

The Way of Cain, Balaam, and Korah

Introduction:

- A. The little Letter of Jude begins with a call to “*contend for the faith that was once for all delivered*” (3).
- B. That call is followed by a warning—God’s people must be vigilant in their stand against apostasy (4).
 - 1. The “*certain people*” of 4 are described in vivid terms throughout the rest of the letter (10,16,19).
 - 2. Such people need to be spotted for who they truly are so that the church is not deceived and ruined by false teaching and immoral behavior.
- C. One practical God-breathed strategy for the defense of the faith? Learn the lessons of history.

I. “Just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities...” (Gen 19; 2 Pet 2:10; Jude 7).

I _____ what I _____ when I _____ it, and I’ll do whatever I must to get it.

II. “They walked in the way of Cain...” (Gen 4:1-8; 1 John 3:12; Jude 11a).

If I don’t get what I want when I want it, I’ll give full _____ to my frustrated spirit.

III. “...and abandoned themselves for the sake of gain to Balaam’s error” (Num 22; 2 Pet 2:15-16;

Jude 11b). I know what God _____, but...

IV. “...and perished in Korah’s rebellion” (Num 16; 11c).

Why should I _____ to or _____ you?

Conclusion:

- A. “*There is nothing new under the sun*” (Ecclesiastes 1:9; James 1:12-15).
- B. Jude assumes that Christians have learned the point of these stories (Rom 15:4; 1 Cor 10:11).
- C. Jude believes the lessons of the past can be an aid in the struggles of the present (12-13).
- D. Jude expects Christians to wisely avoid traveling the same foolish pathway (17-25; 1 Cor 10:6-14).