

Judgment for the Ungodly

Jude 14-16

Jude

a study of the epistle

This Morning, Jude Returns

**To the theme introduced back in v. 4,
namely the judgment of the false
teachers by the decree of God.**

**The surprising part of our text this
morning is not the content but its
source.**

Jude 14-15

14 It was also about these men that Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied, saying, “Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones, **15** to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.”

Genesis 5:18, 21-24

18 Jared lived one hundred and sixty-two years, and became the father of Enoch. **21** Enoch lived sixty-five years, and became the father of Methuselah. **22** Then Enoch walked with God three hundred years after he became the father of Methuselah, and he had other sons and daughters. **23** So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. **24** Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.

Jude Cites 1 Enoch 1:9

And this is the source of much controversy.

We've talked about this issue already back in v. 6 and again in v. 9.

Why is Jude quoting an Apocryphal book?

Venerable Bede (672-735)

“Indeed, it was precisely because Jude quotes [Enoch] that for a long time his letter was rejected by many for being un-canonical. Nevertheless it deserves to be included in the canon because of its author, its antiquity and the way in which it has been used, and particularly because this passage which Jude takes from Enoch is not itself apocryphal or dubious but is rather notable for the clarity with which it testifies to the true light.”

The Book of Enoch

- Known to the fathers of the second century, was lost for some centuries with the exception of a few fragments.
- It was found entire in a copy of the Ethiopic Bible in 1773.
- It was probably originally written in Hebrew.

My Conclusion

Jude quoted the pseudepigraphal *1 Enoch*, and he believed that the portion he quoted represented God's truth.

Jude's wording does not demand that he thought that *1 Enoch* was an authentic oracle from the historical man, himself.

Acts 17:28

28a for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said,

—Paul quotes the Cretan poet Epimenides (600 B.C.); he does so again in Titus 1:12.

28b ‘For we also are His children.’

—And then quotes the Cilician poet Aratus (315-240 B.C.).

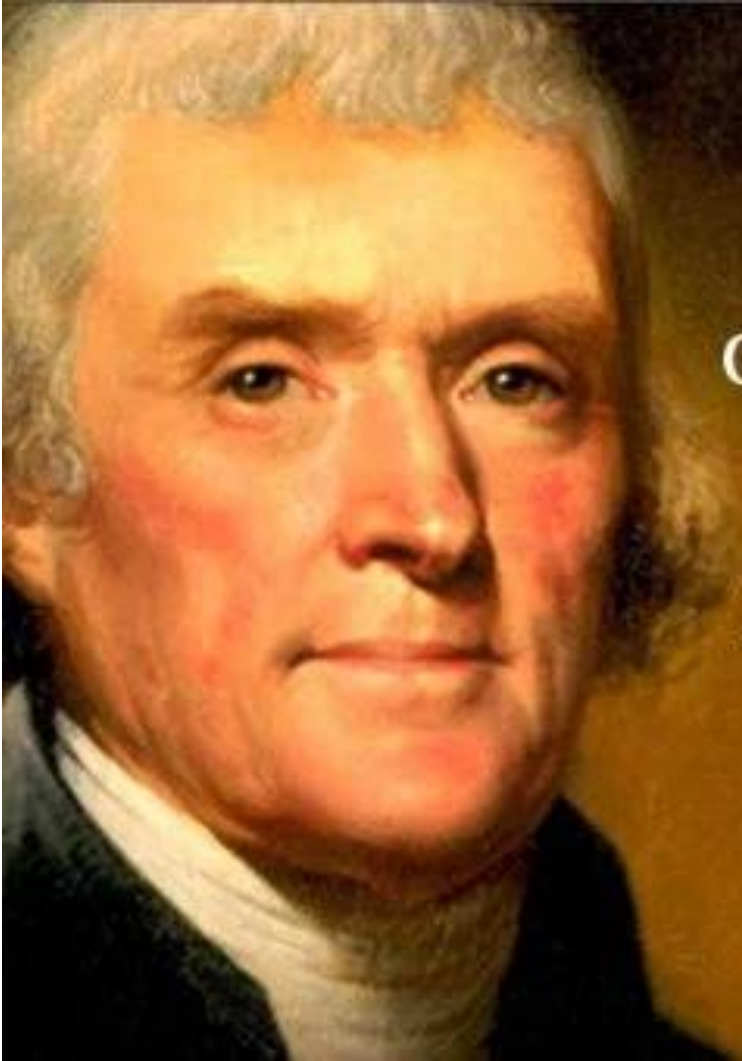
Quoting One Line

Does not mean that
Jude would endorse the
entire book of 1 Enoch
as canonical Scripture.



Another Possibility

Jude may be quoting from 1 Enoch because it was a work that was being utilized by the false teachers.

A portrait of Thomas Jefferson, an older man with white hair, wearing a dark coat and a white cravat. He is looking slightly to the right of the viewer.

Erecting the Wall
of Separation Between
Church and State
is Absolutely Essential
in a Free Society.

- Thomas Jefferson, 1808



“Enoch...the seventh from Adam”

1. Adam
2. Seth
3. Enosh
4. Kenan
5. Mahalalel
6. Jared
7. Enoch

Hebrews 11:5

5 By faith Enoch was taken up so that he would not see death; and he was not found because God took him up; for he obtained the witness that before his being taken up he was pleasing to God.

William Barclay said:

“We need waste no time on this debate. The fact is that Jude, a pious Jew, knew and loved the Book of Enoch and had grown up in a circle where it was regarded with respect and even reverence; and he takes his quotation from it perfectly naturally, knowing that his readers would recognize it and respect it. He is simply doing what all the New Testament writers do, as every writer must in every age, and speaking to men and women in language which they will recognize and understand.”

So It Should Not Surprise Us

**That Enoch would be considered
an agent of divine revelation in
Jewish literature.**

**And Jude applies this “prophecy”
eschatologically.**

Jude and the 2nd Coming

“Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones”

The verb here is in the aorist tense, and therefore, could be translated as “is coming.”

And He is coming with “His holy ones.”

Zechariah 14:5b

“Then the Lord, my
God, will come, and
all the holy ones with
Him!”

Matthew 16:27

27 For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and will then repay every man according to his deeds.

1 Thessalonians 3:13

13 so that He may establish
your hearts without blame in
holiness before our God and
Father at the coming of our
Lord Jesus with all His saints.

Why is Jesus Coming?

Jude 15 to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.”

2 Thessalonians 1:7b-10

7b when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, **8** dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. **9** These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, **10** when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed—for our testimony to you was believed.

None Opposed to God Escape

“to execute judgment upon all”

“to convict all the *ungodly*”

And Why Are They Being Judged?

“all their *ungodly* deeds which they have done in an *ungodly* way, and of all the harsh things which *ungodly* sinners have spoken against Him”

Two Ungodly Matters to Judge

1. “ungodly deeds”
 2. “harsh things...spoken against Him”
- **Reminiscent of Matthew 12:36 –**
“But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment.”

1 Enoch 5:4

“You have not done the commandments of the Lord, but you have transgressed and spoken slanderously grave and harsh words with your impure mouths against his greatness.”

Jude 16

16 These are grumblers, finding fault, following after their own lusts; they speak arrogantly, flattering people for the sake of gaining an advantage.

Why are “These” Guilty?

They were like Israel in the wilderness (v. 5) in that they were “grumblers, finding fault” who complained against the Lord.

In the same manner, they were like Korah (v. 11) who opposed and found fault in both Moses and God.

Why are “These” Guilty?

- Like Sodom and Gomorrah (v. 7), Cain (v. 11), and Balaam (v. 11), they placed their own desires over the needs of others.
- As v. 12 described, these are unworthy shepherds who care only for themselves.
- Their sins include transgressions such as greed and sexual immorality.

In Addition

“they speak arrogantly”

“arrogantly” – *hyperogkos*

This same phrase is found in the
Septuagint in Daniel 11:36 in reference to
Antiochus Epiphanes.

Daniel 11:36

“Then the king will do as he pleases, and he will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will **speak monstrous things** against the God of gods; and he will prosper until the indignation is finished, for that which is decreed will be done.

And Finally

“flattering people for the sake of gaining an advantage.”

Like Balaam, the advantage is probably financial.

We do not know what they received, but it is not hard to imagine them saying things that would curry favor with their listeners.





Next Week: Remember the Apostles