



Epistle of Jude

Jude 12,13 – Description of Apostasy

- Warnings against false teachers- vv. 5-16
 - A. Previous failures - vv. 5-7
 - Certain Israelites
 - Certain angels
 - Certain pagans
 - Present failures related to the error- vv. 8-16
 - Nature of the error
 - Seriousness of the error - vv. 10-13
 - Consequences of the error
- *Jude 12,13 – Description of Apostasy*
- *Jude 12 - These are spots in your love feasts, while they feast with you without fear, serving only themselves. They are clouds without water, carried along by the winds; late autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots;*



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- Five more illustrations all from nature.
 - Constable – ‘A coral reef that lies hidden under the surface of the water can tear the bottom off a ship if it unsuspectingly runs into it.’
- So, what are *these spots in their love feasts*?
 - *spots* - metaph. of men who by their conduct damage others morally, wreck them as it were.
 - The Greek translation for *spots* is *spilades*, most often a *rock in the sea*.
 - *love feasts* - feasts expressing and fostering mutual love which used to be held by Christians before the celebration of the Lord's supper, and at which the poorer Christians mingled with the wealthier and partook in common with the rest of food provided at the expense of the wealthy.
 - » *2 Peter 2:13 - And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the daytime. Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you;*
- *while they feast with you without fear, serving (pasturing) only themselves.*
 - If *serving* is better translated as *pasturing*, what does this imply?
 - What do you believe they should *fear*; is this in contrast with *Phil 1:14*?



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- » *Phil 1:14 - and most of the brethren in the Lord, having become confident by my chains, are much bolder to speak the word **without fear**.*
- *Ironsides* – ‘The expression, “easting themselves together [with you] without fear,” shows how fully they have gained the confidence of the mass.’
- *They are clouds without water, carried along by the winds*
 - Other scripture about being carried about
 - » *Eph 4:14 - That we henceforth be no more children, **tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine**, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;*
 - » *Heb 13:9 - **Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines**. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.*
- *late autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots;*
 - *Late autumn trees without fruit* - metaph. of unfruitful, worthless men.
 - Why does Jude need to state *twice dead*?
 - Strong's - Men are represented as **twice dead** in a moral sense, first as not having yet been regenerated, and secondly as having fallen from a state of grace.



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- What do you think of by being *pulled up by the roots*?
 - » *Matt 13: 27-29 - “So the servants of the owner came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? **How then does it have tares?**’ “He said to them, ‘**An enemy has done this.**’ The servants said to him, ‘Do you want us then to go and gather them up?’ But he said, ‘No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them.*
 - » *Matt 15:13 - But He answered and said, “**Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted.***
- An uprooted tree is an Old Testament symbol of divine judgment.
 - » *Psalms 52:5 - God shall likewise destroy you forever; He shall take you away, **and pluck you out of your dwelling place,** And uproot you from the land of the living. Selah.*
- *Constable* – ‘Autumn is literally late autumn in the Greek text, a detail that shows Jude believed he and his readers were living in the last days before the Lord's return.’
 - » *Rom 13:11 - And do this, **knowing the time,** that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; **for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.***
 - » *1 Peter 4:7 - But the **end of all things is at hand;** therefore, be serious and watchful in your prayers.*
 - » *1 John 2:8 - Little children, **it is the last hour;** and as you have heard that the **Antichrist is coming,** even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.*



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- *Jude 13 - raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame; wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.*
 - Why do *raging waves of the sea foam up their own shame*?
 - *raging – fierce, untamed*
 - » *Isaiah 57:20 - But the wicked are like the troubled sea, When it cannot rest, Whose waters cast up mire and dirt.*
 - Is this always the way the apostate appear?
 - » *Matt 7:15 - “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.*
 - » *2 Cor 11:14 - For Satan himself transforms himself into an **angel of light**.*
 - *foaming up or out* –implies wasted waves and identifies the godless and graceless as impelled by their restless passions, and they unblushingly exhibit, in word and deed, their base and abandoned spirit (Wuest).
 - *shame* relates to *disgrace*
 - » *2 Cor 4:2 - But we have renounced the **hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.***



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- » *Phil 3:19 - whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things.*
- But do they feel *this shame*?
- *wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.*
 - What do you make of *wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever*?
 - The Greek word behind the English 'wandering star' is *planetes* which is the word for the heavenly bodies which behave other than the stars, their course being very perplexing until it becomes evident that they are circling the sun. Their orientation is not fixed in the heavens, nor fixed according to the earth.
 - *However*, I like what Vincent says: 'Possibly referring to comets, which shine a while and then pass into darkness.'
 - » 'They belong not to the system: they stray at random and without law and must at last be severed from the lights which rule while they are ruled' (Lumby).
 - The verb tensed is *perfect passive indicative* and indicates the same outcome noted for angels in *verse 6*.
 - » *Jude 6 - And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day;*



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- FB Meyer said it well:
 - ‘In the succession of terrible metaphors in *Jude* 1:12-13, notice that in each case there is promise without fulfillment and appearance without reality. Such is much of the Christian profession of !the present day.’

