

Consequences of Rejecting God

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From speaking of those without faith from Egypt, Jude moves on to reference the angels who fell. Of course, there is great disagreement over what these angels *did* which caused them to fall to the extent that God felt it necessary to keep them chained in darkness. This reference does not obviously refer to all fallen angels, and these particular angels are then *not* the demons that roam free now.

Obviously, these angels did something tremendously horrific, something that if left unchecked would have had severe consequences on God's plan of redemption. Some commentators believe that somehow, these angels were able to have sexual relations directly with human women. As a result, the Nephilim were born (cf. Genesis 6). These hybrid creatures were terrifying warriors because of their strength and impossible height.

Others believe that these angels completely possessed human men who then procreated with human women, and that action resulted in the same hybrids we call Nephilim. Whichever the case, the actions of these particular angels were not only unforgivable in God's eyes but required a sentence so severe that they would not escape and would remain where they were placed until the Day of Judgment.

Some commentators also believe that when Jude speaks of these angels simply abandoning their "proper abode," he is referencing their original state in heaven, before they fell. When they fell by following Lucifer (who became Satan), they abandoned their "proper abode." If that was the case, it would apply to *all* angels who fell. In that event, all angels who fell would have been placed in eternal chains of bondage. The result would be that there would have been no demons during Jesus' day or in ours.

That these angels found some way to co-habit with human women seems to be the likely meaning here. The reason angels would want to do this, of course, would be for the purpose of destroying the pure human DNA that existed when God created Adam. If this DNA could be destroyed, the chance of God becoming man through the human birth process would not occur. However, from the Scriptural record, it is clear that God then kept Noah for Himself and through Noah and his family saved the human race. Noah was the only one considered to be righteous at the time.

By the way, it is interesting to note that Jude is very likely referring here to *The Book of Enoch*, a book that details these particular angels and the story of how they fell. We also read the narrative regarding the Lord's decision to chain and bind them in eternal darkness. It is clear from Peter's second letter that he is also referencing the same situation

from *The Book of Enoch* (cf. 2 Peter 2:4-10). Because *The Book of Enoch* existed during the first century, it is also probable that Jesus had access to it and read it.

The point of Jude's comments here is to reference the fact that these angels – though having started out *in* God's presence – came to a point where they chose to no longer *believe* in His authority or His holiness. In effect, they changed their minds about God. That change, due to a lack of belief, caused them to abandon God for Lucifer. In essence, then, they used their free will to call God a liar and rebelled against Him.

Who knows if these angels ever *really* believed wholeheartedly? It would seem that having absolute free will always leads to rejecting God, unless God steps in and allows a person to see the truth. Once seeing the truth, the person can then embrace Jesus and His salvation, much like the thief on the cross did as he hung dying next to the Author of Life (cf. Luke 23).

But we need to differentiate between these specific angels who fell and likely found a way to procreate with human women and the other angels who fell but did *not* participate in that sin. This sin was so abhorrent to God that He locked these particular angels away until they would be judged at the Great White Throne Judgment. The other angels were allowed to continue to roam the earth and the air above the earth as Satan's minions.

From this example, Jude then refers to Sodom and Gomorrah, twin cities on the plain (now believed to be buried under part of the Dead Sea). Homosexuals argue that the sin of the men in Sodom and Gomorrah was *not* being gay and having sex with other men. They believe that it was simply *lusting* after men or women and not treating others with kindness. If that was the case, then God would have destroyed the entire world a long time ago.

Some believe that the men of Sodom and Gomorrah practiced a known custom that, while acceptable in their cities, was not acceptable in other cities. That's bunk. It's a lot of hullabaloo trying to present lies as truth.

It seems clear from various portions of Scripture like Genesis 19:4-5; Leviticus 18:22, 20:13; Romans 1:27; 1 Corinthians 6:9; 1 Titus 1:10 and here in Jude that homosexuality is a perversion of God's intentions for men and women. It is wrong and there is really nothing else to say about it. While gay people disagree – and that's their privilege – the reality is that God's Word seems very clear on the issue.

But here again, Jude is pointing out the problems with individuals like those who lived in Sodom and Gomorrah and who wanted nothing more than to be involved in *constant* homosexual relationships and one-night stands. They lived for it. Today, Gay groups try to tell the world that they are just like heterosexuals and should be allowed to marry. That's all they want to do is to marry, raise a family, and have a loving home, just like

heterosexuals get to do. They want their lifestyle to be seen as normal. Unfortunately, for the authentic Christian, that's impossible.

What gays and lesbians perpetrate is a lie, and those who have come out of the homosexual lifestyle can vouch for it. For homosexual men, the main objective is to have homosexual sex as often as possible with as many partners as possible. The fact that the men of Sodom wanted to "know" the angels who had come to whisk Lot and his family away is telling. This "knowing" here is the biblical reference to sexual relations. It is clear that a one-night stand was something the men of the town wanted to indulge in with the angelic visitors.

Anyone who has ever heard of the event called "Up Your Alley" in San Francisco would have to admit that what goes on there – under the guise of being a fundraiser for a good cause – is perversion at its highest level, with various sex acts occurring right in the open! "Up Your Alley" is nothing more than modern-day Sodom and Gomorrah. Because God has not destroyed San Francisco yet does not mitigate the nature of the offense committed by those who live for the homosexual lifestyle without concern.

The argument about being allowed to marry is nothing but a smoke screen. The more states there are that allow that to happen, the more we will then see gays and lesbians wanting something else. It is simply a ploy to see gay and lesbian relationships as normal. Beyond this, we will see a divorce rate take shape in the homosexual community just as we have in the heterosexual community. When that happens, homosexuals will say that they are as imperfect as heterosexuals, so no one should be surprised. The more God gets tossed out of society, the more Satan and his anarchy comes home to roost (cf. Romans 1).

The homosexuals in Sodom and Gomorrah did not believe in God. They wanted nothing to do with Him. Because of this *and* their peculiar sexual proclivities, they treated one another terribly. They were not just having sex with other partners of the same sex (and that by itself is not okay with God), but they were doing far worse, which will not be mentioned or dealt with in this book. Readers are welcome to do their own research.

Since they wanted nothing to do with God, God at first gave them over to themselves and then finally destroyed them. Apparently, there was a great deal of viciousness and cruelty in Sodom and Gomorrah along with the strong sexual appetite that existed. God's purpose in raining down fire and brimstone (rocks with a high content of sulfur that burn easily) was certainly to destroy those individuals, but there was a *greater* purpose as well.

Jude tells us that the destruction of the two cities of Sodom and Gomorrah "*are exhibited as an example in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire*" (Jude 9). In other words, God wanted this destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah to serve as notice to all of what awaited everyone who failed to submit themselves to God and receive His salvation.

I cannot really imagine what this destruction looked like, but I have a book in which we learn of a small, roundish tablet that was found. It has taken years to decode, but apparently, after finally breaking the code, we learn that it is an eyewitness account of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, written down by someone who was miles away at the time of the destruction. The writer describes giant balls of fire coming down from the heavens and the subsequent black clouds of fire and smoke that came from the ground up. I'm sure it was a horrific sight, one that was not soon forgotten by those who witnessed it. They would have known all about Sodom and Gomorrah, and after seeing its destruction, would have understood that something supernatural had occurred because of the lifestyle of those who lived there.

Certainly, those individuals who witnessed such a catastrophic event would know that it was God Himself sending waves of fiery destruction on two towns that were well known, whose reputation had spread across the plains.

In the Olivet Discourse of Matthew 24, Mark 13, and Luke 21, Jesus referred to the days of Noah *and* the days of Lot. In both examples, Jesus pointed out that judgment came upon them quite unexpectedly, and He used these judgments as an example of what it will be like just prior to His return to earth at the end of the age.

Of course, the reason judgment came so unexpectedly is because the people of Noah's day as well as the people of Lot's day had grown so far from God that they likely did not even think of Him anymore. To them, there was nothing wrong with their lifestyle because their conscience had been seared. They were so far from the correct path that they were unable to hear or see any signs that God may have sent them. Then judgment came and they were completely caught off guard.

Instead of discounting the events of the past as if they are simply a bunch of myths tied together in one *larger* tale, we should view them as warnings for us. We should note that these events happened for a reason, and the reason is to warn us. God loves us and wants no one to perish. However, for those who continue in ruinous rebellion due to unbelief (the hallmark of the apostate), He is left with no choice. Destruction is theirs. On which side are you?

That's all the time we have for today. Thank you for joining us. May your celebration of Christ's birth today draw you closer to Him. Until we meet again, I pray that God will open your eyes to show you how blessed you are in Him!