



VICTORIOUS CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

Weekly Bible Study - 29:05:2013

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Studies in Jude

Study 12: Impending Divine Judgment On The Ungodly

Text: Jude 1:14-16

“And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him. These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage”.

The false teachers may have thought that they were being wise and that they would get away with their deeds, but Jude reminds them from ancient prophecies that Christ is coming back and that their deeds will not be spared at His judgement throne. This is a timely reminder to every one today that a day of reckoning is coming where we will all stand before the judgment throne of God to give account of all that we did on earth, and that on that day all secrets will be made manifest (Romans 14:10; I Corinthians 3:13; Ecclesiastes 12:14)

Second Coming of Christ (verses 14-15)

The book of Enoch may not be one of the 66 books of the Bible but his prophecy is entirely consistent with other prophecies in the Bible concerning the second coming of Christ. From Biblical Genealogy, Enoch was the seventh from Adam. Seven was an important number to the Jews – hence its mention here. At 65 years of age, he became the father of Methuselah, who became the grandfather of Noah. Because of godly life and pleasing God, Enoch never died as he was taken alive to heaven (Genesis 5:18-24; Hebrews 11:5) at 365 years of age, about 700 years before the flood at the time of Noah. It is believed that He will be one of the two witnesses (the other being Elijah) who will return to preach on earth during the Great Tribulation period (Zechariah 4:1-3, 11-14; Malachi 4:5-6; Revelations 11:3-12).

In our text, Enoch prophesied not only of the second coming of Christ with an army of raptured saints (Zechariah 14:5) and angels, but also that Christ's judgment will be based on words and deeds of the ungodly while on earth (Matthew 12:36,37).

Sins (Of The False Teachers) Condemned by Christ (verse 16)

In quoting from Enoch's prophecy, Jude did not just talk in general terms but rather specified details of the sins that the false teachers were indulging in, so as to leave them with no doubt as to what is acceptable to God and what is not. This is a salient lesson for all Christians today in their evangelistic activities. If a sinner does not know what sins s/he is guilty of, how will he or she know what to repent of? The sins of the false teachers that Jude confronted included:

Your Spiritual Welfare Is Our Concern

1. Grumbling - Being angry at everything and never being pleased with their state and condition. Grumbling is usually the seed that grows into rebellion and murmuring against God and man (I Corinthians 10:10; Exodus 16-17; Numbers 14-17).
2. Fault-finding (complainers) – underlines their critical attitude and complaining. This goes against the Biblical principles of harmonious living and contentment (Philippians 2:14-15; James 5:9).
3. Following their own evil desires – implies following their passions, submitting to their lusts and allowing them to rule their lives. Their will and desires were their only rule and law. This was the very sin that brought God's wrath on the Israelites in the wilderness (I Corinthians 10:1-10) and fail to heed God's command for living self-controlled and upright lives (Titus 2:12-13).
4. Boasting about themselves – by speaking haughty or bombastic words for self-exaltation and casting off all restraint to get something when under pressure. Peter describes them as alluring people through the lusts of the flesh by speaking great swelling words of emptiness (2 Peter 2:18).
5. Flattering others for their own advantage (i.e. self-interests) – They are like politicians who pour verbal praise, honour and flatteries on others for the motive of gaining advantage. Like the zealots about circumcision **“They zealously affect you, but not well; yea, they would exclude you, that ye might affect them”** (Galatians 4:17). Through smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of the simple (i.e. naïve people) (Romans 16:18). Such flatteries are evidence of corruption. On the contrary true Christians never use flattery, cunning craftiness, duplicity, manipulations or cover-ups to gain advantage of others. The early apostles set a glorious example declaring **“For neither at any time used we flattering words, as ye know, nor a cloke of covetousness; God is witness”** (I Thessalonians 2:5).