

# The Epistle of Jude

## Lesson 7

**Verse 1:** Identifies writer and readers

**Verse 2:** Greeting/Blessing

**Verse 3:** Purpose of Letter – Contend for the Faith

**Verse 4:** Two false teachings identified

**Verse 5:** Example—Children of Israel

**Verse 6:** Example—The angel rebellion

**Verse 7:** Example—Sodom and Gomorrah

**Verse 8:** Like the OT examples, these people rely on their dreams, defile the flesh, reject authority

**Verse 9:** The archangel Michael contended with Satan for Moses' body

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### Verse 10

*But these people blaspheme all that they do not understand, and they are destroyed by all that they, like unreasoning animals, understand instinctively.*

*These people* – the “dreamers” of v.8, the subtle creepers-in, v. 4

*Blaspheme* – a recurring charge of this sin, cf. v. 9

The blaspheme all they do not understand

- Why don't they understand?
- Why is this the reaction to not understanding?
- Whom/what are they blaspheming?
- Is there evidence of this same thing happening today?

They are destroyed....by their instincts

Jude makes a comparison between unreasoning animals and human beings who because of their ability to reason should make better decisions, be better equipped, flee destruction, etc. However, these, Jude says, are like unreasoning animals--they pursue what they know and are destroyed by it.

**Read:** *Colossians 2:6-19*

## Verse 11

*Woe to them! For they walked in the way of Cain and abandoned themselves for the sake of gain to Balaam's error and perished in Korah's rebellion.*

### Three more Old Testament Examples

**Cain:** *Genesis 4:1-12; Hebrews 11:4; 1 John 3:11-15*

What was/were Cain's sin(s)?

In what way does this apply to those about whom Jude is writing?

**Formula of Concord:** "As long as a person is not regenerate and guides himself according to the Law, he does the works because they are commanded. So from fear of punishment or desire for reward, he is still under the Law . . . These are *saints* after the order of Cain" (SD VI, 16).