

Jude – Lesson 6: Three Examples

Titus 3:4 But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared.

Did we learn our lesson? Study Questions from lesson 5 (Character of Disobedience)

1. According to Jude 1:8, how does Jude describe the deceivers?

Answer: Filthy dreamers.

2. According to Jude 1:8, how do the deceivers regard the flesh?

Answer: Defile the flesh (defile the image of God).

3. According to Jude 1:8, how do the deceivers regard dominion (authority of God)?

Answer: Despise dominion (reject the authority of God).

4. According to Jude 1:8, how do the deceivers regard dignities (authority of others)?

Answer: Speak evil of dignities (reject the authority of others such as government).

5. Complete the following scripture:

Matthew 7:16 Ye shall know them by their fruits.

True / False

True Both man and woman are created in the image of God (GEN 1:27 – Male and female)

True All humanity will be judged by Jesus Christ (JOHN 5:22 - All judgment unto the Son)

False Humanity should resist earthly government (1 PET 2:13 - Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man)

False Believers should prepare to argue with unbelievers (1 TIM 6:20 – Avoiding profane *and* vain babblings)

Extra Credit - In your opinion, what is your glory, and why?

Lesson 6: Three Examples

‘If you don’t know what to do, it’s ok. But, if you don’t know what not to do, it’s a serious matter’
– Sukant Ratnakar: American businessman – CEO of Quantraz Inc (2021)

You can go to any book store, check YouTube, or any of hundreds of sources to find ‘How To’ help, advise or guidance on virtually any subject under the sun. However, finding the same enthusiasm for what not to do, is not as prevalent, as most people are not interested in limitations, boundaries or self control, but seek ‘more’ in life, and all the experiences of the world.

Mr. Ratnakar offers the insight that it is just as, if not more important to understand what not to do, as unknowingly, one can create incredible consequence by simply making a wrong choice.

God is of a similar mindset as the Lord issued Moses a list of Do’s and Don’t’s (often called the Ten Commandments) to provide the children of Israel with specific guidance to please God.

Of the 10, two are ‘To Do’ (Keep the Sabbath day holy – **EX 20:8-11**, and Honor thy father and mother **EX 20:12**). The other eight are a ‘Not To Do’ list:

- | | |
|---|--|
| - Shall have no other gods before me (EX 20:3) | - Shall make no idols (EX 20:4-6) |
| - Shall not take the Lord’s name in vain (EX 20:7) | - Shall not kill (EX 20:13) |
| - Shall not commit adultery (EX 20:14) | - Shall not steal (EX 20:15) |
| - Shall not bear false witness (EX 20:16) | - Shall not covet (EX 20:17) |

Clearly, the Lord knew it was just as important to guide away from bad behavior as it was to promote good behavior, and that knowing what not to do was a priority, as each error would create a misalignment between the person and God.

As the 'filthy dreamers' represent an obstacle to aligning with God, (and disobedience is contagious), Jude presents examples of willful separation from the Lord to punctuate the threat.

Jude 1:11 – Jude cites three examples

(11) Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.

Jude selects three examples that highlight different traits, yet all share the same mindset of individual want over submission to God as Lord, and all share the same result – Separation from God.

- Cain: Jealousy and Rage (read GEN 4:1-7)

The first example is Cain – Firstborn son to Adam and Eve (**GEN 4:1**) and older brother to Abel (**GEN 4:2**):

Genesis 4:8 – The sin that rules is your own

(8) If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee *shall be* his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.

With an 'offering' to God that was not representative of Cain's best (just going through the motions), the difference between Cain and his brother Abel are quickly revealed as Abel chose the first of his flock (the best) whereas Cain merely offered of his harvest (no mention of it being first fruit of selected as best for God in any way).

With the rejection of Cain's offering (not a rejection of Cain), he reacts in anger, which is focused on what he feels is his competition – His brother Abel, and he kills his brother:

Proverbs 27:4 – Hateful energy

(4) Wrath *is* cruel, and anger *is* outrageous; but who *is* able to stand before envy?

A jealous nature is a poison to the heart (**MATT 6:21/LUKE 12:34** - **For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also**) and if envy is given a place, it will grow to be uncontrollable and become a barrier between someone and God.

Note: The Jewish leaders sought the life of Jesus, not for righteousness or reconciliation of a law, but because of the jealousy in their hearts (**MARK 15:10** - For he knew that the chief priests had delivered him for envy).

- Balaam: Greed and lustfulness

The second example is Balaam who offered his services as a prophet for hire, and not out of obedience to God (see **NUM 22-24**).

Numbers 22:21-22 – Defiance out of want

(21) And Balaam rose up in the morning, and saddled his ass, and went with the princes of Moab.

(22) And God's anger was kindled because he went.

With the children of Israel leaving Egypt and having defeated the Amorites, Balak, the king of Moab, sought Balaam to curse them, but God informed Balaam it will not be so. However, as opportunity for a great sum was presented, Balaam chose to defy the direction of God in hopes that the conditions would change and he could reap a great reward. Balaam's greed was greater than his love for, and fear of God.

James 4:1-3 – Lust is a perpetual emptiness

(1) From whence *come* wars and fightings among you? *come they* not hence, *even* of your lusts that war in your members?

(2) Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.

(3) Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume *it* upon your lusts.

Lust/greed is an emptiness that can never be satisfied – A hole that can never be filled. The want of more is a never ending source of trouble that will affect all that one does (**PROV 15:27** - He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house; but he that hateth gifts shall live). It is only through satisfaction (trusting that God is enough) can peace be realized.

Note: Judas delivered Jesus, not for righteousness or reconciliation of a law, but because of greed (a constant need for more) where any opportunity drove his behavior (**MATT 26:15** - And said *unto them*, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver).

- **Core (Korah): No regard for the authority of anyone**

The third example is Core (Korah), who challenged the authority of Moses (God's appointed leaders) and sought to establish his own authority as leader of the Hebrews – Not wishing to provide superior leadership, but to seek power for his own benefit:

Numbers 16:1-3 – Rebellion against the authority of God

(1) Now Korah, the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, and Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab, and On, the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took *men*:

(2) And they rose up before Moses, with certain of the children of Israel, two hundred and fifty princes of the assembly, famous in the congregation, men of renown:

(3) And they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron, and said unto them, Ye *take* too much upon you, seeing all the congregation *are* holy, every one of them, and the LORD *is* among them: wherefore then lift ye up yourselves above the congregation of the LORD?

Under the pretense of seeking to establish order, Korah gathers a large group to challenge Moses and Aaron as God's chosen leaders. Challenging God's choice is a grievous error as the decision is the Lord's.

Ephesians 4:5-6 – God's authority cannot be taken away

(4) *There is* one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

(5) One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

(6) One God and Father of all, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all)

The sovereignty of the Lord is absolute – To resist the will of God is to turn God against you (**ISA 63:10** – But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, *and* he fought against them).

Note: Satan's final temptation of Jesus was an attempt to supplant the authority of God for his own glory (**MATT 4:9** - All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me).

Titus 3:2-3 – A reminder

(1) Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work,

(2) To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, *but* gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men.

(3) For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, *and* hating one another.

Paul reminds the believer of the importance on keeping one's focus, as we were all once of the world, all prone to the poor behavior of the envious, the greedy, and the proud, and that we are all of sin (**ROM 3:23** – For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God). As important as it may seem to understand the 'To Do' list, do not neglect the 'What Not To Do' list in shaping your behavior.

Next Lesson: Jude – Consequences

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Study Questions

1. According to Jude 1:11, who does Jude present as examples?

2. According to Genesis 4:8, what is the result of failing to do well (following error)?

3. According to Numbers 22:22, why was God angry with Balaam?

4. According to Numbers 16:3, who's authority did Core (Korah) challenge?

5. Complete the following scripture:

Titus 3:4 But after that the _____ and _____ of God our Saviour toward man appeared.

True / False

Reference

T F All 10 commandments define what to do by God

T F The chief priests delivered Christ for envy

T F Judas delivered Christ for envy

T F To rebel against God is to create an enemy of God

EXTRA CREDIT – In your opinion, do you know what not to do, and why or why not?
