

Jude – Lesson 7: Consequences

1 John 5:12 He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

Did we learn our lesson? Study Questions from lesson 6 (Three Examples)

1. According to Jude 1:11, who does Jude present as examples?
Answer: Cain, Balaam and Core (Korah).
2. According to Genesis 4:8, what is the result of failing to do well (following error)?
Answer: Sin lieth at the door (you have risk of falling into sin).
3. According to Numbers 22:22, why was God angry with Balaam?
Answer: Because Balaam went to advise Balak against the wishes of God.
4. According to Numbers 16:3, who's authority did Core (Korah) challenge?
Answer: Openly challenged Moses and Aaron, covertly challenged the authority of God.
5. Complete the following scripture:
Titus 3:4 But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared.

True / False

False All 10 commandments define what to do by God (EX 20 – Thou shalt not...)

True The chief priests delivered Christ for envy (MARK 15:10)

False Judas delivered Christ for envy (MATT 26:15 – What will ye give me)

True To rebel against God is to create an enemy of God (ISA 63:10 – He was turned to be their enemy)

Extra Credit - In your opinion, do you know what not to do, and why or why not?

Lesson 7: Consequences

'More than anything, I believe it's our decisions, not the conditions of our lives that determine our destiny'
– Tony Robbins: American self-help author, coach and speaker (2012)

It may seem like common sense, but many people require reminding of consequence (cause and effect), that actions bring results, and the nature (good or bad) is dependent on the action. Mr. Robbins simply states what should be obvious – Our decisions determine our destiny. However, it is more common for blame of an unfavorable situation to be levied against some condition, a person, and sometimes even God. It is rare for people to accept the responsibility of their actions, accepting the result of their decisions.

It will be the same when most stand before the Lord:

Matthew 7:22-23 – Destiny of decision

(22) Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

(23) And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

The Lord notes that there will be a lot of people who will claim their works have been in His name, but the Lord sees past this and examines the intent (**1 SAM 16:7** – The LORD looketh on the heart). With a false testimony, the deceivers will be cast away. The Lord also warns believers to be cautious of deceivers, as they will appear to be as other believers (**MATT 7:15** – *Wolves in sheep's clothing*).

Jude now presents three metaphors to illustrate the danger of false doctrine (and their bearers).

Jude 1:12 – Jude uses three metaphors

(12) These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds *they are* without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots;

Jude describes the effects of these false teachers: Filthy dreamers that (v1:4) crept in unawares – turning the grace of God into lasciviousness, and (v1:8) defiling the flesh, despising dominion, and speaking evil of dignities). He presents images which represent something worse than emptiness, as they can influence one to follow the wrong path in error:

- Spots in your feasts of charity

The first example is the twisting of the Lord's Table to be something other than a deliberate act in bringing Christ into remembrance (LUK 22:19 / 1 COR 11:24).

1 Corinthians 11:18-20 – Who is being remembered?

(18) For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it.

(19) For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you.

(20) When ye come together therefore into one place, *this* is not to eat the Lord's supper.

(21) For in eating every one taketh before *other* his own supper: and one is hungry, and another is drunken.

(22) What? have ye not houses to eat and to drink in? or despise ye the church of God, and shame them that have not? What shall I say to you? shall I praise you in this? I praise *you* not.

Paul's first-hand observance of this infiltration of contaminating putting Christ in remembrance caused him to provide admonition, as it is not for better, but for worse:

- Division within the church: The church body is not aligned (PHIL 2:2 - Of one accord) and separated by those who represent false doctrine (heresies – false teachers).
- Approved/manifest among you: Manipulating the purpose/message of Christ (EPH 2:8-9 – For by grace are ye saved), rationale is presented which allow their message of error to be accepted (GEN 3:1-5 Satan twists the command of God), and the false teachers are now among the believers.
- Remember why the Lord's Table is special: These false teachers/filthy dreamers are not trying to bring Christ into remembrance, but to endorse and promote selfish gluttonous indulgence.

Jude notes that this behavior is as spots – Damage to your testimony. You now act more like the world and will be seen as of the world, and not as part of Christ. Others who see you will not see Christ.

- Clouds without water

The second example is the appearance of hope, but there is none; in a time of drought, the people see a cloud and hope for rain - The false teachers offer a promise of a future, but there is no hope in their doctrine.

1 Kings 18:22-24 – False prophets cannot deliver (read 1 Kings 18:22-40)

(22) Then said Elijah unto the people, I, *even* I only, remain a prophet of the LORD; but Baal's prophets *are* four hundred and fifty men.

(23) Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay *it* on wood, and put no fire *under*: and I will dress the other bullock, and lay *it* on wood, and put no fire *under*.

(24) And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD: and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.

(29) And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they prophesied until the *time* of the offering of the *evening* sacrifice, that *there was* neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded.

These false teachers / false prophets / dreamers of something other than Christ will present promise and hope, which are empty, with no substance. There is no path to life as they do not represent alignment with

God through Christ (**John 14:6** - Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me**).

Much like idols (**Psalms 115:4-8** – Ears, but hear not, they do not walk, neither speak...They that make them are like unto them; *so is every one that trusteth in them*), the false teachers bring deception and emptiness.

Matthew 24:11 **And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.**

Mark 13:22 **For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if *it were possible*, even the elect.**

2 Peter 2:1-3 – False hope will be prevalent

(1) But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

(2) And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

(3) And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

Peter also notes the false teachers will not only be among us, but many will come to believe their false doctrine, and become 'merchandise' of the world.

Just as the clouds are carried about by the winds, with no control of their own, those who follow these deceivers will not realize they are being maneuvered into a world of no hope, like clouds – drifting wherever the false teachings lead.

- Trees without fruit

The third example is fruitlessness. Imagine planting an orchard and what should be a time of harvest becomes a time of woe, as the trees have produced no fruit – The false teachers are the opposite of fertilizer, as, instead of promoting growth, they neutralize the fruitfulness of believers.

John 15:1-2, 6 – The branch that does not bear fruit

(1) **I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.**

(2) **Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every *branch* that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.**

(6) **If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast *them* into the fire, and they are burned.**

Christ defines Himself as the source of all growth – Any teachings not placing Jesus Christ at the center of all doctrine is in error, and false. These false doctrines will inhibit growth and prevent fruit.

Christ also makes a distinction between those who produce fruit and those who do not:

- Fruitful: Pruned and guided to produce more fruit
- Unfruitful: Removed and cast into the fire (**REV 20:15** - And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire).

Fruit is often viewed as bringing others to Christ. It can also be many things to include the fruit of the Spirit (**GAL 5:22-23**). One thing is clear – The Lord expects fruit (**John 4:35** **white already to harvest**).

Jude 1:13 – The result

(12) Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.

Jude describes the effects as meaningless, fruitless, and endless – Culminating in eternal blackness.

Our decisions prepare the path of our future (**MATT 7:14** – **Straight is the gate, narrow is the way**) – If with Christ, the consequence is good (**JOHN 3:16** – **Eternal life**), if without Christ, bad (**REV 20:15** – Lake of fire). We must be vigilant to guard against false doctrine (shaping poor decisions) in our selves as well as others.

Next Lesson: Jude – Reference to Prophecy

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Study Questions

1. According to Jude 1:12, how does Jude describe the effects on the feasts of charity?

2. According to Jude 1:12, how does Jude describe the clouds?

3. According to Jude 1:12, how does Jude describe trees without fruit?

4. According to Jude 1:13, what is the destiny of the deceiver?

5. Complete the following scripture:

1 John 5:12 He that hath the _____ hath life; *and* he that hath not the _____
of God hath not life.

True / False

Reference

T F All who use the Lord's name are 'good'

T F False doctrine will be obvious

T F Many believers will accept false doctrine

T F Fruit can only be accomplished through Christ

EXTRA CREDIT – In your opinion, can you readily identify false doctrine, and why or why not?
