

## **Mock, Mock, Mocking on Heaven's Door** **by Fred DeRuvo – Study-Grow-Know Ministries**

*“But you, beloved, ought to remember the words that were spoken beforehand by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ, that they were saying to you, ‘In the last time there will be mockers, following after their own ungodly lusts.’ These are the ones who cause divisions, worldly-minded, devoid of the Spirit.” Jude 1:17-19*

**T**o mock something literally means to ridicule it or make fun of it. Jude warns his readers that they should “remember,” which implies they have been told at least once before about what he is going to remind them.

We know that Paul talked about this same situation in 2 Timothy 3:1-5 when he detailed the difficulties that would exist in the End Times. My book titled “*SELF*” goes into great detail about this, and I also have an audio series on this same subject, which can be heard at [OnePlace.com/ministries/study-grow-know](http://OnePlace.com/ministries/study-grow-know).

Peter as well references this problem in 2 Peter 2:1-3: *“But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves. Many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of the truth will be maligned; and in their greed they will exploit you with false words; their judgment from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.”*

In fact, if you take the time to read through 2 Peter 2, you will read a good deal of verbiage similar to that of Jude as Peter describes these false prophets who parade their arrogance and take advantage of the average person. All of this was for their own ends.

*“Daring, self-willed, they do not tremble when they revile angelic majesties, whereas angels who are greater in might and power do not bring a reviling judgment against them before the Lord. But these, like unreasoning animals, born as creatures of instinct to be captured and killed, reviling where they have no knowledge, will in the destruction of those creatures also be destroyed, suffering wrong as the wages of doing wrong. They count it a pleasure to revel in the daytime. They are stains and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions, as they carouse with you, having eyes full of adultery that never cease from sin, enticing unstable souls, having a heart trained in greed, accursed children; forsaking the right way, they have gone astray, having followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;*

*but he received a rebuke for his own transgression, for a mute donkey, speaking with a voice of a man, restrained the madness of the prophet.” (2 Peter 2:10-16)*

In the above text, Peter uses similar phrases and lines of reasoning as does Jude. Speaking of individuals who are apostates, Peter says they are *daring* and *self-willed*. These people do what they want to do because they are their highest authorities. They refuse to answer to anyone else. They will put up resistance when people try to point out their error and will likely turn the tables so that the person addressing them will be seen as the problem child, not them.

These same individuals are daring because they really have no clue what they are truly up against. If they understood the powers they tried to oppose, they would turn to jelly. Instead, because of their lack of understanding, they move ahead without concern. They have no fear (“do not tremble”) because they are really clueless. They speak against angels, and when nothing happens to them, they grow more empowered.

I love how Peter calls these men “*stains and blemishes*.” That’s exactly what they are, but of course they do not see it that way, and too many people in the local congregations do not see it that way either because they are attracted to such individuals.

I’ve already mentioned people like Tony Campolo, Rick Warren, and a few others. While it’s not my intent to necessarily single people out, since these individuals are so well-known and have such huge followings, it is good to use them as an example of people who do not teach the truth, yet are held in high esteem in spite of it.

However, as far as the Lord is concerned, because they preach another gospel (though they would vehemently disagree), they are nothing but stains and blemishes. They actually take delight in the way they have deceived people. I doubt seriously if some of the leaders we know of today truly believe that they are themselves deceived or that they are deceiving people. I have my doubts about them. In fairness, some may simply be completely misinformed where the fundamentals of the faith are concerned. The result is the same, though.

In Rick Warren’s case, his background is one in which he was mentored by Robert Schuller. Schuller’s theology is hardly orthodox, and it is understandable that Warren’s would not be either.

People like Warren may honestly believe what they preach is the truth, but the real truth will come out and they will one day be made aware of their error. Hopefully for them, it will be on *this* side of eternity where they have a chance to repent, rather than when they stand before the Lord after their death, when all chances for repentance are gone forever.

Recently, Rick Warren held some type of global peace conference, in which he had Dr. Oz (from TV) as one of the main speakers. Dr. Oz, though not Arab, is a devout Muslim. Others also shared the platform with Warren and Oz to bring together many voices representing differing religious perspectives into one voice. In beginning his conference, Warren actually took the time to apologize to members of the Islamic faith for the way they have been treated.

Rick Warren seems to be out to create a kingdom for himself. He wants to be all things to all people. I'm sure he would not like that description of mine, but the truth seems to be that he is doing whatever he can to help achieve world peace through his many programs and conferences. The Bible says that while we should live at peace with one another as far as we are able to do so, we should not expect true peace until the Prince of Peace returns. Yet too many today act and live as if Jesus did not say or teach anything like that.

Today, Preterism, Reformed and Covenant Theology is on the rise. In general – though there are exceptions – these individuals believe that Jesus “returned” spiritually in A.D. 70 with the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple by the Roman armies under Titus. Though they believe that Jesus’ return was one of a spiritual nature, this is in direct opposition to Jesus’ own words in the Olivet Discourse as well as the words of the angels in Acts 1, when they indicated that the same way Jesus *left* this earth, He will *return*. He left physically, and will return the same way. Many apparently disagree with Jesus on this very clear reality.

Today, if you believe in the *physical* return of Jesus one day, expect to be laughed at or ridiculed. Now, it is no surprise, of course, that the world will ridicule Christians for such a belief. However, it is a bit frustrating to say the least when individuals within Christendom join in that ridicule.

That’s our show for today. Join us again next time when we will continue to find out more from Jude. Until we meet again, I pray the Lord will open your eyes to show you how blessed you are in Him!