

JUDE: Lesson 7

Verses 9-10: God's Orderly Structure of Dominion and Authority

28 July 2023

Vs 8 God warns us to watch out for those who will try to cause believers to **defile the flesh**.

- They cannot defile our saved, sanctified, preserved soul. But they will attack what is available to them.
- If they can encourage you to live like a lost person, it will prevent you from being able to lead another individual to Jesus Christ.

Another characteristic of those we are warned about: they “**speak evil of dignities**.”

- A dignity is one who holds a high rank. In God's order, we are to observe and respect those who have the rule over us.
- **Jesus Christ**: though equal with the Father (Php 2:6; Jn 10:30) made Himself subordinate so He could accomplish the Father's will (Lk 22:42; Jn 15:15, 12:49).
- **God's heavenly structure**: Satan the anointed Cherub (Ezek. 28:14), Cherubim, Seraphim, Archangels, Angels.
- **God's earthly structures**: Government (Rom. 13:1), employment (Mal. 1:6; 1 Tim. 6:1-2), family (1 Cor. 11:3, Eph. 6:1)
 - When someone tries to encourage you to rebel against God's established order, they are attempting to get you to defile the flesh. But they themselves are servants of corruption (2 Pet. 2:19).
 - The news media's constant emphasis on those *few* who abuse their position of authority encourages societies to disregard *all* authority (dignities).

Vs 9 **God's illustration**: Michael the archangel (a high ranking angel) did not ignore or overrule God's established authority structure in heaven. Michael respected Satan's high position.

- Satan did not respect God's authority structure. He said, “***I will be like the most High***” (Isa 14:14). This attitude was the cause of Lucifer's fall.
- Liberal attitudes toward authority at home, on the job, in society, or in the church house will lead to immorality. Those attitudes must be dealt with swiftly and firmly.

“...the body of Moses.”

- Deuteronomy 34:1-6 God buried Moses in Moab.
- Luke 9:28-31 Moses is seen alive standing on a mount with Jesus and Elijah.
- Jude 9 Michael retrieved the body of Moses.
- Jude 10 Creeps in the church “**corrupt themselves**.”
 - This is contrasted with Moses, a man who could not be corrupted. He never went against God's authority. He was meek (Num. 12:3), not weak. He was submitted to proper authority, the authority of God.
- 1 Cor. 15:49-54 We have corruptible bodies. When we are buried, we turn to dust.
- Acts 2:27 Jesus Christ was buried, but His body did not corrupt.
 - Is it possible that because Moses did not corrupt himself in life, his body was not corrupted in death?

“...durst not bring against him a railing accusation.”

- People who are not in submission to God’s order often will point an accusing finger at someone else’s rebellion to justify their own disobedience to God’s authority.
 - Michael could have blamed Satan for many, many things, but he was concerned with keeping his own heart right with God.
 - **2 Peter:2:17** Honour the king. He didn’t tell them to honor the king if he is honorable.
 - Under God’s system, those who rule must be honored. If you choose to rebel against the ruler, you are teaching rebellion to your children.
 - **1 Timothy 5:17** Elders are worthy of double honor. If you talk against the preacher in front of your children, don’t be surprised if they refuse to do anything that preacher says.
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Vs 10 “But these speak evil of those things which they know not.”

- People who have no knowledge of spiritual things will not like spiritual things (preaching, hymns, bible studies, etc.).
 - They speak in detail of things that they know about (movies, rap music, sports).

“...but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves.”

- Where do they end up? They corrupt themselves in sins of the flesh (vss 6-8).
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God warns you about people who rebel against or ridicule those who are in positions of authority. You would be wise to avoid them. If you follow them, you will end up corrupting yourself.