-16), Balaam (Numbers 22-31), and Korah (Numbers 16) serve as a warning of the consequences of leading others into rebellion against God?
- What can we learn about the false teachers from Jude's nature metaphors? Reference verses 12-13. What is the eternal consequence that Jude warns about?
- Celebrate together that in love Jesus went through hellish darkness on the cross for you, so that you can be forgiven of sin and have a restored relationship with God.