

Jude Expository

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Introduction

What a truly awesome little book. The book of Jude may be referred to as the book exposing heresy and apostasy within those claiming to be part of the body of Christ, but who are not. These may be rightly called the pseudochristians of pseudochristianity ... which are not Christian, nor are they of the spiritual body of Christ, the invisible church. Jude specifically targets many of his exposure attacks against the Gnostics, that same group of apostates making a resurgence of their heresies against the true gospels of God again today. Jude also exposes all groups that attempts to misapply, twist and infuse the doctrines of men into God's teaching. Jude arms Christians everywhere and for all time to preserve the Word and teachings of God against attack from non-believers, apostates, heretics and those seeking to undermine the faith. For this reason, I call the book of Jude, Pseudochristian Alert.

When we examine the person of Jude, we see he is the brother of James and an apostle. He does not call himself an apostle, but supposes that the terms which he uses would sufficiently identify him, and would be a sufficient reason for his addressing his brethren in the manner in which he does in this epistle. There were two men with the name James among the apostles, (Lu 6:14,15) and many have questioned which of the two was his brother? It is supposed that Lebbeus and Judas (Jude) are one and the same person. It was not uncommon for persons to have two or more names. The title which he assumes, "brother of James," was evidently chosen because the James he refers to was well-known, and because the fact that he was his brother would be a sufficient designation of himself, and of his right to address Christians in the manner he does.

Of Jude himself, little is known. His name is found in the list of the apostles, but, apart from that, he is mentioned only once in the gospels. The saying that is preserved of Jude is his question he put to our Lord Jesus on the eve of his crucifixion.

John 14:21-31

- 21 "He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him."
- 22 Judas (not Iscariot) *said to Him, "Lord, what then has happened that You are going to disclose Yourself to us and not to the world?"
- 23 Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him.
- 24 "He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me.
- 25 ¶ "These things I have spoken to you while abiding with you.
- 26 "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to

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- you.
- 27 "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful.
- 28 ¶ "You heard that I said to you, 'I go away, and I will come to you.' If you loved Me, you would have rejoiced because I go to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.
- 29 "Now I have told you before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe.
- 30 "I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me;
- 31 but **so that the world may know that I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father commanded Me.** Get up, let us go from here.

One can certainly understand the mindset of Jude, for with Jude's question to Jesus on the eve of crucifixion and the answer that Jesus gives him, one can understand why he is so passionate and succinct on what is of grave import. Jesus answered Jude and commanded the following ... Obeying the Commandments is the mark of love for Jesus and The Father ... to love God is to Obey God and in turn God loves the obedient ... Jesus states that His love for the Father is shown to the world because He does *exactly* as The Father has commanded Him to do.

With this passion to stand upon the truth of God understood, let us examine the inspired Word of God as delivered to us through Jude. The exegesis of all the Greek words used in this study are available under a separate appendix, called Jude Exegesis. It includes the word definitions and Scripture usage.

Verse 1 – 2: Greeting and Blessing

Jude 1

¶ Jude, a bond-servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who are the **called, beloved** in God the Father, and **kept** for Jesus Christ:

Called, Beloved and Kept. That is the mark and identity of the true Christian ... one who is Called, *kletos (klay-tos)* which means called to the high vocation of service to God as a result of His Salvation to you; Beloved, *agapao (ag-ap-ah'-o)* which means greatly loved; and Kept, *tereo (tay-reh'-o)* one who is protected, preserved and guarded over by God to be presented to Jesus as His Bride, on that wonderful and glorious Day of The Lord, the Wedding Supper of the Lamb.

Jude 2

May mercy and peace and love be multiplied to you.

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Mercy, Peace and Love. These are the Big Three elements to remain true to the grace of God delivered and multiplied to the saints

Verse 3: Contend Earnestly For The Faith

Jude 3

¶ Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints.

God identifies here the reason for inspiring Jude to write His Word to all Christians for ALL time. What Christians share in common everywhere is our Salvation of grace through faith in Jesus our Lord. God is appealing to those gifted Salvation by grace to, **Contend Earnestly for the Faith**, handed down to those Called and Chosen by God.

Jude 3

¶ Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the **necessity <318 anagke>** to write to you **appealing <3870 parakaleo>** that you **contend earnestly <1864 epagonizomai>** for the **faith <4102 pistis>** which was once for all **handed down <3860 paradidomi>** to the **saints <40 hagios>**.

God foresaw the *necessity*, the *anagke* (*an-ang-kay*) which means the necessity, imposed by the circumstances and the duty as a result of one's advantage or preference. In this instance it is the duty imposed upon one as the recipient of grace, the advantage of being a child of God, as one saved, preserved and guarded by God for Jesus. The necessity has built into it that which is required because calamity, distress, and straits is imposing the need and sense of urgency to act and respond.

God therefore inspires His *appeal*, the *parakaleo* (*par-ak-al-eh'-o*) or summoning, with much exhortation, teaching and instruction. It is the necessity with intensity to contend for the faith once delivered by God and gifted to His children.

God calls us to *Contend Earnestly*, to *epagonizomai* (*ep-ag-o-nid'-zom-ahee*) where we get the English word agony and agonize. It means to suffer great anguish through a great struggle. To agonize is to make great efforts with impassioned intensity and drive. Implicit in agony is the intensity, drive and emotion of the struggle for life in the moments that precedes death. WOW! God appears to take His Word quite seriously and passionately. Gee, I wonder if that means we should also?

What is the target of such an agonizing appeal? The Faith, *pistis* (*pis'-tis*)

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The Faith that God is inspiring Jude to speak of is the conviction of the truth of God and the absolute conviction and belief concerning God and His relationship to man, which in turn becomes the foundation for man's relationship to God. The Faith, as presented here, is speaking about the complex of Divine Truth and the Divine Revelation of God that He gifted to His beloved children, those born again children delivered from the wrath of God and hell into the glorious family of God.

The Faith is the Divine Trust of God. It is speaking of the Divine Fidelity of God, the absoluteness of God, and the perfection of God. The Faith has as its object God, not man. The object and focus is the Words of God and the very essence, nature, character and being of God. God the Divine and God the Incarnate Messiah Jesus as the apex of the redemptive history and plan of God for man. The Faith speaks about the character and faithfulness of God as the absolute object of The One who can without doubt be totally and completely relied upon. This can go into such greater depth, but sufficient for this study is the understanding that God is speaking His Words through Jude that the faith His children are to passionately contend for is that which relates to God, His nature, His Words and His teaching. It is the Truth of God, the Integrity of God and the Divine Person of God, both Spirit and Incarnate, that God is passionately communicating and appealing to His beloved children about the necessity to agonize and earnestly contend for Him. While God is the object, it is His chosen who are the recipients of The Faith.

God has handed down, paradidomi (*par-ad-id'o-mee*) The Faith to His chosen saints, His hagios (*hag'ee-os*), the holies. The inspired use of the Greek terms paradidomi and hagios is so vintage God as we shall now see.

The paradidomi, the handing over has two clear uses and meanings in Scripture, both rooted in having *complete* delivery and *full* possession. The Faith is fully delivered, handed over, and entrusted into the hands of His chosen to manage, preserve, to keep and take possession of. This has the same sense of how The Father has handed over all things to Jesus.

Matthew 11:27

"All things have been **handed over** <3860 paradidomi> to Me by My Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father; nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and anyone to whom the Son wills to reveal *Him*.

God's chosen people are to manage and preserve The Faith He has handed over to us in the same manner that Jesus preserves that which The Father has delivered unto Him, His saints, the hagios or holies. To manage it not or to manage it poorly carries a sense of foreboding.

2 Peter 2:21

For it would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than

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having known it, to turn away from the holy commandment **handed <3860 paradidomi>** on to them.

But there are clear secondary meanings to the term *paradidomi*. It also has the context of deliverance by *betrayal* ...

1 Corinthians 11:23

For I received from the Lord that which I also **delivered <3860 paradidomi>** to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was **betrayed <3860 paradidomi>** took bread;

Matthew 26:24

"The Son of Man *is to go*, just as it is written of Him; but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is **betrayed <3860 paradidomi>**! It would have been good for that man if he had not been born."

In addition, it is used in the context of deliverance and turning over to treachery, deception and tribulation ...

Matthew 24:9-10

- 9 "Then they will **deliver <3860 paradidomi>** you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name.
10 "At that time many will fall away and will **betray <3860 paradidomi>** one another and hate one another.

Luke 20:20

So they watched Him, and sent spies who pretended to be righteous, in order that they might catch Him in some statement, so that they *could* **deliver <3860 paradidomi>** Him to the rule and the authority of the governor.

It also means a turning over to *sin* and *depravity*.

Romans 1:24, 26, 28

- 24 Therefore God **gave them over <3860 paradidomi>** in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them.
26 For this reason God **gave them over <3860 paradidomi>** to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural,
28 And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God **gave them over <3860 paradidomi>** to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper,

Ephesians 4:19

and they, having become callous, have **given themselves over <3860**

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paradidomi> to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.

Jude is writing this passage under inspiration of God and has the context that some have betrayed God by handing over His precious truths and Himself to the unholy and unrighteous by integrating their false doctrines into the holy Word of God. Some have abandoned God and His Word to satisfy the desires of the flesh by betraying God and His truth. The Faith was under assault by the Gnostics and other non-Christian and pseudochristian groups then, just as it is now. God is inspiring Jude to hold fast and to fervently defend the truths and the faith delivered to His saints.

There were teachers of error abroad infiltrating the local fellowships. They were insinuating and artful men—men who had crept in unawares, and who, while they professed to hold the Christian doctrine, were really undermining its faith, and spreading corruption throughout the church. The purpose, therefore, of the epistle is to put those to whom it was written on their guard against the corrupt teachings of these people, and to encourage them to stand up boldly for the great principles of Christian truth. The assault upon God and their corruption of The Faith delivered is greater today with the myriad of apostate, cultic and pseudochristian groups. They still infiltrate like the strategy of Word Faith cult, who encourage you to return to you local fellowships with their heresies and doctrines of demons. Most, however, form their own fellowships under the banner of Christian.

What a powerful statement verse 3 of Jude is. This verse summarizes the purpose, theme and intent of what God is delivering to His saints. God delivers to the holies, the hagos (hag'-ee-os), the saints, which are born again members of the household of God, the body of Christ, the church ... The Faith. Saints or the holies are not to be understood as a canonized group of a select few that some denominations hold to, but are to be understood as ALL the born again members of the church, those who now belong to God.

Verse 4: Pseudochristian Deceivers and Apostates

Jude 4

For certain persons have crept in unnoticed, those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, ungodly persons who turn the grace of our God into licentiousness and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

This is eerily reminiscent of what is happening today. People have seamlessly crept into the body calling themselves Christian, erecting churches, denominations and even seminaries that claim to be Christian, but hold on to doctrines, teachings, that in fact deny The Faith and deny God.

What is one such evidence that God holds up as pseudochristian? Those who turn grace into license to sin and disobey God. This is so very widespread today and expanding exponentially that one may rightly see the trend of great apostasy, what I call pseudochristianity, as the beginning in earnest of the prophesied Great Falling Away from

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truth, and the Great Apostasy. Please read the study on the apologetics section of The Lord's Children website: Apostasy & Heresy <http://www.thelordschildren.org/heresy.htm>

God knows who are His and those who deny sin in the name of grace do not belong to God as verse 4 of Jude attests to. These people have secretly, stealthily or invisibly crept into Christianity unnoticed. These people were never written in the book of life according to God. These are the False Apostles, the pseudapostolos (psyoo-dap-os'-tol-os) and the pseudodidaskalos (psyoo-dod-id-as'-kal-os), the False Teachers of 2 Peter 2:1.

2 Peter 2:1

But **false prophets <5578 pseudoprophetes>** also arose among the people, just as there will also be **false teachers <5572 pseudodidaskalos>** among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves.

The leading charge God levels against the false prophets and false teachers, as inspired by Jude and Peter is they deny our Lord Jesus, yet they are said to be numbered among Christians, and were found in Christian assemblies. It is clear that the denial of Jesus does not take the form of a blatant and outright literal profession denying Jesus as the Christ, but one that holds doctrines which amount to a denial of Jesus as God in the flesh and the denial of the teachings of Jesus in fact.

Some contemporary doctrinal denials include, but are by no means limited to the doctrines and teachings of Jehovah Witnesses, Word Faith, Gnostics, Mormons, Latter Day Saints, Catholicism, Pentecostalism, Charismatic's, and a myriad of other groups too numerous to mention.

They include destructive doctrines that deny both the Divinity and humanity of Jesus the God-man: The denial that God become flesh in the person of Jesus, that Jesus is fully God and Jesus is fully man; The denial of the Divinity of the Holy Spirit as the third person of the Triune Godhead, denial that the Holy Spirit is God; The denial that God did not suffer on the cross, but left human Jesus alone to suffer and die; The denial of the bodily resurrection of Jesus, the denial of the bodily resurrection of man, the denial of the true work, nature and purpose of Jesus; The false gospel of health and wealth; The false teaching that the indwelling of God the Holy Spirit means a Christian is or will become god or a little god, and can perform the works and miracles of Lord Jesus the Messiah; Denies that grace is the power over sin but rather grace is license to sin, the denial of what Scripture calls sin; The denial that the 66 books of the Bible is the very Word of God, the denial that the Bible is fully complete, inerrant and free from contradiction. The list can go on, and on, and on. Keeping track of the plethora of their false and despicable teachings is daunting, for the moment you expose one, it seems to be replaced by 10 others, then recirculated again later to a new crop of susceptible minds.

Pseudochristian is the term used to collectively encompasses all false doctrines, all false brothers and sisters, all false teachers, false preachers, false apostles, and false teachings

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and beliefs. The bible names no less than 18 Greek terms used to describe these false and deceitful workers.

As we shall see in the next verse, the primary means of deception is to transpose grace into permission to sin because of forgiveness of sin in the name of Jesus.

Jude 4

For certain persons have crept in unnoticed, those who were long **beforehand marked out <prographo>** for this **condemnation, <krima> ungodly <asebes>** persons who turn the grace of our God into **licentiousness <aselgeia>** and **deny <arneomai>** our only **Master <despotes>** and **Lord, <kurios>** Jesus Christ.

Who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation. The phrase translated as *beforehand marked out* comes from the Greek word, *prographo* (*prog-raf'-o*) which means ordained, or written beforehand. While many struggle with the Sovereignty of God and predestination, Scripture clearly teaches this. These are in fact referring to the people whose names are not written in the book of life. These are those who through their own self determination and the will of God, are marked out for destruction.

This too becomes a heated debate within the pseudochristian ranks for they wish to elevate man higher than he is and diminish God to a lower place. They argue for the free will of man, which Scripture absolutely does not teach. God exercises His Divine Right of Sovereign Election through the self determination of man. The mechanism of how this is done is as great a mystery to the finite mind as never having a beginning, and the Triune nature of God. We must simply apprehend that which we do not yet fully comprehend.

Those who are predestined or preordained to condemnation simply means those not written in the Book of Life. The word translated condemnation is *krima* (*kree'-mah*) which means to judge or go before the judge for *sentencing*. God has already tried them in this mortal life, and found them guilty of Crimes Against God – Sin. The *krima* ultimately refers to the wrath or judgment of God that shall come upon the ungodly at The Great White Throne Judgment.

Ungodly People. are those who are devoid of or stand in stark opposition to the characteristics of God as manifest in the image and likeness of God in men. Ungodly is translated from the Greek word *asebes* (*as-eb-ace*) which means one who is destitute of reverential awe towards God, condemning God, impious. These are the carnal minds that have always been hostile to God.

Romans 8:7-8

7 because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so,
8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

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Who turn the grace of our God into licentiousness. The word *aselgeia* (*as-elg'i-a*) is translated as licentiousness and means to *unbridle oneself from any restraint*. These are the people who abuse the grace of God and pervert the doctrines of grace so as to give indulgence to corrupt and carnal desires of the flesh, whatever those desires may be. These are people who *release themselves from obedience to God*, His teaching in Scripture, the teachings of Jesus and pervert the gospel so they may satisfy their own indulgences and sinful passions in order that grace might abound. A common example of this in the West, and spreading worldwide is God's teaching on what constitutes adultery. Adultery includes anyone who remarries after divorce for as long as their divorced spouse lives and also anyone who marries a divorced person.

Matthew 5:32

but I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except for [the] reason of unchastity, makes her commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

Unchastity, immorality, unfaithfulness are grounds for a biblically sanctioned divorce, but not remarriage. Permission to divorce is not permission to remarry. This abuse of grace was clearly foreseen by God and thus Paul and other writers of Scripture God inspired to write against such abuse. God always seeks to provide the earnest means to guard and preserve His people throughout time.

Romans 6:1-2

- 1 ¶ What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase?
- 2 May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it?

Deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ. To deny God is to live a life seeking the desires of the flesh. To live in the flesh is to deny God and Jesus, our only Lord and Master. Master is translated from the Greek word *despotes* (*des-pot'-ace*) where we get the word *despot* from. It means Jesus is the only One in true absolute power and authority, and that His followers are to yield absolute obedience and allegiance God the Incarnate, Jesus the Christ. It means we are *subject* to every aspect of Jesus' absolute power and must *subordinate* ourselves to the absolute authority of Jesus. Jesus is Master (*despotes*) and Lord (*kurios*.) *Kurios* is the Greek term which has at its root the meaning of supremacy. Supreme Lord is a more apt descriptor and is the title attributed to Christ, our Messiah.

Another doctrine the pseudochristians bring into sharp distinction and separation and even set at odds is between Jesus our *Lord* or Jesus our *Savior*. Which is He? Scripture make no such distinction, for He is one and the same. Both apply and both are inseparable. The carnal mind will balk at Jesus being Lord of their life because the implications for subservience and obedience to Lord Jesus is profound.

If Jesus is not your Lord, neither is He your Savior!

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You cannot have one without the other. The two are inseparable. The carnal mind is so bent upon seeking its own desires, it has tried to coin a phrase to explain away its pseudochristianity ... Carnal Christian. Carnal and Christian are two mutually exclusive terms, an oxymoron. If you are carnal, then you are not Christian ... if you are Christian, then you are not carnal.

Romans 8:6-7

6 For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace,

7 because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able [to do so,]

To live in the flesh is to deny Jesus. You cannot be fleshly minded and a Christian because God's Word says this is *impossible* in verses 6 and 7.

Verse 5 - 7: Historical Judgments

Jude 5

Now I **desire <boulomai>** to remind you, though you know all things once for all, that the Lord, after saving a people out of the land of Egypt, **subsequently destroyed <apollumi> those who did not believe.**

Now I desire to remind you. God wants to bring to our remembrance through Jude, the judgments of times past that were recorded for our learning. Many people often wonder, "what is God's will for my life?" Well, here God clearly states His expressed will or desire, *boulomai* (*boo'-lom-ah-ee*) which literally means will, deliberate purpose, and affectionate desire is to remind you, or to cause you to bring to remembrance the lessons of times past. How do we fulfill God's will for us in this area? Read, study and learn from the Old Testament. God destroyed the non-believing Israelites after He delivered them from the hands of the Egyptians. They wandered 40 years in the wilderness and died there without ever entering the promised land, save Joshua and Caleb. (see Numbers 14:22-38). The wicked among God's chosen are punished.

Numbers 26:64-65

64 But among these there was not a man of those who were numbered by Moses and Aaron the priest, who numbered the sons of Israel in the wilderness of Sinai.

65 For the LORD had said of them, "**They shall surely die in the wilderness.**" And not a man was left of them, except Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun.

1 Corinthians 10:1-12

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- 1 ¶ For I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that our fathers were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea;
- 2 and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea;
- 3 and all ate the same spiritual food;
- 4 and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock was Christ.
- 5 Nevertheless, with most of them God was not well-pleased; for they were laid low in the wilderness.
- 6 ¶ **Now these things happened as examples for us, so that we would not crave evil things as they also craved.**
- 7 **Do not be idolaters**, as some of them were; as it is written, "THE PEOPLE SAT DOWN TO EAT AND DRINK, AND STOOD UP TO PLAY."
- 8 **Nor let us act immorally**, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in one day.
- 9 **Nor let us try the Lord**, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the serpents.
- 10 **Nor grumble**, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer.
- 11 Now these things **happened to them as an example**, and **they were written for our instruction**, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.
- 12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall.

though you know all things once for all. God inspires Jude to tell His chosen people to recall that which is known, or was at one time known by them all, and bring it back into their conscious level of remembrance.

subsequently destroyed those who did not believe. God, because of the sin of disobedience due to unbelief, did not permit His people to enter the promised land, but rather chose to destroy <apollumi> (*ap-ol'-loo-mee*) His people in the desert. In this sense it means physical death, to kill.

Matthew 16:25

"For whoever wishes to save his life will **lose <622 appollumi>**it; but whoever **loses <622 appollumi>** his life for My sake will find it.

This Greek word appollumi, also carries the sense of complete and utter destruction. It means to destroy and render as completely useless.

Matthew 5:29

"If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to **lose <622 appollumi>** one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

Appollumi is also used to represent the lost, in the context of salvation.

Matthew 10:6

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but rather go to the **lost <622 appollumi>** sheep of the house of Israel.

Lost people are those who remain in a state of spiritual death and have not received Redemption or Salvation from God. They are those who remain the children of wrath and subject to the ultimate wrath of God, hell. It is also used to describe complete and total worthlessness, the uselessness of the person to glorify God. This is also the imagery God uses to describe the complete destruction of the person, both body and spirit, in hell.

Matthew 10:28

"Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to **destroy <622 appollumi>** both soul and body in hell.

The spirit and body in hell is worthless and useless to God, like a destroyed car turning to rust in a junkyard. In the case of the Israelites wandering in the desert, they all died, save Joshua and Caleb, and did not enter the promised land. Here, appollumi is used to mean kill as it does in many passages of Scripture.

Matthew 2:13

¶ Now when they had gone, behold, an angel of the Lord *appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up! Take the Child and His mother and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is going to search for the Child to **destroy <622 appollumi>** Him."

The term appollumi does not mean or imply annihilation, the cessation of existence as many cultists and pseudochristians teach. For an in-depth study on the biblical teaching of hell, and the state of a person in hell, please go to the Apologetics section of the Topical Bible Studies at The Lord's Children website and read the study entitled, "Hell: Annihilation or Conscious Punishment?" <http://www.thelordschildren.org/hell.htm>

God is teaching us that sin and disbelief leads to death and the denial of entering the promise of God. Israel sinned by disbelieving God, were punished by death and denied entry into the promised land. So it is spiritually. Sin and unbelief is spiritual death and the denial of eternal life.

Jude 6

And **angels <aggelos>** who did not **keep <tereo>** their own **domain <arche>**, but **abandoned <apoleipo>** their proper **abode <oiketerion>**, He has kept in **eternal <aidios> bonds <desmon>** under **darkness <zophos>** for the **judgment <krisis>** of the great day,

Angels who did not keep their own domain. This is the second example of God that He will punish the wicked. God is consistent with His justice for both men and angels. Angels are created beings, intelligent, personal, emotional, moral, finite, are at present above man in power and might, have self determination, are messengers of God, worship God and dependent upon God to exercise their great power. This includes fallen angels as well as

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the good angels. The angels who did not keep, tereo (*tay-reh'-o*) their first domain, arche (*ar-khay*) are fallen angels. The fallen angels seem to occupy two classes, those who sinned and are imprisoned in the utter darkness of Tartaroo awaiting final judgment and those who followed Satan and were cast down to the earth.

There is much too much conjecture that the angels who sinned by leaving their first abode are the sons of God of Genesis 6.

Genesis 6:1-4

- 1 ¶ Now it came about, when men began to multiply on the face of the land, and daughters were born to them,
- 2 that the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves, whomever they chose.
- 3 ¶ Then the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years."
- 4 ¶ The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men, and they bore [children] to them. Those were the mighty men who [were] of old, men of renown.

This section of Scripture is referring to the descendants of Seth (believers) who intermarried with the pagan descendents of Cain (non-believers) and not a group of renegade angels fallen from heaven that give birth to the nephilim. Verse 11 of Jude also tends to reinforce this position. Angels are incapable of having carnal relations with humans for they are ministering spirits that do not have bodies of flesh that can impregnate women. Jesus himself supports that angels can not reproduce and therefore may not be given nor taken in marriage in Matthew 22:30 and Mark 12:25.

Mark 12:25

"For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.

So then, just who are the angels of Jude 6 who did not keep their first domain or estate? To comment beyond what the Scriptures teach is to speculate and form conjecture. Here's what we do know from Scripture. This group of angels that sinned against God are sentenced to Tartaroo, the deepest and blackest part of hell where there is no light and no glory.

2 Peter 2:4

For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into **hell** <tartaroo> and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment;

This is not referring to Satan and his demons when they waged war in heaven, for they were cast down to the earth. (Revelation 12)

Revelation 12:9

Jude Expository

And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

Neither is it referring to the time when Michael and Satan contended for the body of Moses in verse 9 of Jude. What we do know is there are angels who sinned and are now cast into Hades in a place called Tartaroo. Tartaroo is also called the *abyss* and the *pit* in other places of Scripture. These terms: Tartaroo, abyss and the pit are fully synonymous with one another. Angels consigned to Tartaroo may no longer deceive nor influence man while sentenced there.

Revelation 20:1-3

- 1 ¶ Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand.
- 2 And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;
- 3 and he threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time.

Scriptures record that Satan and his demons sinned in their rebellion against God and were cast down to the *earth*. Satan is not now in hell (Tartaroo) but roaming the earth. There are angels imprisoned in Tartaroo and angels that roam the earth as their current domain. These are two separate and distinct groups of angels. What we know from Jude 6 is angels are imprisoned in Tartaroo for their sin of not holding fast to their own or first domain.

The sense of the term *tereo* (*tay-reh'-o*) translated *who did not keep* in the 1995 edition of the New American Standard Bible, and *which kept not* in the 1769 King James Authorized Version is referring to the angels who did not watch over, guard or respect their domain, their arche (*ar-khay'*.) Arche should be understood more as their purpose, position and authority rather than their residence or habitation. This is highly reminiscent of what Christians are called to do, to guard and watch over their domain of preserving and keeping The Faith and integrity of God's revelation of Himself and His Ways. The angels that sinned have missed their mark, which is one of the biblical definitions of sin ... to miss the mark. Rebellion against God to not fulfill your God created and ordained role and function ... to have and to hold, to cultivate and to keep ... is sin worthy of hell.

But abandoned their proper abode. The angels that God cast into Tartaroo have abandoned, *apoleipo* their proper abode, *oiketerion*. The imprisoned angels abandoned, deserted, left behind and have forsaken that which God has charged them to do. To usurp that which *is not* yours, or to abrogate that *which is* yours is sin, a crime against God. It is interesting to compare and contrast the first two parts of this first section of the verse with each other.

Jude Expository

And angels **who did not keep <5083 tereo>** their own domain ... but **abandoned <620 apoleipo>** their proper abode

Compare and contrast the phrase *did not keep* with *abandoned* and the term *domain* with *abode*. When we compare the Greek, some contrasts and nuances in meaning come to light. When *tereo* (tay-reh'-o) to hold on to, guard, carefully attend to, is contrasted with *apoleipo* (ap-ol-ipe'-o) to abandon, desert and leave behind we see more clearly the differences between Salvation and Condemnation. The fruit of Salvation is *tereo*, carefully guarding and holding onto God and His ways while Hell is *apoleipo*, leaving behind, abandoning and deserting God and His ways. *Tereo* comes through Jesus and holding onto Him and His teachings while *apoleipo* comes through Satan and is opposition and rebellion toward God and His ways.

And angels who did not keep their own **domain <746 arche>** ... but abandoned their proper **abode <3613 oiketerion>**

Now let's compare and contrast domain with abode. Domain is *arche* (*ar-khay*) which speaks to beginning, origin, principality and rule. Abode is *oiketerion* (*oy-kay-tay'-ree-on*) which speaks to a habitation or dwelling place. This term is used in 2 Corinthians to refer to the resurrected and eternal bodies of the saved.

2 Corinthians 5:2

For indeed in this *house* we groan, longing to be clothed with our **dwelling <3613 oiketerion>** from heaven,

There are five domains of man is pronounced in Genesis 1:28.

Genesis 1:28

God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be **fruitful** and **multiply**, and **fill** the earth, and **subdue** it; and **rule** over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

There are many more domains of man, but this is to illustrate and highlight the difference between domain (*arche*) and abode (*oiketerion*) as used in Scripture. Unfortunately, there is no single verse in Scripture to illustrate the multiple domain of angels as there is for man in Genesis 1:28. The domain of the angels is to minister and serve both God and man, to protect man, be messengers of God, worshippers of God, and to execute judgment upon the enemies of God. Here is a verse to illustrate a domain of angels to serve the elect, those called to Salvation by God.

Hebrews 1:14

Are they not all **ministering spirits**, sent out to **render service** for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?

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Many have tried to add to Scripture via conjecture who the group of angels that have sinned are and what the domain is they did not keep. We have already shown that the sons of God in Genesis 6 is not referring to angels who left heaven, married and impregnated women. Rather, God is inspiring Jude to indicate these are probably those angels who rebelled against God by refusing to fulfill their ordained purpose.

Let's now examine abode, *oiketerion* and contrast that with domain. The spiritual abode of man is his body of flesh and in the resurrection our new and eternal physical bodies (2Cor. 5:2). The physical abode of man is his house, habitation or dwelling place. An abode (in context) may be expanded to include his community, town, city, nation and in the macrocosm, the planet earth. Angels are spirit, and do not have physicality. Angels are invisible to man in this three dimensional universe but, when they do manifest to man, it is called an angelophany. Because angels have no bodies, their *oiketerion* or abode is most likely the place they were created to be, namely heaven or some specific location in heaven. Whatever their specific *oiketerion* was, still remains unknown to us, but not to Jude, Peter and most probably John. It is very possible that Jesus may have told them about this event, but God did not inspire that to be recorded in Scripture in more detail than it is. Here is one verse of Scripture that testifies that not all the teachings, words and works of Jesus were recorded for Scripture.

John 21:25

And there are also many other things which Jesus did, which if they *were written in detail, I suppose that even the world itself *would not contain the books that *would be written.

He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day.

God is keeping, *tereo* (tay-reh'-o), the same word used earlier which means to carefully attend to, take care of, watch over, guard and secure the angels in Tartaroo, the abyss or the pit. *Tereo* has been translated as guarding over in many places of Scripture. See the appendix for a complete Scripture listing.

Matthew 27:54

Now the centurion, and those who were with him **keeping guard over <5083 tereo>** Jesus, when they saw the earthquake and the things that were happening, became very frightened and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"

Therefore, it is safe to say that those angels guarded by God are currently being *kept in order* by God and are *not deceiving man nor roaming* the earth for God has them in eternal, *aidios* (ah-id'-ee-os) bonds, *desmos* (des-mos'). *Aidios* means everlasting and *desmos* has been translated in the NASB95 as imprisonment ten times, chains, impediment and bondage. When God guards a being in everlasting prison, they are indeed bound, unlike some of these pseudochristians who are daily putting Satan in bondage, but never seeming to have him silenced or under control.

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God is watching over the angels sentenced to prison, those angels who are eternally under darkness, *zophos* (dzof'-os). Zophos is used to describe the darkness of Tartaroo, the abyss or the pit of Hades. This place may conceptually be likened to the men who commit crimes in prison and placed in isolation cells, the place for the most incorrigible prisoners, the place where the worst of the worst are kept. The isolation cell is to prison what Tartaroo is to Hades. Tartaroo, the abyss or the pit is the place of judgment for the angels who commit Crimes Against God ... Sin. They remain under guard until the day of Final Judgment.

Jude 7

just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, since they in the same way as these **indulged in gross immorality <ekporneuo>** and went after strange flesh, are exhibited as an example in undergoing the **punishment <dike> of eternal <aionios> fire <pur>**.

Sodom, Gomorrah and the surrounding cities that incurred the wrath of God is the third Old Covenant example that God inspires Jude to record for our understanding.

Since they in the same way as these indulged in gross immorality <ekporneuo>.

Sodom and Gomorrah were not the only two cities to be destroyed, but were probably the larger and more prominent cities to be destroyed. The *they* in this sentence is referring to the surrounding cities near Sodom and Gomorrah. Some contend that the *they* in this verse is referring to the apostates and pseudochristians Jude is warning the true believers about while others contend that *they* in verse seven is referring to the angels who sinned by taking the women of Genesis six. The sentence structure of the Greek does not support such an interpretation, nor does the biblical record. We have already demonstrated that the account of Genesis six refers to the descendants of Cain and that all Scriptural accounts, especially the teaching of Jesus, does not support the angel theory that the sons of God are angels.

The Greek word, *ekporneuo* (ek-porn-yoo'-o) means utter addiction to fornication and sexual lusts. All sexual intercourse not between one man and one woman in the bond of marriage is fornication. Fornication is sin. God teaches us in Scripture that sexual intercourse can only be sanctioned, nay promoted, between the husband and wife in the bond of marriage, the one time, one man and one woman union.

And went after strange flesh. The people of Sodom, Gomorrah and the surrounding cities were engaged in grotesque sexual perversions as stated with the phrase strange flesh. Strange flesh refers to that which is contrary to nature and includes homosexuality, bestiality, pedophilia, and other such perversions.

Are exhibited as an example in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire. With the phrase "exhibited as an example," God is issuing a warning against all such conduct. God is in essence saying, "I did it before and I'll do it again, so don't even think about it." In fact,

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this is the whole point of the previous examples. God is issuing His warning to man that He will indeed punish wickedness and sin. Israel suffered death for their rebellion against God, the angels who rebelled are now captive in Tartaroo awaiting final judgment, and men who set their will against God suffered the punishment of death at the hands of God.

The punishment, *dike* (dee'-kay) of all such behaviors and acts is *aionios pur* (ahee-o'-nee-os poor) which literally means eternal fire. Engaging in these behaviors will put you in hell's fire, Gehenna for all eternity. While the fire that destroyed Sodom, Gomorrah and the surrounding cities were not eternal, the fire that will consume the sinning inhabitants destroyed there will be an eternal, perpetual, everlasting fire as the Greek adjective *aionios* clearly means.

These three verses of Jude are interesting when viewed collectively. God did not spare *His Chosen people* from His wrath, but punished their disobedience. God did not spare *His created angelic realm* from His wrath, but punished the angels for their disobedience. God did not spare the *unbelievers of the world*, those who are not His chosen, from His wrath but punishes them for their sins, disobedience and unbelief. All the disobedient whether of men or angels, believers or unbelievers are held to account by God. All saved people are believers, but not all believers are saved. All the dead who are in Hades remain there awaiting the day of Final Judgment. Final Judgment will bring about the final sentence of Gehenna (eternal fire) at the Great White Throne Judgment of Revelation 20.

Verse 8: Current Judgment

Jude 8

¶ Yet in the same way these men, also by **dreaming <enupniazomai>**, defile the flesh, and reject **authority <kuriotes>**, and **revile <blasphemeo> angelic majesties <doxa>**.

Yet in the same way these men, also by dreaming. Jude uses the same phrase to reference the pseudochristians of his day with the fate of those living in the times past covered in the previous 3 verses. The pseudochristians that Jude refers to are living the same kind of lifestyle and incurring the same wrath of God.

The Greek verb *enupniazomai* (en-ooop-nee-ad'-zom-ahee) simply means to dream and is applied to these pseudochristians as espousing doctrines and claiming divine revelation via their dreams. The "God spoke to me in a dream crowd," whose doctrines and opinions sustained the same relationship to the Truth of God that their dreams do to divine origin ... nothing at all. Their pseudodoctrines is the fruits of futile imaginations, foolish whims and unfruitful fancies. The pseudochristians that Jude is referring to were engaging in the same form of sexual perversions that those of Sodom, Gomorrah and the neighboring cities were engaging in.

Jude Expository

Defile the flesh, and reject authority, and revile angelic majesties. The pseudochristians that God detests defile, revile and reject. This corresponds closely with 2 Peter 2:10. To defile the flesh is to engage in abominable acts that defile the very image and likeness of God in man. These are men who give in to their lustful appetites and carnal desires, which clearly these men were doing as well, yet claiming divine providence. God has already judged such men as these.

Pseudochristians reject lordship, *kuriotes* (koo-ree-ot'-ace). If you recall, kurios is the Greek term for Lord and is attributed to Lord Jesus in Scripture. Kuriotes means the rejection of the Lordship of Jesus the Christ. These pseudochristians reject authority, dominion, government, lordship and the power attributed to each. Many of these were Gnostics and those who reject all forms of government whether they be Divine, civil, state, church or family. These pseudochristians reject Lordship for they contend it violates grace. Sound familiar? It should, for that is the mantra of many of the pseudochristian groups today. God is calling evil all those who turn grace into licentiousness by unbridling themselves from any godly restraint. This was covered in verse 4 and it might be a good idea to review this again now. The twisting and perversion of grace is all too common a practice with pseudochristian groups.

These false teachers apply their evil, subtle, and deceitful teachings to the church of God, but as men like these often do, they seek most that which they claim to disdain ... power and rule over the minds of those they seek to control and manipulate. Causing you to reject the power, authority and lordship from on high, is an attempt to gain control over you by doing so. They seek to gain claim over that which they deny others, power and control.

These pseudochristians *blasphemeo doxa*, (blas-fay-meh'-o dox'-ah). The Greek term blasphemeo means to speak lightly or profanely of sacred things, where we get the English word blaspheme. Doxa literally means opinion and is exclusively used as a *good* opinion in the New Testament and translated as glory 85% of the time. It has also been translated as praise, honor, worship, dignity and approval. **Blasphemeo doxa is to literally Blaspheme the Glory of God.** Pseudochristians profane the glory of God by rejecting the good opinion of God, they reject reliability and authority of His revealed Word ... The Holy Bible. That too is a good use and understanding of blasphemeo doxa.

Verse 9: Michael Disputes Satan

Jude 9

But Michael the archangel, when **he disputed <1252 diakrino>** with the **devil <1228 diabolos>** and **argued <1256 dialegomai>** about the body of Moses, **did not dare <5111 tolmao>** pronounce against him a railing **<blasphemia>** judgment **<krisis>**, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

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In this verse Michael, which literally means “one who is like God,” is identified as an archangel <archaggelos>. God inspires Jude to record a dispute Michael had with Satan concerning the body of Moses. Some see this dispute to be about raising the literal body of Moses from the dead, while others see this as symbolic, representing the children of the captivity that God freed through Moses. Still others see the body of Moses as representative of the Jewish people as a whole much in the same way that born again Christians are the body of Christ.

While differences abound, I see no reason not to view this statement as speaking of anything other than a dispute concerning the literal physical body of Moses. Scriptures teach that Satan had the power over death until he was defeated by Christ at Calvary. The resurrection of Jesus defeated the sting of death which is sin.

Hebrews 2:14

¶ Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

1 Corinthians 15:20

¶ But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep.

The resurrection of Jesus is the first fruit of the great harvest of souls. The resurrection of Jesus defeated Satan’s power and grip over death. Some theologians believe the dispute between Satan and Michael was a judicial contest when the devil was laying out his case for the rights to the body of Moses and why Moses should be disqualified from participation in the bodily resurrection of the saints at the second coming of our Lord Jesus. It would appear this was for the purpose to lead Israel into idolatrous worship of the body of Moses.

While Jude and others Apostles and men who walked with Jesus may have possession of spiritual truths and insights that were not recorded as part of Divinely inspired Scripture, we on the other hand do not. Therefore we should severely limit any speculation beyond that which is stated in God’s written Word. All we know for certain is that a dispute occurred between Michael and Satan concerning the body of Moses and probably of most importance is how Michael conducted himself during this dispute.

Jude 9

But Michael the archangel, when **he disputed <1252 diakrino>** with the **devil <1228 diabolos>** and **argued <1256 dialegomai>** about the body of Moses, did not dare pronounce against him a railing judgment, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

When Michael *diakrino* with *diabolos* (devil) he *dialegomai* about the body of Moses. Please note that dia (dee-ah’) is a preposition that becomes the prefix for the three key words in this section, krino, bolos and legomai. Dia means by, through and by means of. Krino (kree’-no) means to judge, issue a ruling or decree, to take to court, sue or challenge

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by means of a formal legal proceeding. When combined to form the word *diakrino* (dee-ak-ree'-no) it often carries the meaning of issuing a judgment resulting from a legal challenge or proceeding.

Dialegomai (dee-al-eg'-om-ahee) has the root word *lego* (leg'-o) which means to say, speak as in the means to affirm, maintain, teach, advise or command. It is where we get the English word dialog. In the context of Jude 9, it has the sense of presenting a verbal argument or position on a matter, similar to how an attorney would *deliberate* his case against the opposing party before a judge. With these two words in their context in Jude, one can see why some interpret this as Satan filing for a formal legal petition against Moses in an effort to gain all rights to the body of Moses. Satan, by accusing Moses of the sin that prevented him from entering the promised land, also wanted to disqualify and prevent Moses from participation in the bodily resurrection of the saints at the second coming of Jesus.

The final word, *diabolos* is translated devil and literally means *dia* by means of and *bolos* to cast or throw away as a useless thing not caring where it falls. Devil then is descriptive of God's utter disgust of Satan by casting him out of heaven. Let's continue with the exegesis of the latter part of the verse.

Jude 9

But Michael the archangel, when he disputed with the devil and argued about the body of Moses, did not **dare <5111 tolmao> pronounce against <2018 epiphero> him a railing <988 blasphemia> judgment <2920 krisis>**, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

Dare, though an appropriate translation of *tolmao*, (tol-mah'-o) is probably not the most suitable English translation of *tolmao* in the context of Jude 9. *Tolmao* means daring in the sense of being bold and courageous and should not be understood as a "Don't you dare" in the American vernacular. *Tolmao* illustrates extreme confidence.

In this context it appears that Michael did not *talmao epiphero* (tol-mah'-o ep-ee-fer'-o) Satan, that is boldly pronounce against him the *krisis* (judgment) of Blasphemy. This has more to do with Michael's respect for God than it does any fear of Satan. Michael has already waged war with Satan and won, expelling him from heaven, so fear does not appear to be a motivating factor here. Michael is judging Satan as evil and wrong in his deliberations with him, but is holding back from the judgment of Blasphemy against him.

One could understand the verse to mean: *Michael, in his deliberation against Satan's unjust claim for the body of Moses, would not boldly accuse him of blasphemy in his judgment against him, but rather said, "The Lord rebuke you."*

Jude Expository

Verse 10: Pseudochristian Corruption

Jude 10

But these men **revile** <987 **blasphemeo**> the things which **they do not understand** <3609 **oikeios**>; and the things which they know by **instinct** <5447 **phusikos**>, like **unreasoning** <249 **alogos**> **animals** <2226 **zoon**>, by these things they are **destroyed** <5351 **phtheiro**>.

But these men ... These men are the pseudochristian teachers that are attempting to lead the saints, those who have an indwelling of God the Holy Spirit, astray through their deceitfulness, ungodly teachings and their ungodly lifestyle. These are the same men he refers to in verse four as those marked for condemnation, especially for their twisted and perverse teaching on grace. Pseudochristians often proclaim grace as freedom, but their intent is to pervert freedom into anarchy, license to sin or licentiousness, freedom to do engage in whatever behavior you desire, for you are under grace. This brand of pseudochristianity also marks a significant number of false teachers and false followers of Christ who pretend to be godly, but are in essence promoting sin by denying sin, and therefore denying the teachings of God and Jesus. They pervert obedience to God as legalism and grace as casting off any restraint from sin. Sound familiar?

... Revile ... The Greek work translated as revile is *blasphemeo* (blas-fay-meh'-o) and I wish it were translated in its original form as *blaspheme*. You'll remember that Jude used this term earlier, and it means to speak and/or take lightly or profanely the sacred things of God. The specific sacred thing of God that Jude passionately appeals to us, God's born again children - His saints (verse 3) is to *contend earnestly for The Faith*. It is The Faith that God gifts to all His born again children that these pseudochristian teachers blaspheme. The Faith that God desires us to contend for may be defined as our ability through the power and grace of God the Holy Spirit to *ACT upon our beliefs*. The things we believe include the teachings and traditions of God, Jesus, Scripture, and the Apostles. The doers of the Word of God are the true Christians and true followers of God.

James 2:7 (NKJV)

Do they not blaspheme that noble name by which you are called?

The *they* in the above verse are the pseudochristians in the assembly of the saints, and the name by which we are called is the name of God, Christian. The focus of James Two is The Faith. We are not be influenced by the pseudochristians in our midst. In this chapter James teaches us that *Faith* is acting upon that which we believe. Not acting upon faith denies faith and kills faith ... which makes it un-faith. Inaction is the absence of faith, the death of faith and therefore no faith at all.

James 2:14, 17, 20

14 ¶ What [does it] profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does

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not have works? Can faith save him?

17 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

20 But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?

... the things which they do not understand. When one has not received faith from God, one is incapable of understanding the things of God. To be saved is to have an indwelling of God the Holy Spirit ... and the indwelling of God the Holy Spirit is to impart spiritual knowledge and understanding. To lack spiritual understanding is to lack the indwelling of the Holy Spirit ... to lack the indwelling of God the Holy Spirit is to lack Salvation. Some falsely believe that an *incantation*, the mere act of speaking certain words in a certain order means salvation. It matters not what words you speak, for without the indwelling of God the Holy Spirit, one does not have Salvation. You can parrot the words all day long, "I accept Jesus as my Savior" but unless you have repented ... turned your mind away from sin and toward God ... acknowledge Jesus as Lord for Salvation ... only then will God grant an indwelling of Himself ... His Holy Spirit. Without repentance, you remain without Jesus. Without Jesus you remain without the indwelling of God the Holy Spirit. Without the indwelling of God the Holy Spirit, you remain in your sins ... you remain a carnal minded pseudochristian.

God is telling us through Jude that pseudochristians are devoid of sound understanding and not of the household of God, despite the fact they may appear in the assembly of God with His saints. Its ironic that one pseudochristian group even dares to take on that name, assembly of God. The Greek word *oikeios* (oy-ki'-os) translated as *which they do not understand* in the NASB95 means to have seen or perceived, hence to know. It is also interesting to note that the word *oikeios* has an alternate meaning of being in or of the house. In context this has the inference of the pseudochristians blaspheming the faith, blaspheming the knowledge and understanding of the household of God by inserting carnal understanding to that which is spiritual. Though pseudochristians may cohabit with the children of God and take on the name of God, they are not of the household of God, nor are they God's born again children.

and the things which they know by instinct. The word translated instinct by the NASB95 is probably not the best translation for the word *phusikos* (foo-see-koce') which means naturally or by nature. The natural mind is a carnal mind. The King James does a much better job in translating this verse.

Jude 10 (King James Version)

But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves.

Pseudochristian teachers are blasphemers of the faith and beliefs of the household of God because they are incapable of understanding the spiritual things of God because they are *phusikos*, carnal minded men.

Romans 8:5-8

Jude Expository

- 5 For **those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh**, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.
6 For **the mind set on the flesh is death**, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace,
7 because **the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God**; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so,
8 and **those who are in the flesh cannot please God**.

Those who are *phusikos* are the natural, fleshly and carnal minds incapable of understanding spiritual things for they are ... Spiritually dead, separated from God ... Hostile to God ... and therefore cannot please God. Such is the state of pseudochristians. Though they speak of and about God, claim to be like God, and take on the name of God ... they NEVER take on the Ways of God. They often reject outright the Word of God, or pervert and twist God's Word to mean everything and anything other than what God is revealing to His children.

like unreasoning animals, God continues to teach us that the pseudochristians are *alogos* (al'-og-os) unable to reason, un-reason-able, unreasonable, absurd. They are as un-reason-able as the brute beasts -*zoon* (dzo'-on)- of the field are as it pertains to understanding spiritual matters. What the carnal mind is to God spiritually, the brute mind of the beast is to carnal man ... devoid of the ability to know and understand his ways. As the beast is separated from the ways of man, not like him, hostile, and incapable of comprehension ... the carnal mind of man separated from God, unlike God very hostile and devoid of comprehension. The gap between the natural mind of man and God is greater than the gap between the beasts of the field and man.

A breakdown of the prefix and root of *alogos* we have the prefix -*a*, meaning without and -*logos*, meaning word. Therefore *alogos* is to be without word. Jesus, the second person of the Triune God is called the Word in the gospel of John. It can also be stated that pseudochristians are *a-logos*, without Jesus, without God, without The Word.

John 1:1, 14

- 1 ¶ In the beginning was the **Word <logos>**, and the **Word <logos>** was with God, and the **Word <logos> was God**.
14 And the **Word <logos> became flesh**, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

The second person of the Triune God, The Word ... was eternally with God ... The Word was God ... and The Word became flesh. That flesh The Word became has a name, and that name is Jesus. It is simply amazing how God inspires the use of the Greek language for the New Testament. It is so precise, that only the carnal minds will attempt to refute its Divine Inspiration.

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by these things they are destroyed. All these things discussed above is what *phtheiro* (fthi'-ro) the pseudochristian. Phtheiro literally means corrupts. The corrupted mind of the pseudochristian is defiled and destroyed as far as spiritual understanding and insight is concerned. I think it is useful to give the concordance definition of phtheiro here.

5351 fyeirw phtheiro (fthi'-ro)

probably strengthened from pthio (to pine or waste); TDNT-9:93,1259; v ; *to destroy, corrupt, spoil*:—

NAS-corrupted (2), corrupting (1), corrupts (1), destroy (1), destroyed (2), destroys (1), led astray (1).

AV-corrupt 4, corrupt (one's) self 1, be corrupt 1, defile 1, destroy 1; 8

1) to corrupt, to destroy

1a) in the opinion of the Jews, the temple was corrupted or "destroyed" when anyone defiled or in the slightest degree damaged anything in it, or if its guardians neglected their duties

1b) to lead away a Christian church from that state of knowledge and holiness in which it ought to abide

1c) to be destroyed, to perish

1d) in an ethical sense, to corrupt, deprave

I will list three passage of Scripture that demonstrate the use of the Greek verb phtheiro.

1 Corinthians 3:17

If any man **destroys <5351 phtheiro>** the temple of God, God will **destroy <5351 phtheiro>** him, for the temple of God is holy, and that is what you are.

2 Corinthians 11:3

But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be **led astray <5351 phtheiro>** from the simplicity and purity *of devotion* to Christ.

Revelation 19:2

BECAUSE HIS JUDGMENTS ARE TRUE AND RIGHTEOUS; for He has judged the great harlot who was **corrupting <5351 phtheiro>** the earth with her immorality, and HE HAS AVENGED THE BLOOD OF HIS BOND-SERVANTS ON HER."

So, we see through God's Holy Word the pseudochristian is corrupt, led astray and destroyed because he is carnal minded, unable to understand the truth of God. These men attack and blaspheme (revile) God and His revealed truths. They are like ravenous wolves tearing apart God and His ways.

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Verse 11-13: Pseudochristian Woe

Jude 11

Woe <ouai> to them! For they have **gone <poreuomai> the way <hodos>** of Cain, and for pay they have **rushed headlong <ekcheo>** into the **error <plane>** of Balaam, and **perished <apollumi>** in the **rebellion <antilogia>** of Korah.

Woe to them. The Greek word *ouai* (oo-ah'-ee) is the primary exclamation of grief and/or denunciation. God inspires Jude to write of His utter grief and denunciation of the pseudochristians, the "them and they" in this verse.

For they have gone the way of Cain. The pseudochristians that Jude is referring to have *poreuomai hodos* (por-yoo'-om-ahee *hod-os*) gone the way of Cain. This is another compelling reason to believe the sons of God in Genesis six are not angels but those non-believing pagan descendents of Cain, because the paganism of Cain's descendents brought about the utter destruction of the earth via the flood.

Cain was the firstborn son of Adam and Eve who was also the first murderer because God did not accept his sacrifice of the fruit of the ground. His sin is recorded in Genesis 4:5-12. Cain was a farmer whose impure sacrifice to God did not involve blood, as did his brother Abel, who sacrificed from the herd. Cain's sacrifice of the fruit of the ground was therefore not accepted by God. Cain's temper, anger and jealousy led him to murder his brother Abel. When Cain was questioned by God, his pride, arrogance and fear led him to lie to God and further bring upon himself God's wrath for his sins.

Though God would spare Cain's life, he became a fugitive and journeyed into the land of Nod where he built a city he named after his son Enoch. The legacy of Cain is that of pride, envy, corruption, wickedness, the hatred of God and religion, restlessness under the restraints of virtue, and a spirit of hatred of the true brethren of God which leads to murder.

1 John 3:15

Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer; and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

Murderous deeds and human sacrifices to foreign gods further estranged Cain and his descendants from the ways of the Lord.

And for pay they have rushed headlong into the error of Balaam. Greed and gain is but one motive of pseudochristian teachers God is condemning through Jude. Their lust for money is so great that they *ekcheo* (ek-kheh'-o) or *ekchuno* (ek-khoo'-no), that is, pour themselves out completely, to gush forward and bestow themselves totally to their greedy pursuits. Money is their god and Jesus tells us you cannot serve both God and money.

Matthew 6:24

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"No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth <mammonas.>

The Greek noun *mammonas* (*mam-mo-nas'*) is of Aramaic origin and means wealth, riches or confidence derived from the accumulation of substantial assets. These pseudochristians were then, as they are today ... greedy and lustful men, haters of God and His truth who serve their god call greed and mammonas.

The error of Balaam can be read about in Numbers 22-25 and other selected verses of both Old and New Covenants. The Greek noun translated error is *plane* (plan'-ay) and means deceitfulness, deception, delusion from results from deception, a wrong way or mode of action. A more accurate translation would be the deceitfulness of Balaam.

Balaam is a non-Israelite prophet of God who was coerced by king Balak to prophesy against the Israelites released from captivity in Egypt, for Balak feared them. King Balak offers Balaam substantial sums of money to do his bidding, but God warns Balaam not to prophesy against Israel nor go to king Balak, for Israel are His chosen people. God later comes to Balaam and mockingly gives him the *option* to go, (God already forbade him earlier) but to not prophesy against Israel. Balaam's acceptance to go angers God, so LORD GOD sends the angel of the LORD to block the path of Balaam and God speaks to Balaam through his donkey. The last verse of 22 and the first of 23 is the key to what God is communicating to us through Jude.

Numbers 22:41 – 23:1

22:41 Then it came about in the morning that Balak took Balaam and brought him up to the high places of Baal, and he saw from there a portion of the people.

23:1 ¶ Then Balaam said to Balak, "Build seven altars for me here, and prepare seven bulls and seven rams for me here."

Balaam prepared a sacrifice to the LORD GOD on the defiled alters of the false god Baal. Baal worship involved human sacrifice which is an abomination to the LORD. Balaam integrated the worship of God with the worship of idolatry. Balaam commingled that which is holy with that which is evil and wicked in order to profit from Balak, yet still appear to be serving God. Comprromise is the hallmark of carnal minds in defiance to God.

Pseudochristianity is doing that same thing today, profiting *greatly* by integrating many forms of pagan worship into the worship of the one true God. What many today revere as Christian holy days (Christmas and Easter for example) is the integration and inculcation of ancient and modern patterns of paganism and ancient Babylonian and Egyptian forms of idolatry.

Chapter 25 of Numbers describes a period of time in which Israel falls into great apostasy and worships Baal, intermarries with Moabites and Midianites who are entrenched in Baal

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worship, and tells of a miraculous plague that destroys 24,000 Israelite apostates. Balaam is soon after reported dead, killed in battle by Israel as he fought Midian.

Numbers 31:8

They killed the kings of Midian along with the [rest of] their slain: Evi and Rekem and Zur and Hur and Reba, the five kings of Midian; they also killed Balaam the son of Beor with the sword.

Some of the sins of Balaam recorded in Scripture include:

Numbers 31:16

"Behold, these caused the sons of Israel, through the counsel of Balaam, to **trespass against the LORD** in the matter of Peor, so the **plague was among the congregation** of the LORD.

Revelation 2:14

'But I have a few things against you, because you have there some who hold the **teaching of Balaam**, who kept teaching Balak to **put a stumbling block** before the sons of Israel, to **eat things sacrificed to idols** and to **commit [acts of] immorality**.

Jude specifically refers to the greed of Balaam in this verse and in general alludes to the many sins of Balaam as the deceitfulness of Balaam. We see they include the love of gain; covetousness; professing himself to be a prophet, teacher and servant of God yet leading God's people into idolatry; enticing God's children to sin; counseling those outside the household of God to entice the children of God to commit adultery, fornication and engage in forbidden marriages; allowing licentiousness into the congregation and in like manner influencing the teachers to lead others into licentiousness, thus corrupting the church. How is this any different from what we see today in the contemporary pseudochristian churches?

and perished <622 apollumi> in the rebellion <485 antilogia> of Korah. God inspires Jude to write of the fate of pseudochristian leaders who are rebels, *antilogia* (an-tee-log-ee'-ah) that is anti-logia, literally anti-Word, one who is contradictory or contrary in word. Jesus is the Logos of God, and pseudochristians are *antilogia*, contrary to Jesus, the VERY WORD of God. They are antichrist ... whose end is *already apollumi* (ap-ol'-loo-mee) death and/or destruction in this life or worse, being rendered utterly useless in hell. God speaks of their destruction in past tense, as if to say their fate is already sealed.

The rebellion of Korah is recorded in the book of Numbers, chapter 16. Korah took advantage of the discontentment of the children of Israel after coming out of Egyptian captivity and lead a rebellion of 250 leaders of Israel against Moses and Aaron. In truth, it was he who was discontent with the Aaronic priesthood and was seeking a larger role for

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himself and the Levites, so he accused Moses and Aaron as exalting themselves above all the people of the Lord.

Numbers 16:3

They assembled together against Moses and Aaron, and said to them, "You have gone far enough, for all the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LORD is in their midst; so why do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?"

The LORD was provoked to anger at this and sent a great earthquake, fire and plague from heaven to consume Korah, all the rebels and their households, about 15,000 in all. The Word of the Lord is telling Jude that the pseudochristians of today are also in rebellion and will suffer a similar *appollumi* or destruction if they continue on the path of apostasy. This sounds all too reminiscent of modern day pseudochristian mentalities who say we are all holy and can rule ourselves. God has a structure and it is not let the masses rule themselves.

Jude 12

These are the men who are **hidden reefs <4694 spilas>** in your **love feasts <26 agape>** when they feast **<4910 suneuocheo>** with you **without fear <870 aphobos>**, **caring <4165 poimaino>** for themselves; clouds without water, **carried along <3911 paraphero>** by **winds <417 anemos>**; autumn trees without fruit, doubly **dead <599 apothnesko>**, uprooted;

These are the men who are hidden reefs in your love feasts. Many scholars believe that there was an early Christian custom called *agape* that followed or was concurrent with the celebration of the Lord's Supper. The *agape* custom involved the wealthier believers bringing food to be prepared and consumed by all. See the study on the Lord's Supper for more in-depth treatment of what the Lord's Supper is and how the early New Testament church observed this feast.

The point God is inspiring Jude to write about has little to do with the celebration of the Lord's Supper, but everything to do with the wolves and deceivers disguising themselves as God's shepherds of the flock. God is warning His children to be on guard for these men, pseudochristian pastors (poimaino) who are like cliffs of rock (spilas), feigning love for they have no fear (aphobos) of God in communing with you.

Let's take a look at five different translations that collectively begin to give us a clearer picture of God's warning to His sheep.

Jude 12 (1901 American Standard Version)

These are they who are hidden rocks in your love-feasts when they feast with you, shepherds that without fear feed themselves; clouds without water, carried along by winds; autumn leaves without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots;

Jude 12 (1984 New International Version)

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These men are blemishes at your love feasts, eating with you without the slightest qualm—shepherds who feed only themselves. They are clouds without rain, blown along by the wind; autumn trees, without fruit and uprooted—twice dead.

Jude 12 (1965 Bible in Basic English)

These men are unseen rocks at your love-feasts, when they take part in them with you, keepers of sheep who without fear take the food of the sheep; clouds without water rushing before the wind, wasted trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots,

Jude 12 (1902 Rotherham Bible)

These are they—who, in your love-feasts, are hidden rocks, as they fare sumptuously together, fearlessly, themselves, shepherding,—clouds without water, by winds swept along, trees autumnal, fruitless, twice dead, uprooted,

Jude 12 (1898 Young's Literal Translation)

These are in your love-feasts craggy rocks; feasting together with you, without fear shepherding themselves; clouds without water, by winds carried about; trees autumnal, without fruit, twice dead, rooted up;

Reading the above five translations, we see these men are self-seeking, money-hungry, **PSEUDO-PASTORS** and **PSEUDO-TEACHERS**. Self-serving men who lust after the flock for personal gain and satisfaction, having no fear of the Lord. They are *spilas*, jagged rocks in the sea that will shipwreck and sink the truth of God in anyone coming into contact with them. These lying and deceiving pseudochristian shepherds are *aphobos*, without fear. The context of the Greek adverb, *aphobos*, *-a* means without and *-phobos* means fear, *aphobos* is without fear. *Phobos* is where we get the English word phobia from. No fear of God makes these pseudochristians a dangerous bunch that must be exposed, removed from fellowship, and avoided by all. This is a recurring theme in the book of Jude, and the bible as a whole.

caring for themselves. The English word caring is translated from the Greek verb *poimaino* (used 11 times in Scripture) and means to act as a shepherd. It is the term used to picture Christ the Good Shepherd, the Chosen One of God, The Elect, The Messiah.

Matthew 2:6

'AND YOU, BETHLEHEM, LAND OF JUDAH, ARE BY NO MEANS LEAST AMONG THE LEADERS OF JUDAH; FOR OUT OF YOU SHALL COME FORTH A RULER WHO WILL **SHEPHERD** <4165 *poimaino*> MY PEOPLE ISRAEL.'

Poimaino is the term Jesus uses when speaking to the Apostle Peter, when He commands him to oversee and shepherd all of God's sheep, including the Apostles.

John 21:16

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He *said to him again a second time, "Simon, *son* of John, do you love Me?" He *said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He *said to him, "**Shepherd <4165 poimaino>** My sheep."

It is also the same word used for those entrusted to lead God's people and to protect them from the ravenous wolves, seeking to destroy and devour God truth and in turn, His people.

Acts 20:28

"Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to **shepherd <4165 poimaino>** the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

This section of Scripture is so significant, that I want to include the context of this section here and now.

Acts 20:28-31

- 28 **"Be on guard** for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to **shepherd <4165 poimaino>** the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.
- 29 "I know that after my departure **savage wolves** will come in among you, **not sparing the flock;**
- 30 and from among your own selves men will arise, **speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them.**
- 31 **"Therefore be on the alert,** remembering that night and day for a period of three years I did not cease to admonish each one with tears.

We see that *poimieno* is used to represent Jesus Christ, the Chief Shepherd, the Apostles and overseers of the church who collectively are referred to as elders, what we commonly call pastors. Their primary function is to feed the flock the truth of God and protect the flock from the wolves that seek to pervert and destroy God's truth and His people. It appears that in the era of great apostasy, the wolves, the pseudochristians and pseudochristian shepherds are more than capable of deceiving and leading away the multitudes of professing Christians, and these multitudes appear more than eager to follow them into the jagged rocks and cliffs. Shipwreck!

Clouds without water, carried along by winds. A cloud without water will not bring the refreshing rain needed for growth, food and sustenance. Clouds bringing sustaining water, LIFE, is the imagery used for the shepherds of God. Shepherds, through the power and strength of the Holy Spirit, refresh, nourish, feed and spiritually sustain the people of God.

Instead of this, however, the wind *paraphero* the clouds, that is, strong and violent storm winds drive away that which is meant to sustain and nourish. So it is with these

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pseudoshepherds who are like waterless clouds that will not sustain spiritual life for themselves or others but are rather blown asunder. These men are the origins of the factions and schisms that Scripture state must come about so those who are the elect may be known and seen. See the study called Apostasy-Heresy in the apologetic section of the Lord's Children Fellowship topical study website.

Apostasy & Heresy <http://www.thelordschildren.org/heresy.htm>

Instruction in regard to Salvation and the strait and narrow road of Sanctification is expected from the shepherds, but instead, the wide road of death and destruction await.

Autumn trees without fruit, God is inspiring Jude to speak of the *fate* or the fruit of being waterless clouds and autumn trees without fruit. A tree in its season that does not bear the fruit when it is expected to have fruit is destroyed for it is uselessness.

Matthew 21:18-19

- 18 ¶ Now in the morning, when He was returning to the city, He became hungry.
- 19 Seeing a lone fig tree by the road, He came to it and found nothing on it except leaves only; and He *said to it, "No longer shall there ever be any fruit from you." And at once the fig tree withered.

Doubly dead, uprooted. To be doubly dead means to be beyond redemption and salvation. A tree doubly dead will never again bear fruit do it must be pulled up by the roots and destroyed. It is of no value to prune and cut down leaving only a stump, for if its roots remain in fertile soil it is robbing the soil of its nourishment to sustain another life. Therefore, the tree must be uprooted for complete and total destruction, doubly dead.

Hebrews 6:4-6

- 4 For in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit,
- 5 and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come,
- 6 and *then* have fallen away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame.

So it is with these men, the pseudoshepherds. They produce no fruits of godliness, have is no vitality of life in them, so they must be removed from the fertile soil of the church and cast away into the fire.

Luke 3:9

"Indeed the axe is already laid at the root of the trees; so every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

This may be seen as the first death, separation from God. The second death is eternal death, eternity in hell. Being doubly dead is to be beyond repentance and subject to the

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wrath of God in hell fire. The ever increasing numbers of pseudochristian pastors, teachers and followers who answer to this description is mind numbing!

Jude 13

wild waves of the sea, casting up their own shame like foam; **wandering <planetes> stars <aster>**, for whom the **black <2217 zophos> darkness <4655 skotos>** has been **reserved <5083 tereo> forever <165 aion>**.

Wild waves of the sea, casting up their own shame like foam, wandering stars.

Jude continues the imagery of the pseudoshepherds by comparing them to wild waves of the sea, loud, boisterous, uncontrollable and tempestuous, yet for all their fierceness and majesty all they amount to in the end is a spewing forth of foam upon the seashore that returns gently to the sea ... their journeys end. God equates the ocean's foam with the shame of their lies, deception and uselessness.

The Greek noun, *planetes*, literally means wandering for in ancient of times the planets appeared to be without course and design, so the ancients called planets wandering. Jude is completing his analogy for these pseudochristian pastors and teachers. They, like planets and stars, have a form of prominence and beauty to capture the hearts and imaginations of some, for they appear to give or reflect light, having some form of brilliance and glory, but in fact, do not.

For whom the black darkness has been reserved forever. God is revealing through Jude the He reserves forever, *tereo aion* (tay-reh'-o ahee-ohn') the eternal fate of pseudochristian pastors and teachers. We covered in depth the term tereo which means to keep under guard and to maintain control over for *aion*, forever, eternity. We get the English words aeon and eon from this Greek root.

What is God eternally keeping for the pseudochristian pastors and teachers? Zophos skotos (dzof'-os skot'-os), the Black Darkness or Blackness of Darkness of Tartaroo in hell. The literal meaning of the phrase black darkness, zophos skotos is quite illuminating.

The Greek noun *zophos* means darkness in terms of gloominess, gloom and doom. Zophos is used by Jude in verse 6 and 13. If you recall, in verse 6, zophos is referring specifically to the blackness of Tartaroo, The darkest, blackest and gloomiest place in hell. God is keeping those angels who sinned by not keeping their own domain and abandoning their abode in eternal bondage in Tartaroo, where that are imprisoned awaiting Final Judgment. Peter also uses this term in 2 Peter 2:4 and 17 in the same context as Jude does in verses 6 and 13. It means in Tartaroo, the darkest place of hell.

The Greek noun *scotos* means darkness in terms of not being able to see, blindness and metaphorically ignorance and the power of Satan and the Satanic blindness that darkens the mind to prevent comprehension of the Light which is God, His truth and His ways. Jesus

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Himself uses this term metaphorically represent all the above and also to represent the darkness of Tartaroo in hell.

Matthew 6:23

"But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light that is in you is **darkness <4655 skotos>**, how great is the **darkness <4655 skotos>**!

Luke 22:53

"While I was with you daily in the temple, you did not lay hands on Me; but this hour and the power of **darkness <4655 skotos>** are yours."

Matthew 8:12

but the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into the outer **darkness <4655 skotos>**; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

One more verse to represent the culmination of skotos relating to Judgment ...

John 3:19

"This is the **judgment**, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the **darkness <4655 skotos>** rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil.

And one final verse to represent the culmination of skotos relating to Hope.

Acts 26:18

to open their eyes so that they may turn from **darkness <4655 skotos>** to light and **from the dominion of Satan to God**, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.'

We, the saved, thank God for the power of Light, His gifts of repentance that enables us to turn from the hostile darkness to Light ... God. The dominion of Satan has the whole world in bondage, but Jesus and the Holy Spirit is the power of Light that pierces the darkness. God Redeems His elect into the light of forgiveness, Salvation and Sanctification.

Verse 14-15: Enoch Prophecy of Judgment

Jude 14

[It was] also about these men [that] Enoch, [in] the seventh [generation] from Adam, prophesied <4395>, saying, "**Behold <2400 idou>**, the **Lord <2962 kurios>** came with **many thousands <3461 murias>** of His **holy ones <40 hagios>**,

It was also about these men that Enoch. These men are the same pseudochristian pastors and teachers that Jude is warning us about that God also prophesied about through the prophet Enoch. "These men" in the verse 15 are not limited to those specifically

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described by Enoch, but is inclusive of all who are like these men. It includes all pseudochristians, false prophets, false teachers, deceivers, and the ungodly throughout the ages. It includes all the future pseudochristians yet to be born and yet to deceive others.

In the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied, saying, Jude begins by confirming the genealogy of Enoch as the seventh from Adam. See Genesis 5:1-24 for a breakdown of the genealogies from Adam to Enoch.

"Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones. Jude is quoting the prophet Enoch. The Enoch prophesy begins with the word Behold and includes all of verse 15. Jude may have learned this prophesy from the Oral Traditions known about the prophet passed down throughout the ages, or possibly from Jesus when He spoke with His Disciples and Apostles. It is also possible Jude was directly inspired by God the Holy Spirit to directly pen this prophesy of Enoch. Though there is an apocryphal book called, "The Book of Enoch," and this prophesy that Jude pens closely resembles a prediction contained the book of Enoch, it is highly unlikely that this book existed at the time of Jude. This book was not written by Enoch, but someone other than Enoch after the time of Jude that documents the oral traditions of the sayings of Enoch. In any event, all of verse 15 beginning with the word *Behold* in verse 14 is the Enoch prophesy as recorded by Jude.

Whenever God inspires any of His prophets (Old or New Covenant) to begin with the word, Behold! *idou* (id-oo') God is alerting us to give His Words our undivided mind. He is in essence saying Pay Attention! Listen Up! This is important! The Lord, *kurios* (koo'-ree-os) who is Jesus the Christ, the Messiah, came, *erchomai* (er'-khom-ahee). The Greek verb *erchomai* is the middle voice of a primary verb that is used only in the present and imperfect tenses. Therefore, comes would appear to be the better translation. Nonetheless, it is not unusual for God, to speak of prophetic future events in past tense, as if they have already occurred. God is Omniscient and Sovereign. When God wants to communicate His absolute steadfastness and absolute faithfulness in bringing about His Will, He has often done this in Old Covenant writings by speaking of future events in past tense.

Lord Jesus comes with *urias* (moo-ree'-as) *hagios* (hag'-ee-os). *Murias* is translated as many thousands in the New American Standard Bible, 1995 edition and as ten thousand in the 1769 King James Authorized Version. The English word myriad is taken from this Greek noun and means an unlimited number, an innumerable multitude. The aforementioned versions have also translated *urias* as fifty, many thousands, myriads, ten thousand times ten thousand, innumerable multitude. Though the literal meaning of *urias* is ten thousand, this term is to be understood not as a literal number but as a figurative number representing a number too large to be counted. It is like the American expression, "I've told you a million times." *Hagios* is the Greek adjective translated as holy ones. *Hagios* means saints, all the saved souls with God in heaven and upon the earth. Saint is speaking of all regenerate believers.

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The prophetic event given to Enoch and written by Jude describes the Second Coming of Lord Jesus. Jesus comes with His saints, all the saved that have died prior to His return, and for His saints, those who are alive upon the earth at His Coming. The Second Coming of Jesus begins a New Era of Redemptive History and encapsulates a series of significant events, including, but not limited to: The First Resurrection of Believers; The Bema Judgment of Believers; The Reward of Believers - their eternal physical bodies; Armageddon; The Binding of Satan in Tartaroo; The Millennium – the 1,000 year reign of Jesus upon the earth; The Gog and Magog Rebellion – the war that signifies the end of the Millennium; and Final Judgment – The Great White Throne Judgment. The Great White Throne Judgment draws to conclusion all of Redemptive History. After the Great White Throne Judgment, there is no longer any flesh and blood humans' remaining. All humanity that was ever conceived has been eternally changed. Those who are in Christ have received their eternal bodies and eternal life and those who reject Christ have received their just recompense, eternal death.

Jude 15

¶ to **execute** <4160 poieo> **judgment** <2920 krisis> **upon all** <3956 pas>, and to **convict** <1651 elegcho> **all** <3956 pas> **the ungodly** <765 asebes> **of all** <3956 pas> **their ungodly** <763 asebeia> **deeds** <2041 ergon> which they have done in an **ungodly way** <764 asebeo>, and of **all** <3956 pas> **the harsh things** <4642 skleros> which **ungodly** <763 asebeia> **sinner** <268 hamartolos> have **spoken against** <2596 kata> Him."

WOW! I had to take pause before completing my exegetical study of this verse to examine myself, repent of my sins and pray to my Lord, my God and my Savior. When I listed all the key phrases of the prophesy of Enoch in the Greek ... *poieo krisis pas*, Execute Judgment Upon All; *elegcho pas asebes*, Convict All the Ungodly; *pas asebeia ergon*, All Ungodly Deeds; *pas asebeo*, All Ungodly Ways; *pas skleros*, All Harsh Things; *asebsia hamartolos kata*, Ungodly Sinners Speaking Against God; one must begin to take pause. Ungodliness is central to judgment.

Who among us are exempt from any of the above? All the above? Certainly not!! How about you? Brrrrrrr, Brrrrrrr, Brrrrrrr! If this doesn't send chills up your spine...! Whenever we engage in bible study, there is always conviction, sometime strong conviction and sting, when the deeper reality and holiness of who God is what God is saying sinks in. Justice and Mercy, Mercy and Justice, neither can exist without the other, for both demonstrate God is love, but thank God for Mercy to His elect through Jesus.

Execute judgment upon all. God will *poieo* (poy-eh'-o) *krisis* (kree'-sis) *pas* (pas). Many preachers, teachers and theologians say no, not upon all ... But God says YES, UPON ALL! Judgment is only for sinners, the unsaved they say. FALSE ... BELIEVERS ARE JUDGED ALSO, says God.

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The believers' judgment is at the return of Christ. This judgment is the exact same process that the unbelievers will go through with the only difference being the believers judgment will not result in condemnation in hell. The vicarious sacrifice of Jesus satisfies the Justice of God by the shed blood of Jesus. Jesus paid the ultimate penalty for sin in our stead and thereby freed us from the bondage and penalty of sin to enjoy the fruits of Eternal Life. The sacrifice of Jesus **does not** release us from standing before God and giving a full account of *all* our deeds committed in the flesh.

2 Corinthians 5:10

For we must all appear before the **judgment seat <968 bema>** of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

The Greek noun *bhma bema* (*bay'-ma*) means judgment seat or throne. It is the official Seat of a human Judge and as a theological term means the Judgment Seat of Christ. *All* believers who ever existed up to the return of Christ will stand before the Bema, the Judgment Seat of Christ at his return. All the remaining people (believers and non-believers alike) will stand before Christ at The Great White Throne Judgment at the end of the age. It is the call of every human ever conceived to stand before God in judgment. That is the burden of bearing the image and likeness of God.

Revelation 20:11-15

- 11 ¶ Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them.
- 12 And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds.
- 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds.
- 14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.
- 15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

The process described in Revelation 20, verse 12 is the same process that believers will undergo when we stand before Christ as He sits upon His Throne, His Bema, The Judgment Seat of Christ spoken of in 2 Corinthians 5:10 and Romans 14:10.

When Scriptures speak of executing judgment upon all, *pas* literally means every person ever conceived, with Jesus being the only exception. The Greek adjective *pas* and the Hebrew noun *kowl* (*kole*) are used in various senses in Scripture. Rarely does the word *all* mean to include every single person taken individually. The above is an instance where it

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does literally mean every single person without exception. When speaking of Redemption (Salvation) *all* is not used to represent every single human being within the class being signified. First, let me give you an example in English. If I am making popcorn and somebody asks me how much of the bag did you pop, and I answered all of it, is all meant to imply that every kernel in the bag had to pop? No, but I still use the term all to represent how much popcorn I put in the popper. A similar sense of *all* is used in Scripture as well.

When all is used in Redemption/Salvation it means to signify that Christ has redeemed some of all sorts —some Jews, some Gentiles, some rich, some poor, and has not restricted His redemption to every individual Jew or every individual Gentile. However, *all* when used for Judgment, as it is in the above verse, signifies each and every human being ever conceived standing before Christ to be judged. All will stand before God to be judged either at the Bema or before the Great White Throne.

And to convict all the ungodly. *elegcho pas asebes (el-eg'-kho pas as-eb-ace)*

The Greek verb *elegcho* means to expose, convict, and reprove by bringing deeds and actions to light, which in turn brings about shame to the one whose deeds and actions are exposed. When we stand before God in judgment, nothing will be hidden. Whether this is a public or private forum I know not and care not. We will all stand before God in shame and be ashamed for our sins. Well, at least I believe all the believers will feel ashamed as we come to judgment before God.

Pas asebes, all the ungodly. The Greek adjective literally means to be destitute of reverential awe towards God. These include the pseudochristian's irreverential treatment of God's Word, His Commands, His people and anything else godly, holy and pious. Non-believers all lack a deep awe, appreciation and sanctity for the truths of God. A few will not acknowledge God at all, many will chase after false gods and false religions, while others will twist and pervert God's truth and His ways thereby creating a pseudochristian religion that worships a false god and a pseudojesus.

Of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way. *Pas asebeia (as-eb'-i-ah) ergon (er'-gon) asebeo (as-eb-eh'-o)*. *Asebeia* is a Greek noun and was just covered when we did the adjective *asebes*. The meaning is exactly the same, to be destitute of reverential awe toward God in your *ergon (er'-gon)*. *Ergon* means work, employment, labor, or business pursuits. *Ergon* is focused upon your job, the things you do for a living but is also expanded in its use to include any enterprise, undertaking or thing produced or accomplished by hand, art, industry, or mind. Things accomplished through work and effort is what *ergon* means. Jude ends with the verb *asebeo (as-eb-eh'-o)* meaning the actions of ungodliness, the active irreverence toward God. *Pas asebeia argon asebeo ... all the ungodly working hard at producing more ungodliness.*

This prophesy of Enoch is God's conviction and condemnation upon those who work hard at producing ungodliness in themselves and others. Their job is to lead others astray by teaching and deceiving them to believe that which is of God is not, and that which is not of God, is. They are in the business of proclaiming lies as truth and working hard at getting

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others to believe their lies and follow their wicked ways. God inspires Jude to record the Enoch prophesy for this prophesy of God appears more relevant now than it ever has before.

And of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him. *Pas skleros* (sklay-ros') *hos asebeia* (as-eb'-i-ah) *hamartolos* (ham-ar-to-los') *laleo* (lal-eh'-o) *kata* (kat-ah'). The Greek adjective *skleros*, means that which is hard, fierce, rough and difficult. *Skleros* is taken from the Greek root *skello*, which means dryness and parched, lean. Today we would refer to men like this as seasoned or salty, like men who have long been at sea or war, salty, seasoned and battle hardened.

Pas Skleros is referring to all lean and mean men *hos asebeia hamartolos* who are ungodly sinners. All the lean and mean men bankrupt of awe and reverence to God who are *hamartolos* (ham-ar-to-los'). The Greek adjective *hamartolos* (ham-ar-to-los') not only includes all humans that are naturally sinful, but seems to be targeting upon those devoted to sin, the pre-eminently sinful and wicked men who *laleo* (lal-eh'-o) *kata* (kat-ah'), speak and preach contrarily toward and about God. *Kata* (kat-ah') literally means down and against, those who are contrary to someone or something.

In this context, the prophesy God has given to Enoch is convicting and condemning all the lean and mean pseudochristians who are seasoned in ungodliness and devoid of awe and reverence to God, who work diligently in deceiving others, leading them into sin by teaching and preaching deceiving things contrary to God and His ways. God is inspiring Jude to record the Enoch prophesy for it is delivered to ... targeted to ... and focused upon ... ALL the apostates and pseudochristians of the latter days ... today.

Verse 16: Pseudochristian Strategy

Jude 16

These are grumblers <1113 gogguste>, finding fault <3202 mempsimoiros>, following <4198 poreuomai> after <2596 kata> their [own] lusts <1939 epithumia>; they speak arrogantly <5246 huperogkos>, flattering <2296 huperogkos> people <4383 prosopon> for the sake <5484 charin> of [gaining an] advantage <5622 ophelia>.

These are grumblers. The Greek noun *goggustes* (gong-goos-tace') occurs in only this one verse of Scripture. It means those who grumble, mumble and complain against God, His commands and His ways. God is referring to the Pseudochristian malcontents who secretly confer together to complain against God, then seek to change the teachings (doctrines) and ways of the Lord to suit their own carnal desires and lust for power, control, money, sexual freedom and other forms of ungodliness and sin.

2Timothy 4:3

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For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but [wanting] to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires,

Many of these apostates and cults over the years have come to imitate Christianity on the outside by forming pseudoministries that on the surface appear to do good, pseudoevangelize, start denominations, plant pseudochurches, and erect semitaries, you know, those institutions designed to mimic seminaries, though more closely resembling cemeteries, for they are institutions created by men to bury the truth of God. There is a plethora of such apostate groups pocketing the planet, but on the inside are nothing more than carnal, apostate and cultic groups and associations hostile to the truth of God and all those embracing it and Him.

Finding fault. This is yet another Greek adjective, that is found only once in all of Scripture. *Mempsimoiros* (mem-psim'-oy-ros) means to constantly complain about one's fate, to be unhappy with what one has been given to do, and make comparisons, usually criticisms of those around them and what they do, and blame God for their lot in life. That describes the world in which we live. Everyone being more concerned about the affairs of others, yet neglecting the tasks assigned for them to do. This is the very antithesis of contentment, which the people of God are called to be.

1 Timothy 6:6-8

6 ¶ But godliness actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment.

7 For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either.

8 If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content.

The gain Paul is speaking of in his letter to Timothy is not financial gain but a peace that surpasses all understanding, at least from the perspective of the carnal mind. It is a peace that comes from knowing God and His promises regardless of the circumstances we find ourselves in. It is a peace that comes from the indwelling of God the Holy Spirit.

Following after their [own] lusts. The ungodly pseudochristians make a living removing all forms of restraint from themselves in the name of grace. We have discussed this earlier in our exegesis of other passages and this seems to be a recurring theme. The perversion of grace is essential for pseudochristian leaders in order to unleash the wickedness of man to fulfill the desires of the flesh. It is doubly wicked when this is done and twisted to mean serving God. Pseudochristians go so far as to proclaim obedience to God as dishonoring God, for it violates grace. Imagine that!

The word *following* is translated from the Greek verb *poreuomai* (*por-yoo'-om-ahee*) which means departing, leaving to follow or chase after something else, usually in the negative sense. *Kata* (*kat-ah'*) is the same Greek preposition we examined in verse 15 which literally means down and against, those who are contrary to someone or something. Why

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kata is translated one verse later as *after* is a mystery to me. *Poreuomai kata* means to follow that which is contrary. More specifically, it means to pursue that which is contrary and opposed to God. The context of *poreuomai kata* is God saying through Jude that these pseudochristians aggressively seek out, pursue and join up with those who are also contrary and antagonist to God and His teaching. Their (own) lusts is translated from the one Greek noun, *epithumia* (ep-ee-thoo-mee'-ah) which means lust. These people withhold nothing from themselves that they desire. There is little restraint and even less conscience. They even go so far as to profess that the attainment and fulfillment of carnal desires is God's blessing upon you. What a travesty! Pseudochristians now proclaim carnality to be spirituality. This section of Scripture is describing the characteristics of pseudochristian teachers ... *antagonist seeking and lustful*. The first part of this verse may be translated as, "*These are grumblers, fault-finders, lustful men seeking more antagonists toward God.*" There is no semicolon in the Greek, and I believe this is placed here improperly, for Luke is providing a checklist of pseudochristian qualities as we shall see as we continue with an exegesis of the rest of this verse.

They speak arrogantly. The Greek phrase *laleo huperogkos* (lal-eh'-o hop-er'-ong-kos) is those who *laleo* (speak) *huperogkos* (eloquently). *Huperogkos* is a Greek adjective that literally means of *excessive weight or size*. In context, the word is used to describe those who speak extravagantly and excessively, the eloquent con artist or smooth talking used car salesmen in modern day vernacular. These are the people who wax eloquent in speech and are able to entice many followers them ... smooth talkers.

Flattering people. This phrase is translated from the Greek *thaumazo* (thou-mad'-zo) *prosopon* (pros'-o-pon). *Thaumazo* means to marvel, wonder, be amazed. *Prosopon* (pros'-o-pon) is a Greek noun and that refers to a person's face, its countenance and appearance. The phrase literally translates as leaving a marveled or dazzled look upon people's faces. In context, it is referring to the response of those being enticed by the eloquence of the pseudochristian teachers.

For the sake of gaining advantage. This phrase is translated from 2 Greek words, *charin* (khar'-in) *opheleia* (o-fel'-i-ah). *Charin* is an accusative case preposition meaning in favor of, for the pleasure of, on account of, or because of. *Opheleia* is a noun that means usefulness, advantage, and profit.

I believe that in context of what God is delivering to Jude, another translation of verse 16 may read as follows, "*These are grumblers, fault-finders, lustful men seeking more antagonists (toward God) with their face dazzling eloquent speech because they use people for financial gain.*"

Verse 17: God's Strategy

Jude 17

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But you, beloved <27 agapetos>, ought to remember <3403 mimnesko> the words <4487 rhema> that were spoken beforehand <4275 proeido> by the apostles <652 apostolos> of our Lord <2962 kurios> Jesus Christ <5547 Christos>.

But you beloved. God once again appeals to His Children in love by called them His beloved, *agapetos* (ag-ap-ay-tos'), then *Commands* them what they ought to do ...

ought to remember the words. This is the essence of the entire verse, God's strategy is for us to *Remember His Words*. *Mimnesko* (mim-nace'-ko) ... remember! Bring to mind, recall the *rhema* (rhray'-mah), the spoken words, discourse, the subject matter of that which was taught and discussed. The Word of God is important and must be remembered and recalled for us to walk as His elect, His chosen people.

That were spoken beforehand by the Apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Greek verb *proeido* (pro-i'-do) means that which was foretold beforehand, foreseen, told in advance. This is not the first time God's people are hearing this, so they should not be surprised to hear what is being proclaimed. To recall the Words of the Lord as taught and delivered by the Apostles, *apostolos* (ap-os'-tol-os) is essential for true believers to avoid the pitfalls of apostasy and deception. *Apostolos* is the Greek masculine noun that means messenger, one delegated and sent forth with orders and authority of the sender. Who is the sender? The person *with* power and authority is the only one who can delegate to others power and authority. Lord *kurios* (koo'-ree-os) Jesus the Christ, *Christos* (khris-tos'). We already discussed the meaning of *kurios* earlier, so I will not repeat it again here more than to say this is the title given to Jesus meaning Supreme Lord. Christ is the English translation of the Greek adjective *Christos* which means anointed. It is the translation of the Hebrew word *mashiyach* (maw-shee'-akh) which means Messiah. Meshiyach, Messiah, Christos, and Christ all mean the exact same thing. LORD Jesus the Christ is LORD Jesus the Messiah.

Verse 18-19: God's Warning

Jude 18

that they were saying <3004 lego> to you, "In the last <2078 eschatos> time <5550 chronos> there will be mockers <1703 empaiktes>, following <4198 poreuomai> after <2596 kata> their own <1438 heautou> ungodly <763 asebeia> lusts <1939 epithumia>."

That they were saying to you, "In the last time there will be mockers. The Greek reads as *lego eschatos chronos empaiktes*, which may also be translated as, "Telling you that the end times will abound with false teachers." *Eschatos Chronos*, means end times. The Greek adjective *eschatos* (es'-khat-os) literally means last or the end of a thing and *chronos* is the Greek noun that literally means time, a period of time or season. Both these terms are roots for English words as well. The theological term Eschatology means the

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study of the end times and Chronos is the root for the English prefix for time, Chronology (study of time) and Chronometer (measure of time).

What is important to note is that the end times will be marked by false teachers, also called mockers, *empaiktes* (emp-aheek-tace') for they mock the truths of God while pretending to be His servants. Mockers are non-believers and pseudochristians, but God is specifically bringing attention to the pseudochristian, non-believing teachers who mock His Words and His ways. Pseudochristian teachers and mockers are synonymous. A pseudochristian is a mocker of God and His truths. They mock God by teaching a way contrary to Him, by proclaiming a different gospel, and by perverting the true teachings of God.

Pseudochristians depart from the ways of the Lord and replace the true teachings of God with their own ungodly doctrines. In fact, one way of knowing you are in the midst of false teachers is they teach that doctrine is a bad thing, (which is false) the thing of legalism (which is false and perverted in meaning) that detract from you having a right relationship with Jesus (equally false). When you are surrounded by those just described ... **FLEE!!!** ... For you are in the midst of Apostasy and Apostates, being led and fed by the now infamous pseudochristian teachers. The biblical Greek term for false teacher is *pseudodidaskalos* (psyoo-dod-id-as'-kal-os) and is used in 2 Peter 2:1.

Following after their own ungodly lusts. The Greek reads as such, *poreuomai* (por-yoo'-om-ahee) *kata* (kat-ah') *heautou* (heh-ow-too) *asebeia* (as-eb'-i-ah) *epithumia* (ep-ee-thoo-mee'-ah). Most of these Greek terms have been exegeted in prior verses, so I will not spend too much time rehashing it again here, but will again redress the poor translation of the preposition *kata* which means *down, against, according to*. The translation of *kata* in this verse as *after* detracts from the meaning God is inspiring Jude to record. This is especially true when this word is preceded by *poreuomai* (por-yoo'-om-ahee). *Poreuomai kata* is better translated as going contrary, moving in opposition to, or departing against. This verse can also be rendered as, "*Teaching you that in the end times false teachers establish a way that is contrary and ungodly, themselves being full with lustful desires.*"

This is a message God is delivering to His chosen children to not be led astray by these men. This is a message to the believers to not let the ungodly pseudochristian teachers lead the sheep astray, for their motives is to fleece God's flock from their holiness, His truth and grace delivered exclusively to them. The pseudochristian motive is to rob you both spiritually and financially ... if you let them. It is a warning to Christians for while we remain in this tent of flesh, the pseudochristian message has an appeal to the flesh, but is contrary to the ways of the Lord. God is warning those who desire God to walk in a way that is contrary to the flesh.

Luke 9:23

And He was saying to [them] all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.

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The pseudochristian teachers pave a road that is contrary to God and desirous to the flesh. Their deception is to position the desires of the flesh as godliness and blessing so as to lead those whom God is calling astray. The new pseudochristian message of Jesus has been perverted to read as: "And Jesus was saying to them all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must follow Me." This is a FALSE GOSPEL MESSAGE, yet it is the message of the false teachers, the false brethren and the false church. They do not want to deny self, for self is the pinnacle of their faith. They do not teach the truth about the cross of Christ which is we, as followers of Messiah Jesus must also pick up *daily* our cross and *daily* deny self. This truth is REJECTED by the pseudochristian dogma.

Jude 19

These <3778 houtos> are <1510 eime> the ones who <3588 ho> cause divisions <592 apodiorizo>, worldly-minded <5591 psuchikos>, devoid <3361> <2192> of the Spirit <4151>.

These are the ones who cause divisions. A most interesting aspect of the Greek occurs at the beginning of this verse. *Houtos eime*, (*hoo'-tos i-mee'*) which is in the present tense, indicative mood with no voice stated, literally translating as "These **I am's**." God appears to be doing one of two things here. He is demonstrating the passion and desire of these pseudochristians to *be God themselves, the "I AM"* by inspiring Jude to write in the Greek the equivalent of the name God gave to Moses at Sinai, "I AM." This could also be viewed in conjunction with what follows in the Greek, *ho apodiorizo* (ap-od-ee-or-id'-zo) *that divide or cut off*. *Ho* is a definite article and means *this, that, and which* in the English. *Apodiorizo*, which is used only this one time in the New Testament literally means *to mark off, to part, separate, divide, disjoin*. God may very well be inspiring Jude to record in the first person that which God sees in pseudochristian teachers, "These 'I am's who cut off'", "I am who divides" or "I am who causes division" seems to be more consistent with God naming people for what they are and also consistent with the theme of the book of Jude, "**Pseudochristian Alert**." The pseudochristians are themselves cut off from God and leading others down the road that will also cut them off from God. The beginning of this verse, in its most literal sense could read, "*These 'I am's who divide'...*"

Worldly minded, devoid of the Spirit. I will continue with the order of verses as contained in the 1550 Textus Receptus text. *Psuchikos* (*psoo-khee-kos*) *pneuma* (*pn-yoo'-mah*) *me* (*may*) *echo* (*ekh'-o*) which literally means "Natural, Spirit not possessed." The NASB translation is really quite excellent in this section of Scripture, for that is indeed what God is inspiring Jude to record. The one English word devoid, encompasses the spirit and meaning of the two Greek words *me* (*may*) which means an absolute denial and *echo* (*ekh'-o*) which means to have, hold and possess. Devoid expresses this Greek terminology of *absolutely not having the Spirit of God* perfectly.

Psuchikos literally means of the breath, natural state of man, carnal, fleshly and sensual. Worldly minded, natural, carnal, sensual are all good translations of the Greek adjective *psuchikos*. *Pneuma* means spirit and in this context, the Holy Spirit of God. The verse may

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read as thus, “These ‘I am’s who divide’ are worldly minded, absolutely devoid of the Spirit.”

Verse 20-21: God’s Admonition

Jude 20

But <1161 de> you <5210 humeis>, beloved <27 agapetos>, building <2026 epoikodomeo> yourselves <1438 heautou> up on <3588 ho> your <5216 humon> most holy <40 hagios> faith <4102 pistis>, praying <4336 proseuchomai> in the Holy <40 hagios> Spirit <4151 pneuma>,

But you beloved. God is now specifically addressing those He loves and is admonishing them to be different than what He has just finished describing through Jude. “*But you*” is drawing into sharp contrast the distinction between the characteristics that just preceded what God is about to deliver. This phrase is the beginning of a command by God, “But you beloved.”

Building yourselves up on your most holy faith. The Greek tense in the section is present tense and with an active voice. A clear statement is being commanded by God for His beloved to, “[Build ... upon The Faith](#).” God’s command is re-establishing the theme delivered in verse three, “to contend earnestly for The Faith. God wants His beloved children to wrestle against the desires and pulls of the flesh, to work out, as if in a gym, against the desires of the flesh. Fighting against the flesh and its evil desires brings us closer to being at one with our Father. This is in direct contrast with the previous verse, *ho apodiorizo* (ap-od-ee-or-id’-zo) *that divide or cut off*, those who are cut off and divided by yielding themselves to the flesh.

In verse three of Jude, God states for us, His beloved children, to “[Contend earnestly for The Faith](#)” and is now commanding us to *build upon* The Faith. The Faith is the foundation that underlies Christianity. The Faith is anchored in Jesus the Messiah, his death, resurrection and ascension. The Faith is *obedience* to the teachings of Jesus and the Apostles; The Faith is the very Word of God and the basis of our Salvation in Jesus. It is upon *this* foundation that the body of Christ is built; *build yourselves upon the most holy faith*.

Praying in the Holy Spirit. The pseudochristians have come to pervert the meaning of this phrase, *praying in the Holy Spirit*, to mean anything and everything that is not of God. This phrase simply means for us to be yielded to the teachings and guidance of the Holy Spirit. A ministry of the Holy Spirit is to teach us how to pray.

Romans 8:26-27

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- 26 In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for *us* with groanings too deep for words;
- 27 and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to *the will of God*.

When we pray in the Spirit we are in sync with the desired will of God in terms of what we are praying for and how we are praying. Prayer is as utterly fundamental to our relationship with God as is bible study. When we pray, we are speaking to God and when we bible study, God is speaking to us. This two-way communication is the basis of our relationship with God ... prayer and bible study.

Praying in the Holy Spirit is NOT to be understood as praying in tongues as the pseudochristian apostates would have you believe. That is utter nonsense and deception. For an examination of the *True Biblical* teaching on the spiritual gift of tongues, go to The Lord's Children Fellowship website and read the study, *Tongues: A New Language?* in the Ecclesiology section of Bible Study>Topical Studies.

Jude 21

keep <5083 tereo> yourselves <1438 heautou> in <1722 en> the love <26 agape> of God <2316 theos>, waiting <4327 prosdechomai> anxiously <4327 prosdechomai> for the mercy <1656 eleos> of our Lord <2962 kurios> Jesus Christ <5547 Christos> to <1519 eis> eternal <166 aionios> life <2222 zoe>.

It appears English translations falsely reverse the subject and predicate of love from God to man. The Greek seems to be saying, "Yourselves with love God keeps." The English translations incorrectly shifts the subject of this verse to man, "Keep yourselves" in the love of God is very different from "God keeping" us in His love. The *action* component is by God, not man. We do not keep ourselves in the love of God, but are rather kept and preserved "by God" through His love for man. Man simply does not have the power over God to keep or sustain ourselves in order to mandate God's love. A subtle difference in language, yet a huge and highly significant difference in theology. This phraseology places the work of man as a central component or instrumentality to sustain the love of God. This simply is neither a biblical nor Christian doctrine. Scripture teaches no such thing.

I will print the original Greek Textus Receptus text along with Strong's word numbers. Please do not be intimidated by the God inspired New Testament Greek language because it may be different from the language you speak and understand. This is how we learn.

Jude 21a (Textus Receptus)

eautouv <1438 heautou-Yourselves> en <1722 en-with> agaph <26 agape-love> yeou <2316 theos-God> thrhsate <5083 tereo-keeps/guards/preserves> (5657)

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The Strong's number, 5657 in the Textus Receptus gives the *Tense-Aorist*, *Voice-Active*, and *Mood-Imperative* of the Greek terms used. These are all necessary elements of the Greek to determine a correct and proper translation and understanding. The aorist tense is instantaneous, progressive and urgent. Simply put, this verse is teaching us what God IS URGENTLY DOING for His elect AND WILL CONTINUE TO URGENTLY DO for His elect, namely ... URGENTLY GUARD THEM IN HIS LOVE.

A proper translation of this section could read, "God is urgently preserving you in His love," or "Yourselves being urgently preserved and kept in God's love." I believe any translation of the Greek, due to its precise nature, should leave no room for confusion or questioning that man cannot do anything for himself to sustain or keep ourselves in God's love for us. Man has no power to maintain or sustain such a thing. We simply have no control over the actions of God ... what God chooses to do or not do. This first part of verse 21 is clearly saying that it is *God* (not man) who is preserving us and keeping us in His love.

Jude 21b (NASB95)

waiting anxiously <4327 prosdechomai> for the mercy <1656 eleos> of our Lord <2962 kurios> Jesus Christ <5547 Christos> to <1519 eis> eternal <166 aionios> life <2222 zoe>

Jude 21b (Textus Receptus)

prosdecomenoi <4327> (5740) to <3588> el eov <1656> tou <3588> kuriou <2962> hmwn <2257> ihsou <2424> cristou <5547> eiv <1519> zwhn <2222> aiwnion <166>

The elect saved, being the *recipient* <4327 prosdechomai (pros-dekh'-om-ahee) of God's protection and preservation, which is present tense, participle mood and middle, passive or deponent voice, (5740). This verse is teaching us that the elect are now the current and future possessors of that which follows. It is the exactly the same word, tense, voice and mood of Titus 2:13.

Titus 2:13 (NASB95)

looking <4327> for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,

Titus 2:13 (Textus Receptus)

prosdecomenoi <4327> (5740) thn <3588> makarian <3107> elpida <1680> kai <2532> epifaneian <2015> thv <3588> doxhv <1391> tou <3588> megalou <3173> yeou <2316> kai <2532> swthrov <4990> hmwn <2257> ihsou <2424> cristou <5547>

What Titus 2:13 is teaching is that the recipients of Salvation (present tense) are "in receipt" of the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our Great God and Savior Jesus Christ. There is no mystery as to the state of the saved at the return of Jesus with and for His elect. I will not at this time delve into the apostate and perverse theology of

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dispensationalism, and how they have perverted this verse to mean a pre-tribulation rapture. That is an utterly corrupt theology and teaching that brings shame to the name of our LORD Jesus the Messiah. For an exegetical analysis of Titus 2:13, please go to Bible Study>Topical Studies>Eschatology section of The Lord's Children Fellowship website and read the study entitled, *Rapture: Pre-Tribulation Rapture?*

<http://www.thelordschildren.org/rapture.htm>

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Jude 21b (Textus Receptus)

prosdecomenoi <4327> (5740) to <3588> el eov <1656> tou <3588> kuriou <2962> hmwv <2257> ihsou <2424> cristou <5547> eiv <1519> zwv <2222> aiwnion <166>

What follows in Jude 21b is this: We are the recipients of the mercy of our LORD Jesus Christ for Eternal Life. While it is true we await the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, we do not wait for His mercy nor do we wait for eternal life ... the saved presently have both mercy and eternal life. His mercy is upon us now, and eternal life is ours now. Though we may die in the flesh, the promise of God is those with an indwelling of God the Holy Spirit are now inheritors of eternal life. The indwelling of God the Holy Spirit is our guarantee of Salvation and eternal life.

Prosdechomai means to receive to one's self, to remain open by granting full access to ourselves by another without rejection but full acceptance. The English translation tends to alter the tense to future as one who is anticipating something not yet received. This is not the sense nor the tense of the God inspired Greek language. The verse may be rightly understood as saying this: *Yourselves urgently preserved and kept in God's love, recipients of the mercy of our LORD Jesus Christ for Eternal Life.*

Verse 22: Mercy to the Susceptible Deceived

Jude 22

And <2532 kai> have mercy <1653 eleeo> on some <3739 hos> <3303 men>, who are doubting <1252 diakrino>

The next two verses of Jude beginning with this verse are *categorizing* certain types of people and how we are to deal with them. Here, in verse 22 this group of people may be categorized as those who are beginning to become contentious because of the pseudochristian teachers. We are to be gentle, loving and merciful to in how we approach these people with God's truth and re-teaching them the fundamentals of The Faith.

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We discussed the Greek term *diakrino* in verse six, but will recap it here again. This word is a combination of two Greek terms, *dia* (dee-ah') a prepositional prefix which means by, through and by means of, and *krino* (kree'-no) which means to judge, issue a ruling or decree, to take to court, sue or challenge by means of a formal legal proceeding. When combined to form the word *diakrino* (dee-ak-ree'-no) it often carries the meaning of issuing a judgment resulting from a legal challenge or proceeding.

In context, it is those who are being challenged and judged by the pseudochristian teachers and apostates to abandon their beliefs in The Faith. The shepherds of God have an obligation to restore such a one in the faith with mercy, gentleness and kindness. We will see in the ensuing verses that our tactics with those of other groups are not necessarily the same.

Verse 23: Merciless Death to Deceivers

Jude 23 (King James Authorized Version)

And others save <4982 sozo> (5720) with fear <5401 phobos>, pulling <726 harpazo> (5723) [them] out of the fire <4442 pur>; hating <3404 miseo> (5723) even the garment <5509 chiton> spotted <4695 spiloo> (5772) by the flesh.

I am using the Authorized Version translation for this verse for it is superior in its translation and truer to the original Greek. The context of verse 23 identifies two additional categories. First, those deceived and accepting the apostasy and deceitfulness of the pseudochristian teachers and the latter those staunchly entrenched in apostasy, the disciples of the pseudochristian apostates.

An exegesis of this verse will be quite illuminating in many areas, but especially to those who believe that Christians are to embrace and love those who set their mind and face contrary to the truth and teachings of God.

And others save with fear. Those deceived and accepting the apostasy and heresies of the pseudochristians we are to *sozo* (sode'-zo) *en* (en) *phobos* (fob'-os), namely save or restore them in fear or with fear. The phrase, save with fear, implies more harshness be applied to amplify the imperative and magnitude of the peril they are in. The Greek noun *phobos* is where we get our English word phobia. This fear is an extraordinary fear, a dread or horror that comes from the imminence of death. This death is spiritual death and far more real and horrifying than physical death for it is eternal. The fear of The LORD is to be instilled upon those accepting the lies and deceitfulness of the pseudochristians.

Pulling them out of the fire. The Greek verb *harpazo* (har-pad'-zo) has been translated as pulling. *Harpazo* has the intensity of a forcible removal, as something that will happen whether you want it to or not. This is the same term the apostate theology of dispensationalism uses to replace doctrine on the First Resurrection with the false

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teaching on rapture. First Thessalonians 4:17 is a verse where *harpazo* is translated as caught up.

1 Thessalonians 4:17

Then we who are alive and remain will be **caught up** <726 *harpazo*> together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

I will not deviate from the topic of Jude at this time, but suggest you read the study entitled *Rapture: Pre-Tribulation Rapture*. <http://www.thelordschildren.org/rapture.htm>

We are to forcibly remove a soul from the fires of hell. God is delivering to us that to be entrenched in apostasy and pseudochristianity is imminent danger and the same as being in the perilous fires of hell. There is no gentle restoring here, for the fires of hell are licking up the feet and legs of apostates and enveloping the soul to total and complete destruction. An immediate and forcible rescue is in order by setting before them the horror and terror of the wrath of God.

Hating even the garment spotted by the flesh. The Greek verb *miseo* (mis-eh'-o) is translated as hate and literally means to hate, pursue with hatred, to detest or to be hated and detested. Pseudochristians, apostates, cults and non-believers are so detestable to God that even the undergarments *chiton* (khee-tone') that come into contact with their flesh becomes defiled *spiloo* (spee-lo'-o). God is emphatically stating that His children are to have **nothing to do with such people**. The utter disgust of God toward these people implies that even an inanimate object like undergarments become defiled and filthy by merely having bodily contact with these pseudochristians. If a garment becomes so defiled by physical contact with these deceivers, how much more will believers become defiled? Those who embrace their teaching and ways are standing in the gates of hell and will share their fate.

The Greek verb *spiloo* (spee-lo'-o) is used in only one other verse of Scripture and defile is the more appropriate term to suggest the depth of disgust.

James 3:6

And the tongue is a fire, the [very] world of iniquity; the tongue is set among our members as that which **defiles** <4695 *spiloo*> the entire body, and sets on fire the course of [our] life, and is set on fire by hell.

The tongue that teaches apostasy and heresy sets the body and soul within the fires of hell. These two verses speak to the same thing. Though pseudochristians claim Salvation by invoking the name of Jesus, they do not honor God, obey God, nor do they have Salvation as taught by God. They are in dire straits, standing at the gates of hell fully enveloped in hell fire as *unsaved* souls.

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Verse 24: Strength and Glory in Jesus

Jude 24

Now to Him who is able <1410 dunamai> to keep <5442 phulasso> you from stumbling <679 aptaistos>, and to make you stand <2476 histemi> in the presence <2714 katenopion> of His glory <1391 doxa> blameless <299 amomos> with great joy <20 agalliasis>,

Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling. God is inspiring Jude to relate to His children that their strength to stand comes from Him alone. Only through Jesus are His children able to not be led astray by the pseudochristian deceivers and teachers. God actively protects His children through His chosen leaders who are anchored in His Word and doctrine. Only the Word of God as revealed and understood by and through God the Holy Spirit can one be preserved and protected from the ravenous pseudochristian wolves. The phrase, *phulasso* (foo-las'-so) *aptaistos* (ap-tah'-ee-stos) means to watch over and guard a person in such a way that prevents them from falling. Phulasso also carries the sense of isolation, of being removed from harms way, in terms of how that person is protected. The Greek adjective *aptaistos* is used only once in the New Testament writings and means to *prevent from falling*. The context here means to prevent from falling into apostasy and deception. God is in essence teaching His children to depart from false teachers and their teachings that rob them of The Faith.

And to make you stand in the presence of His glory. God not only actively guards over, protects and preserves His children from the toxic teachings of the pseudochristians but also actively causes them to *histemi* (his'-tay-mee) *katenopion* (kat-en-o'-pee-on) *ho* (ho) *doxa* (dox'-ah) which means to be firmly placed or established before His glory. God will actively remove you from the presence and deceitfulness of the pseudochristian teachers and firmly plant and establish you before Him in His presence and in His glory. **Blameless with great joy.** This is the end result of God's Divine Intervention in the lives of His chosen. Those he protects and preserves from apostasy, he plants firmly before Himself and looks upon those He does as *amomos* (am'-o-mos), the Greek adjective which means without fault or blame, without spot or blemish. Blameless is a very good translation of *amomos*. To be placed in a state of blamelessness brings about *agalliasis* (ag-al-lee'-as-is), the Greek noun which means exceeding joy, exuberance, and exultation to those now occupying that sanctified state.

Verse 25: Eternal Wisdom, Majesty & Power in Jesus

Jude 25

To the only <3441 monos> wise <4680 sophos> God <2316 theos> our <2257 hemon> Saviour <4990 soter>, [be] glory <1391 doxa> and <2532 kai> majesty <3172 megalosune>, dominion <2904 kratos> and <2532 kai> power <1849

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exousia>, both <2532 kai> now <3568 nun> and <2532 kai> ever <1519 eis> <3956 pas> <165 aion>. Amen <281 amen>.

A literal translation of the 1550 Textus Receptus would read as follows: *Only wise God, Savior, our Glory and Majesty, Power and Eminence and now and into all eternity, Amen.*

Jude is concluding this powerful letter by extolling but a few of the attributes and characteristics of God our savior Jesus the Christ. The English translation gives me the impression that Jude is concluding a *prescriptive* blessing upon God rather than extolling the descriptive characteristics of God. A subtle nuance, but one of pronounced significance. Jude is praising the characteristics and attributes of God by describing what they are in statement format. These are to be seen as titles of God, and not a benediction.

To the only wise God. The *monos sophos Theos*, only wise God is clear for only God is wise enough to see the heart and intentions of man. God is the only one with the wisdom and foresight to see the beginning from the end and to deliver all He promises, blessings and curses, mercy and judgment, grace and punishment, eternal life and eternal death.

Our Savior, Glory, and Majesty. The Textus Receptus reads Savior, our glory and majesty. The Greek noun *soter* (so-tare') means savior, deliverer and preserver. This designation was given by the ancients to deities, princes, kings, and in general to men who have conferred notable benefits upon their country. Jesus, our Redeemer and Savior is most worthy of all royalty for He rises above both men and angels and deserving of the loftiest of titles, dignity and honor. Jesus is our *Doxa* (dox'-ah), the Greek noun translated as glory. To review, *doxa* literally means opinion, judgement or view. In the New Covenant, *doxa* is used exclusively to represent a good opinion, one that is worthy of praise, honor and glory. *Doxa* has multiple meanings as well. It is used to represent the splendor and brightness of the sun, moon, stars but especially of the brightness and glory of God; Magnificence, excellence, preeminence, dignity, grace and majesty; of all things belonging to God. The *megalosune* (meg-al-o-soo'-nay) is the Greek noun which means majesty or majestic. Of all the majestic mountains and wonders of the world, all are dwarfed when compared to the majesty of our great God and King, Jesus.

Dominion and power. The Greek reads *kratos* (*krat'-os*) kai (ka' hee) *exousia* (*ex-oo-see'-ah*). The Greek noun *kratos* means power, strength, force, and might. When combined with the Greek noun *exousia*, also means power, authority, might as focused more in the ability and right of one to act unobstructed. It focuses more upon the power of choice and the liberty to do whatever one pleases to do. *Exousia* is not limited to physical power and strength but also includes intellectual and mental power and might. It also means the power of authority, influence upon others, and the right or privilege to exercise that power and authority ... Government Rule. God is Supreme Governor with the right to establish universal laws, moral, spiritual and physical laws that *must* be obeyed. God has the right to empower man with certain authority and dominion to choose whether he will obey God and His laws and reap the rewards for obedience or to violate those laws and commands and

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suffer the penalty for Crimes Against God ... SIN. The dominion and power of God means subjection and servitude to God by man.

Both now and ever. The above translation does get the point across, but there are several Greek words left untranslated in the above translation. I will once again go to the Textus Receptus text to complete the translation of this verse.

kai <2532 kai – and> nun <3568 nun - now> kai <2532 kai – and> eiv <1519 eis - into> pantav <3956 pas - all> touv <3588 ho - the> aiwnav <165 aion - ages> amhn <281 amen - amen>

The literal translation reads: And now and into all the ages, Amen. This is as complete a statement in human language to illustrate eternity as there is. God will reign supreme and we will be His subjects now and for all eternity. Whether we experience eternal life and liberated into the universe as the sons of God or sentenced to eternal death in the final judgment to bondage and confinement in hell fire, God will continue to reign supreme and we will continue to remain subject to Him. Even those in hell remain subject to God for they will be bound to that state and place for eternity whether they like it or not. Rest assured, hell is not a likable place for anyone, whether they be men or angels.

Amen. The word amen is a most interesting Hebrew word for it can be looked upon as a universal word that has essentially remained unchanged in every language. Amen means firm, true, faithful and most assuredly. The Hebrew tradition of using amen to affirm and confirm a discourse or statement has transferred to Christendom. The use of amen at the conclusion of a sermon, statement or prayer means those responding with amen take ownership of the substance of the discourse by applying it to themselves.

When used at the beginning of a discourse it brings attention to what is about to be delivered as very important truth. The promises of God and Jesus are called the Amen.