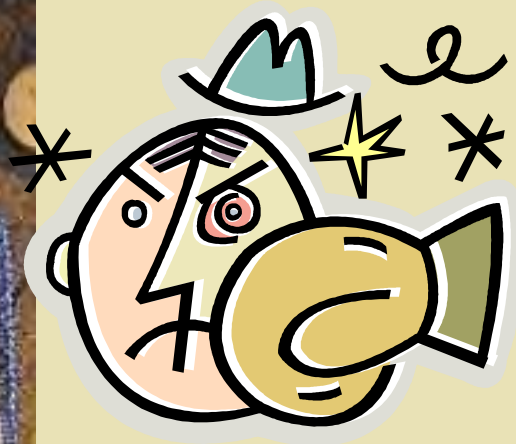




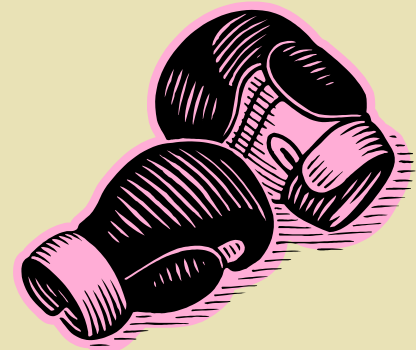
Be Fighting

Jude

**Dr. Rick Griffith • Crossroads International Church
CICFamily.com • BibleStudyDownloads.org**



Are you a fighter?



- ◆ **What** are you willing to fight for?
- ◆ To what lengths are you willing to fight for **your rights**?
- ◆ To what lengths are you willing to fight for **the gospel**?



Apostates Destroy From Within

APOSTATE

The Men who Destroyed the Christian West

Apostates don't wear nametags



The Book *Apostate*



Kevin Swanson and his family

**Nathaniel
Hawthorne**

**John
Dewey**

**Charles
Darwin**

**Friedrich
Nietzsche**

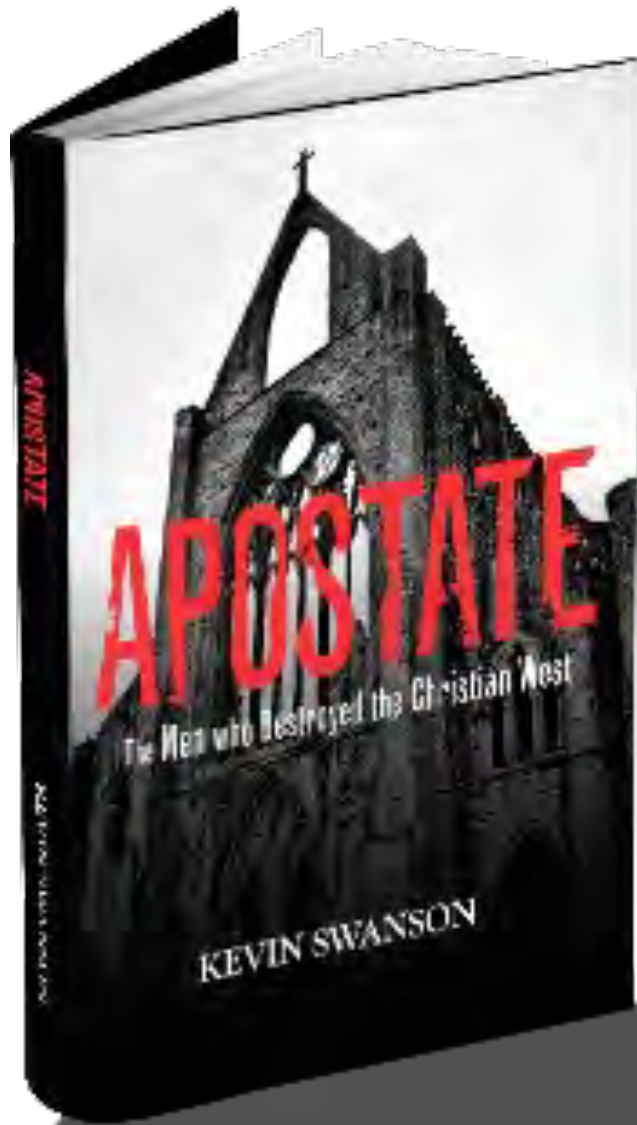
**Mark
Twain**

**Jean-Paul
Sartre**

**Karl
Marx**

**Who are the
apostates?**

**Ernest Hemingway
Lady Gaga**



Why are they significant?

"This is the story of the decline and fall of Western civilization. It is the story of uncommonly powerful men, unfathomably evil men. . . apostates."

—Kevin Swanson

**Nathaniel
Hawthorne**

**John
Dewey**

**Charles
Darwin**

**Friedrich
Nietzsche**

**Mark
Twain**

**Jean-Paul
Sartre**

**Karl
Marx**

**"Eliminate
home schools!"**

**"There is no
God!"**

**What did the
apostates teach?**

**"God didn't create.
We evolved!"**

Godless Philosophy

"God is dead."

– Nietzsche, 1883



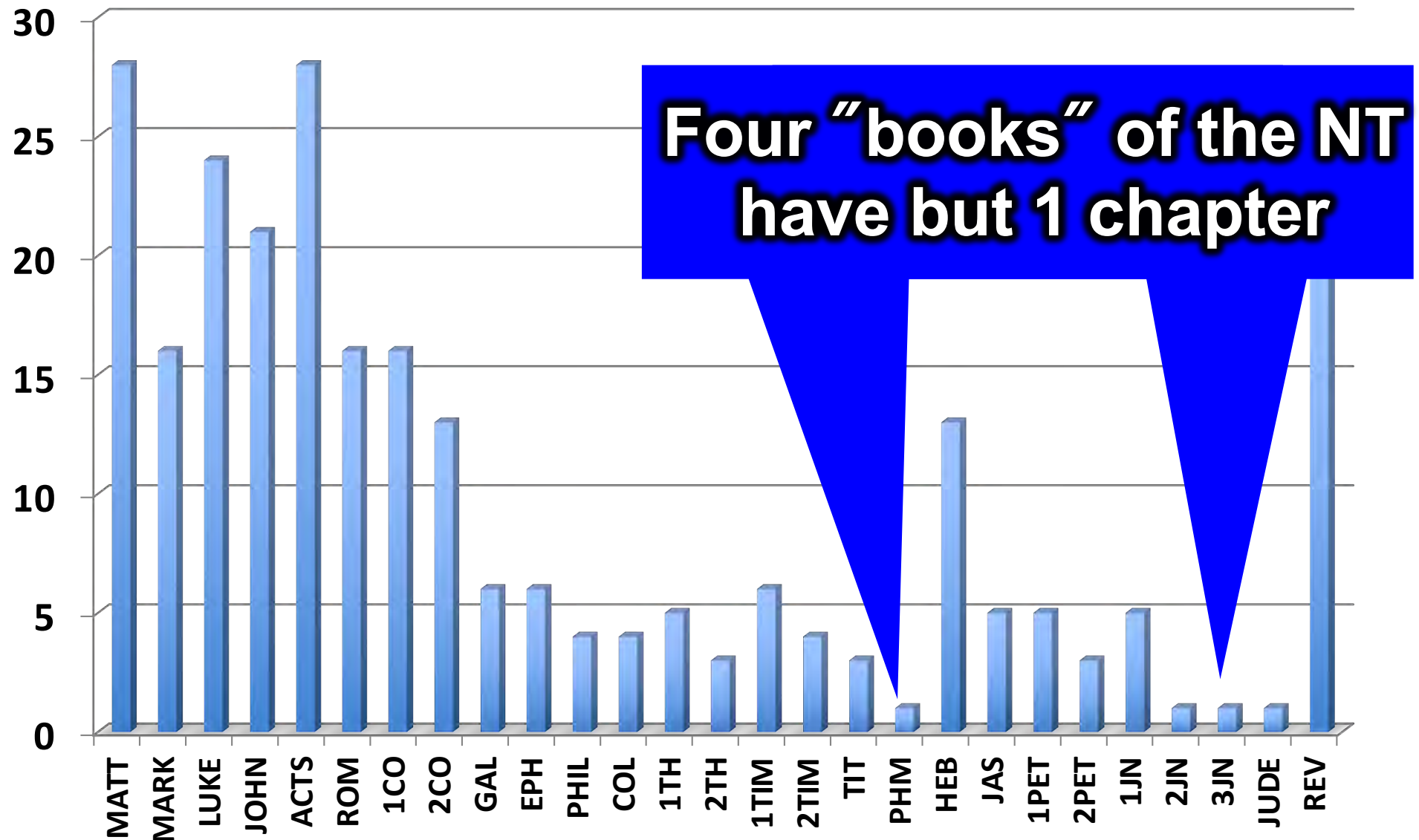
"Nietzsche is dead."

– God, 1900

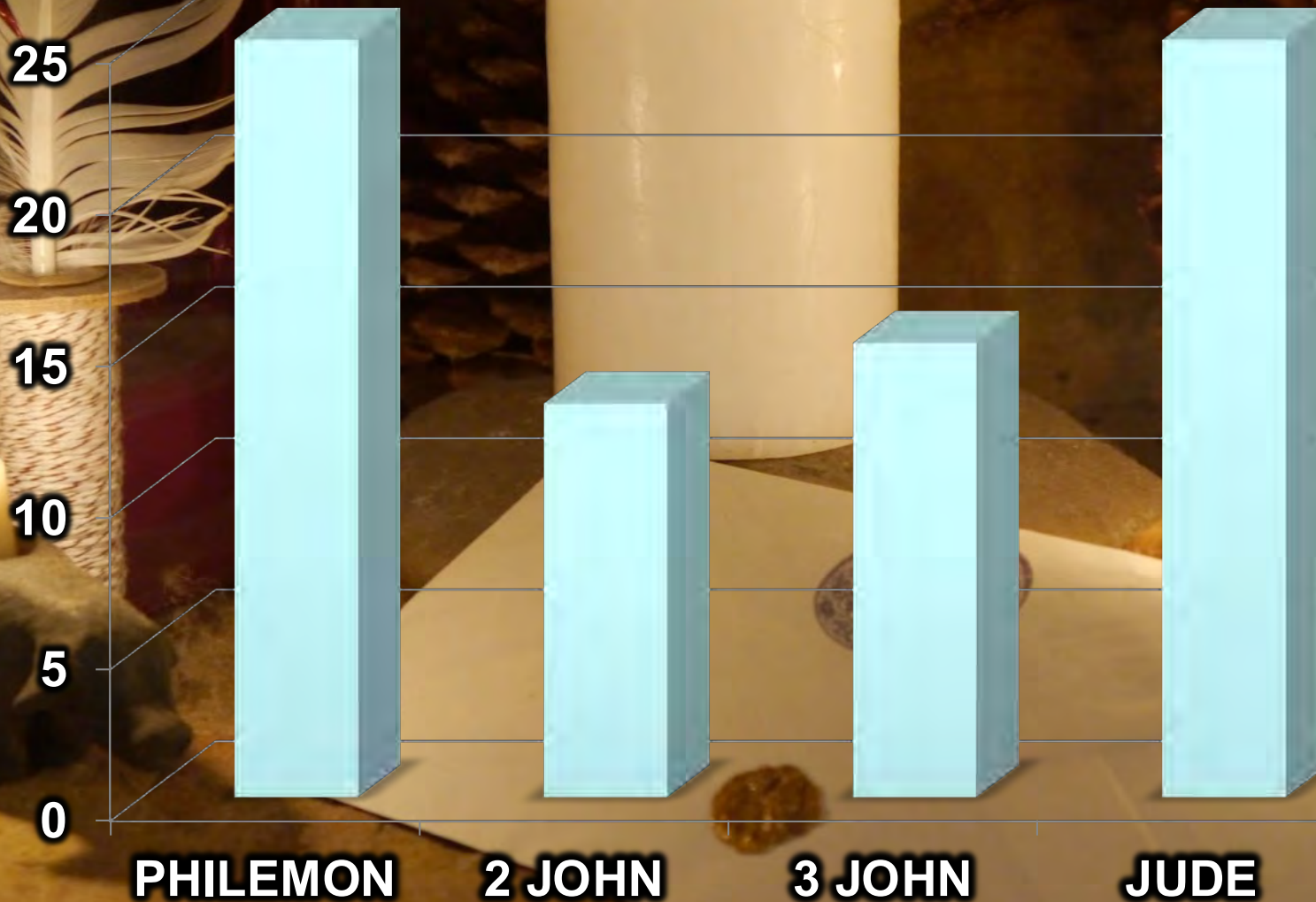
How can you defend the
faith against **pretenders**?



Chapters in NT Books



Verses in NT Emails

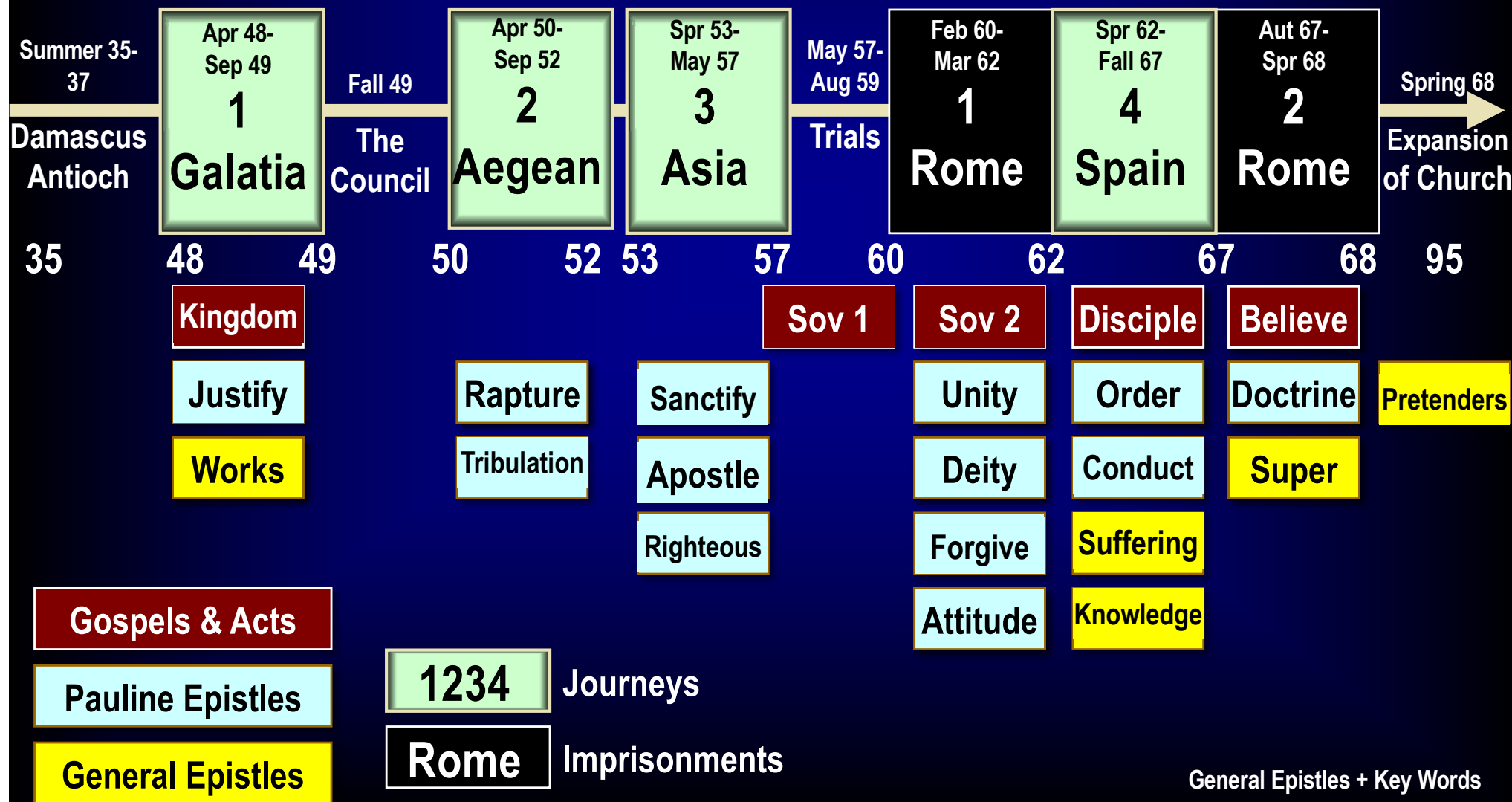


NT Overview (General + Key Words)

38
124
39-41

"To the remotest part of the earth" (Acts 1:8)

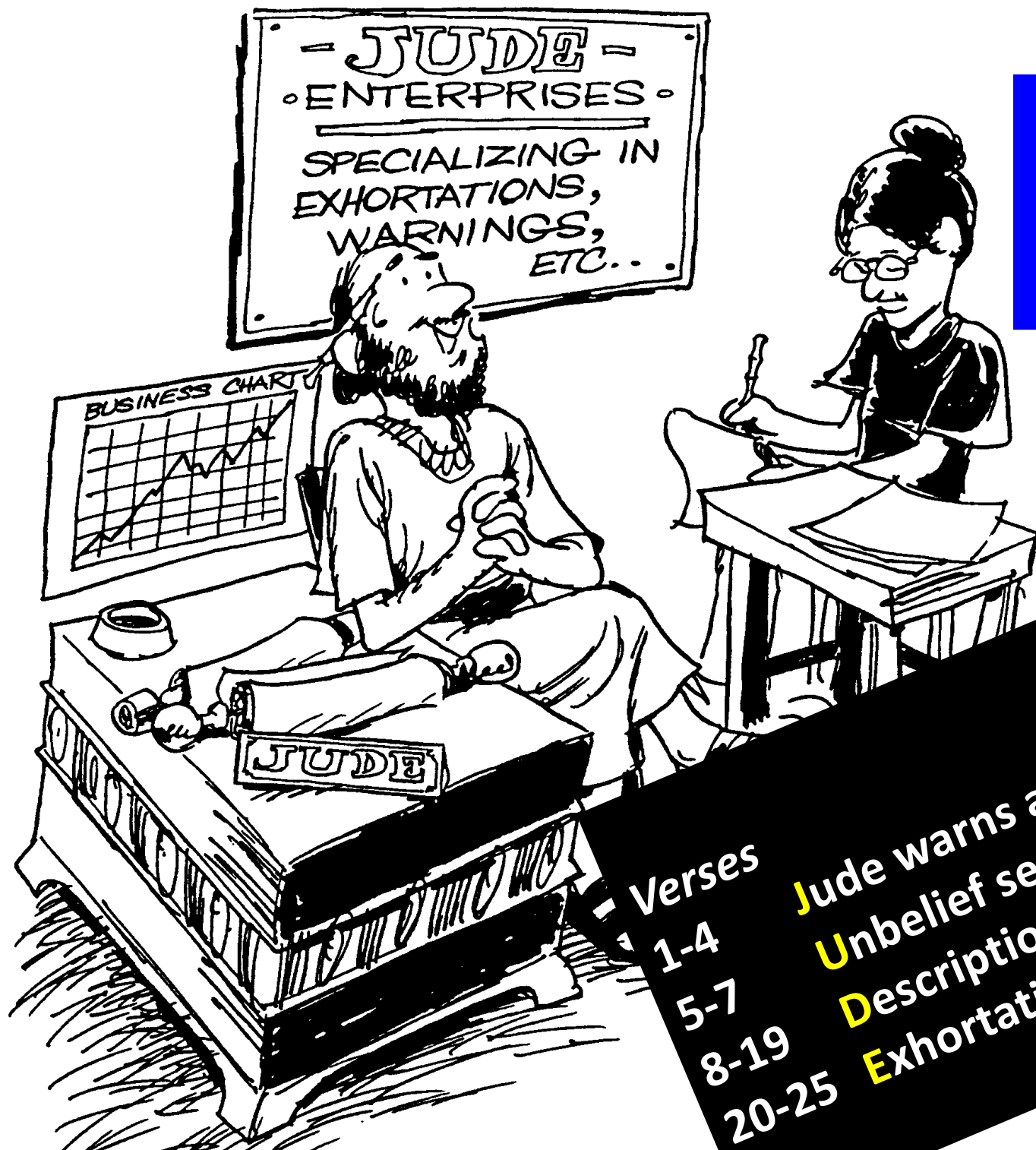
Acts 9 13 14 15 16 18 21 27 28



How can you defend the faith against **pretenders**?

4 ways

Jude



JUDE

Verses
1-4 Jude warns against apostasy
5-7 Unbelief seen through history
8-19 Description of false teachers
20-25 Exhortation to stay faithful



Jude – Summary Chart

310

Contend Against Pretenders

Why to Contend

How to Contend

Intro

Pretenders' Practices

How to Avoid Pretenders' Snares

Praise for Preservation

Verses 1-2

Verses 3-16

Verses 17-23

Verses 24-25

Greet-
ing
1

Bless-
ing
2

Purpose:
Defend
the faith
3-4

OT
Pretenders
5-7
(Past)

Charac-
teristics
8-13
(Present)

Judgment
14-16
(Future)

Remember
Apostles'
Predictions
17-19

Nurture
Self in
God's
Love
20-21

Show
Mercy to
Pretenders'
Followers
22-23

Source
of
Victory
24

Only
Savior
25

Unknown Origin to Probably Palestine

c. AD 75



Key Word Pretenders

Key Verse

“...Contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints. For certain men whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are godless men, who change the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord” (Jude 3b-4).

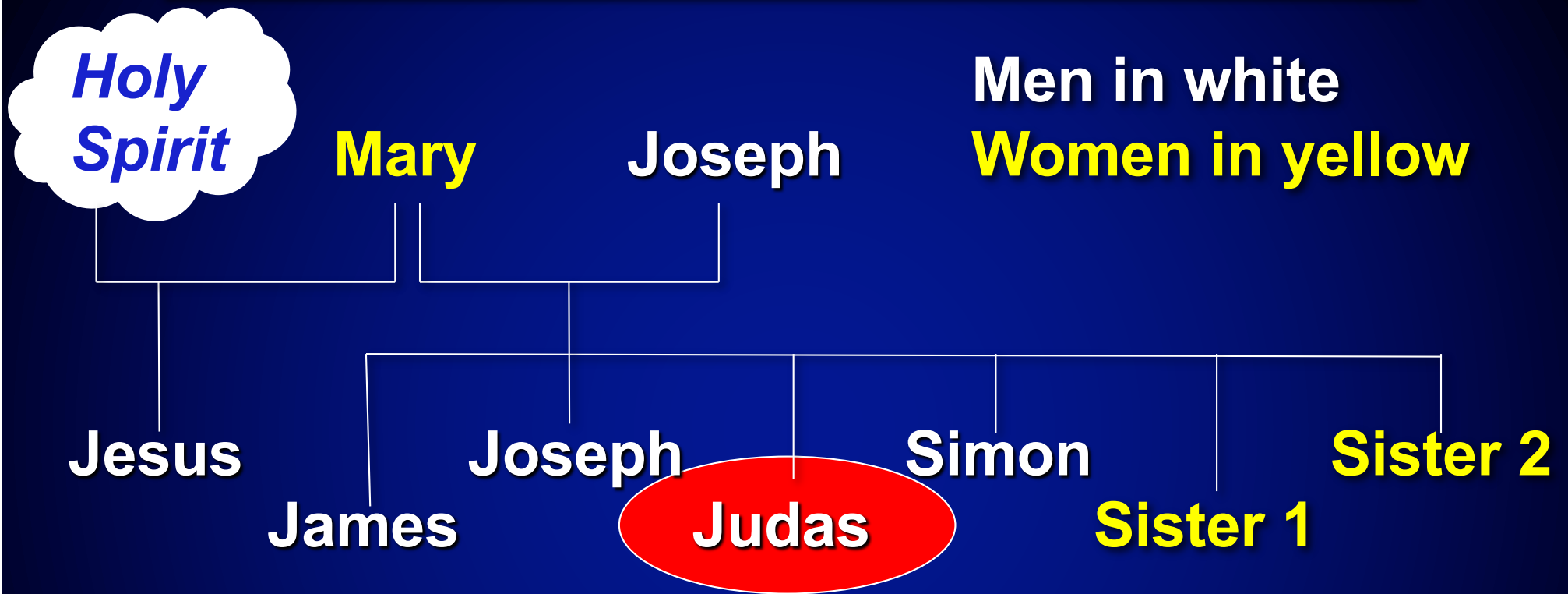
External Evidence

- Despite its small size and limited subject matter, Jude was accepted as authentic and quoted by the early Church Fathers, including Tertullian and Origen.
- It was also included in the Muratorian Canon (*ca.* AD 170).

Internal Evidence

- This is the only NT letter of Jude, the half-brother of Jesus Christ & son of Joseph and Mary.
- Jude was therefore the brother of James (v. 1a), who also was a half brother of the Lord (Matt. 13:55; Mark 6:3), the leader of the church at Jerusalem (Acts 15:13) and author of the epistle bearing his name (James 1:1).
- Jude is the same as Judah or Judas and means "praise" (cf. Rom. 2:29).

The Family of Jesus



"Then they scoffed, 'He's just a carpenter, the son of Mary and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas, and Simon. And **his sisters** live right here among us.' They were deeply offended and refused to believe in him" (Mark 6:3 NLT).

How can you defend the faith against **pretenders**?

4 ways

Jude

I. **Affirm** the saints (1-2).



Jude

**"This letter is from Jude,
a slave of Jesus Christ
and a brother of James. I
am writing to all who
have been **called** by God
the Father, who **loves**
you and **keeps you safe**
in the care of Jesus
Christ. ²May God give
you more and more
mercy, peace, and love"
(Jude 1-2 NLT).**



How can you defend the faith against pretenders?



I. **Affirm** the saints (1-2).



Jude

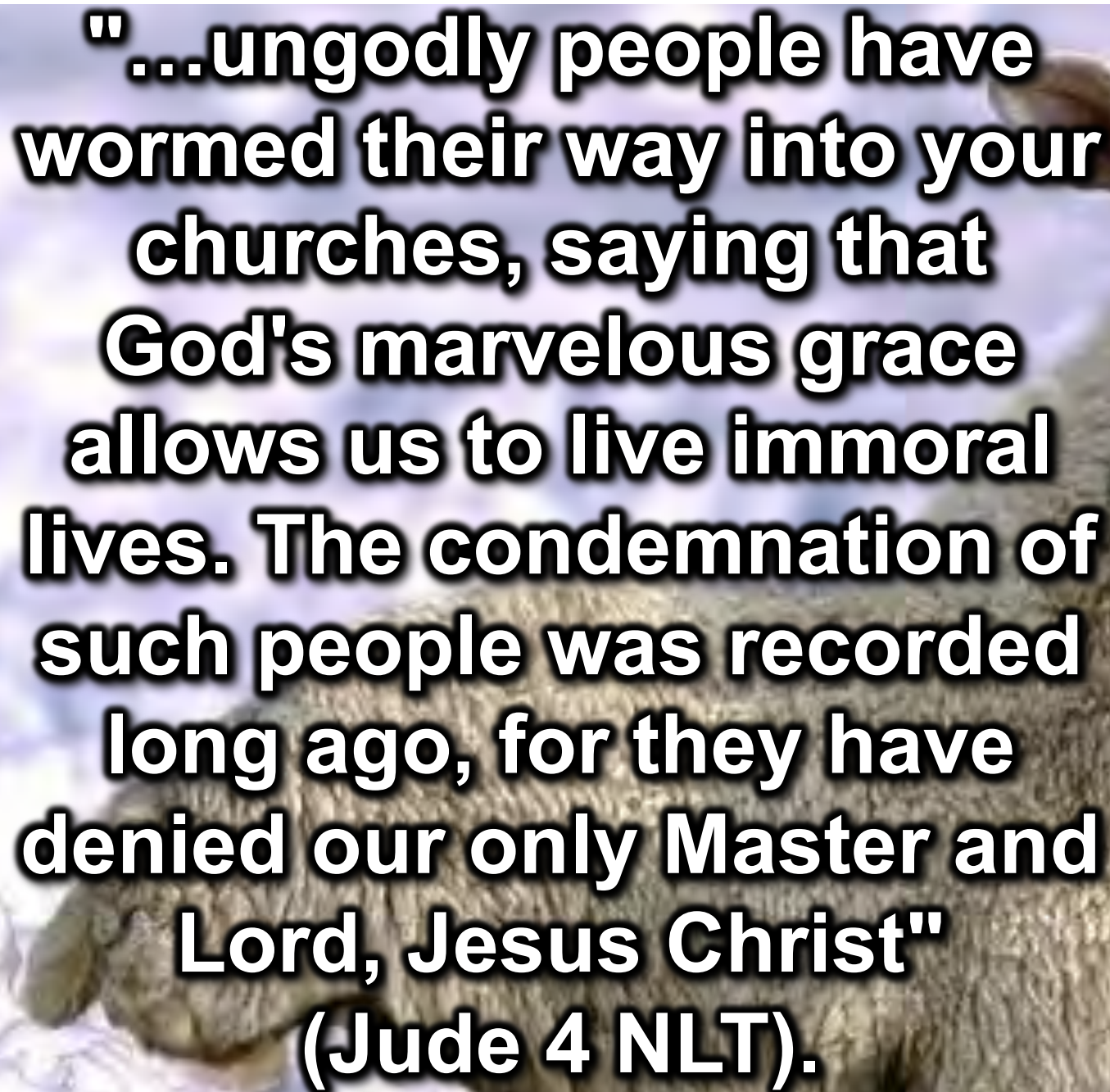
II. **Identify** the enemy (3-16).



Jude

"Dear friends, I had been eagerly planning to write to you about the salvation we all share. But now I find that I must write about something else, urging you to defend the faith that God has entrusted once for all time to his holy people" (Jude 3 NLT).



A white lamb is shown from the chest up, looking directly at the camera. Its face is white with pink ears and nose. On its chest, the face of a brown wolf is superimposed, looking forward with its mouth slightly open. The background is a soft, out-of-focus purple and blue sky.

"...ungodly people have wormed their way into your churches, saying that God's marvelous grace allows us to live immoral lives. The condemnation of such people was recorded long ago, for they have denied our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ" (Jude 4 NLT).

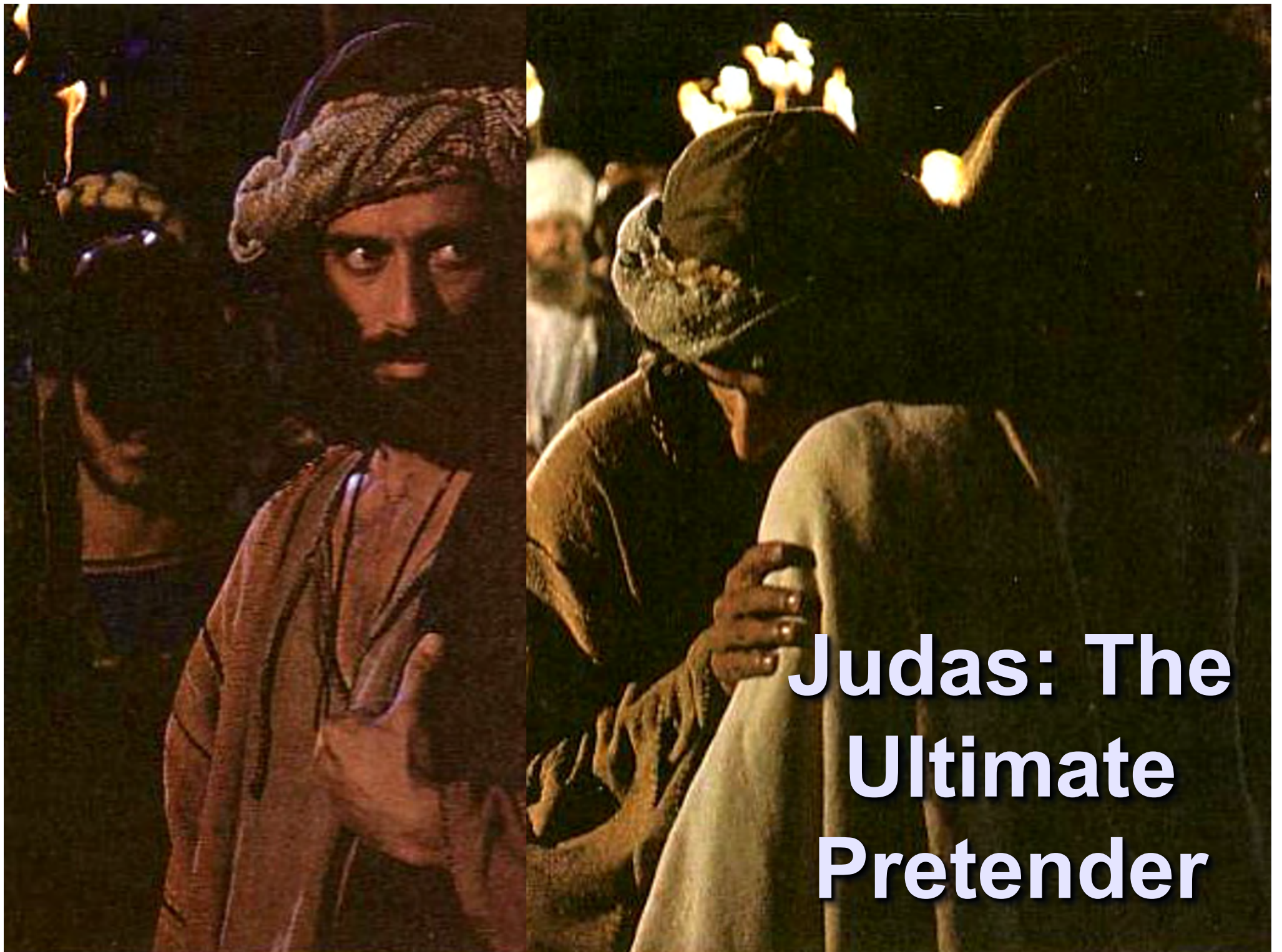
Who are Pretenders Today?

"...some ungodly people have wormed their way into your churches, saying that God's marvelous grace allows us to live immoral lives. The **condemnation** of such people was recorded long ago, for they have denied our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ" (Jude 4 NLT).

**Are
pretenders
Christians?**

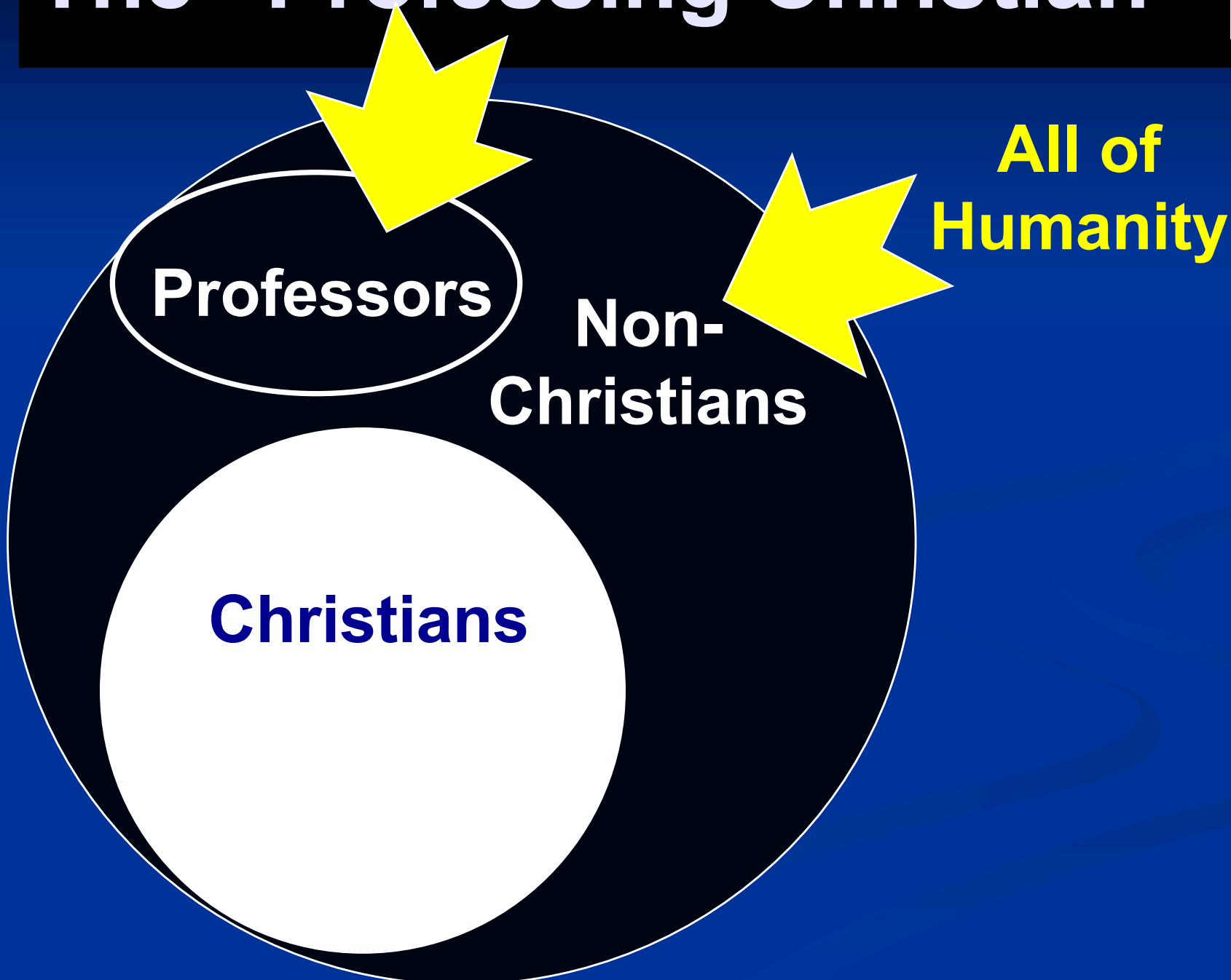
- No, as they are **condemned**, unlike believers (cf. Rom 8:1)
- They are like demons in **everlasting chains** (v. 6)
- They are like Sodomites who suffer **eternal fire** (v. 7)
- They are reserved for "**blackest darkness**" (v. 13)
- They "**do not have the Spirit**" (v. 18) while all believers do have the Spirit (Rom 8:9b)

Does that sound like Christians?



**Judas: The
Ultimate
Pretender**

The “Professing Christian”



"He promises to heal all – every one, any, any whatsoever, everything – all our diseases! That means not even a headache, sinus problem, not even a toothache – nothing! No sickness should come your way. God heals all your diseases."

Benny Hinn

***Rise and Be
Healed, 32***

**Pretenders
Today**

<http://deliveredbygrace.com/?p=234>

Three OT Examples of Pretenders (Jude 5-7)

"So I want to remind you, though you already know these things, that Jesus first rescued the nation of Israel from Egypt, but later he destroyed those who did not remain faithful" (Jude 5 NLT).



Num. 32:49; 34:1

YOU MEAN...
40 YEARS?
OUT HERE?

MOSES

Exodus

Sinai

M - C - C

Kadesh Barnea

40

Divine Discipline

Handbook pg. 26-29

7.5.03c.24

**"So the Lord sent poisonous snakes among the people, and many were bitten and died.
7Then the people came to Moses and cried out, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you. Pray that the Lord will take away the snakes.' So Moses prayed for the people" (Numbers 21:6-7 NLT).**

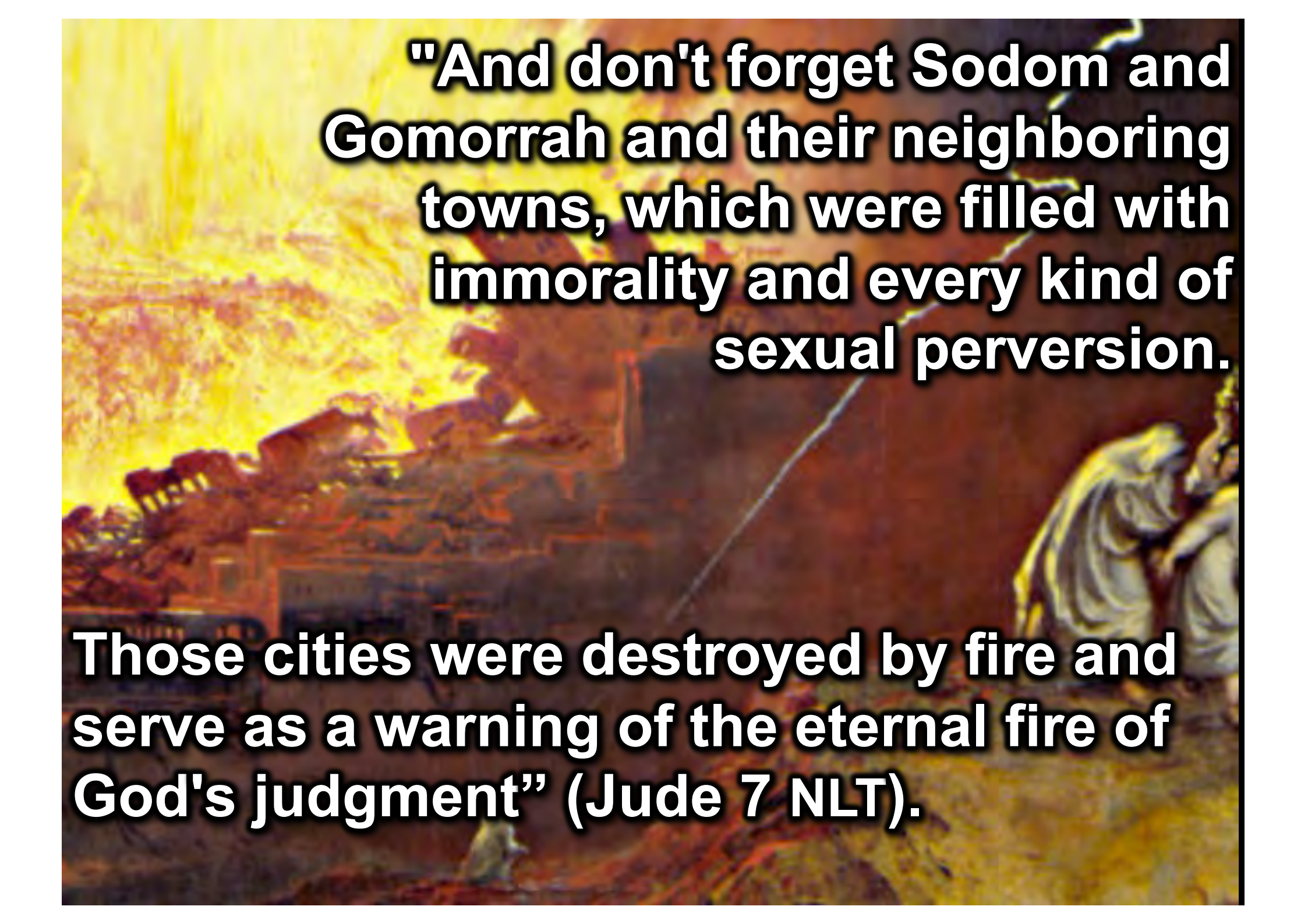


The Angels

"And I remind you of the angels who did not stay within the limits of authority God gave them but left the place where they belonged.

God has kept them securely chained in prisons of darkness, waiting for the great day of judgment" (Jude 6 NLT).





"And don't forget Sodom and Gomorrah and their neighboring towns, which were filled with immorality and every kind of sexual perversion.

Those cities were destroyed by fire and serve as a warning of the eternal fire of God's judgment" (Jude 7 NLT).

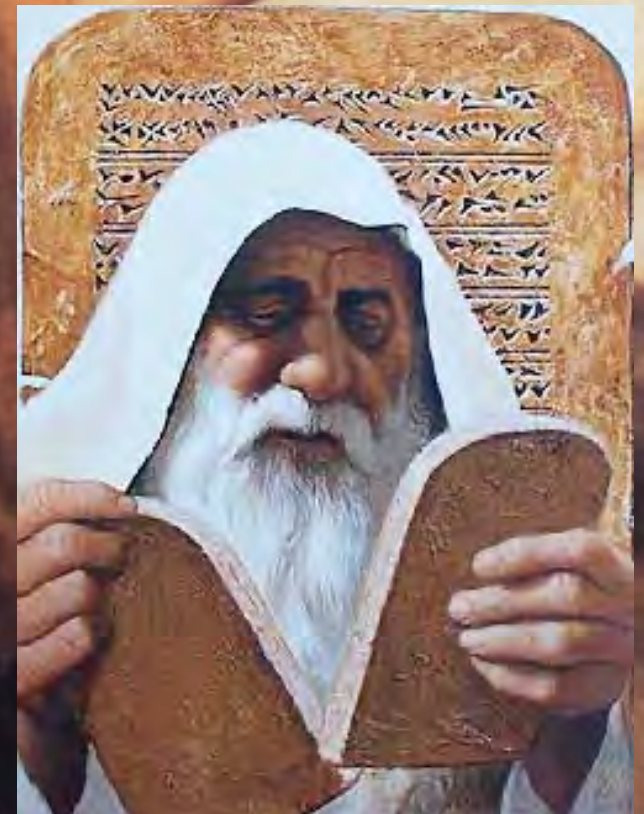
The Behavior of Pretenders (Jude 8-13)

"In the same way, these people—who claim authority from their dreams—live immoral lives, defy authority, and scoff at supernatural beings" (Jude 8 NLT).



Moses' Body

"But even Michael, one of the mightiest of the angels, did not dare accuse the devil of blasphemy, but simply said, 'The Lord rebuke you!' (This took place when **Michael was arguing with the devil about Moses' body.**)" (Jude 9 NLT).



Joel Osteen, Pastor of Lakewood Church

Author of the #1 *New York Times* bestseller *Your Best Life Now*

Become a Better You



7 Keys to Improving Your Life Every Day

JOEL OSTEEN

Read by the author

Reveal the Power of
Two Simple Words:

I AM.

#LIFECCLASS
sunday
9^{8C}

Joel's
Lifeclass
OWN
JOEL OSTEEN, PASTOR

**"But these people scoff at things they do not understand. Like unthinking animals, they do whatever their instincts tell them, and so they bring about their own destruction. ¹¹What sorrow awaits them! For they follow in the footsteps of Cain, who killed his brother. Like Balaam, they deceive people for money. And like Korah, they perish in their rebellion"
(Jude 10-11 NLT).**

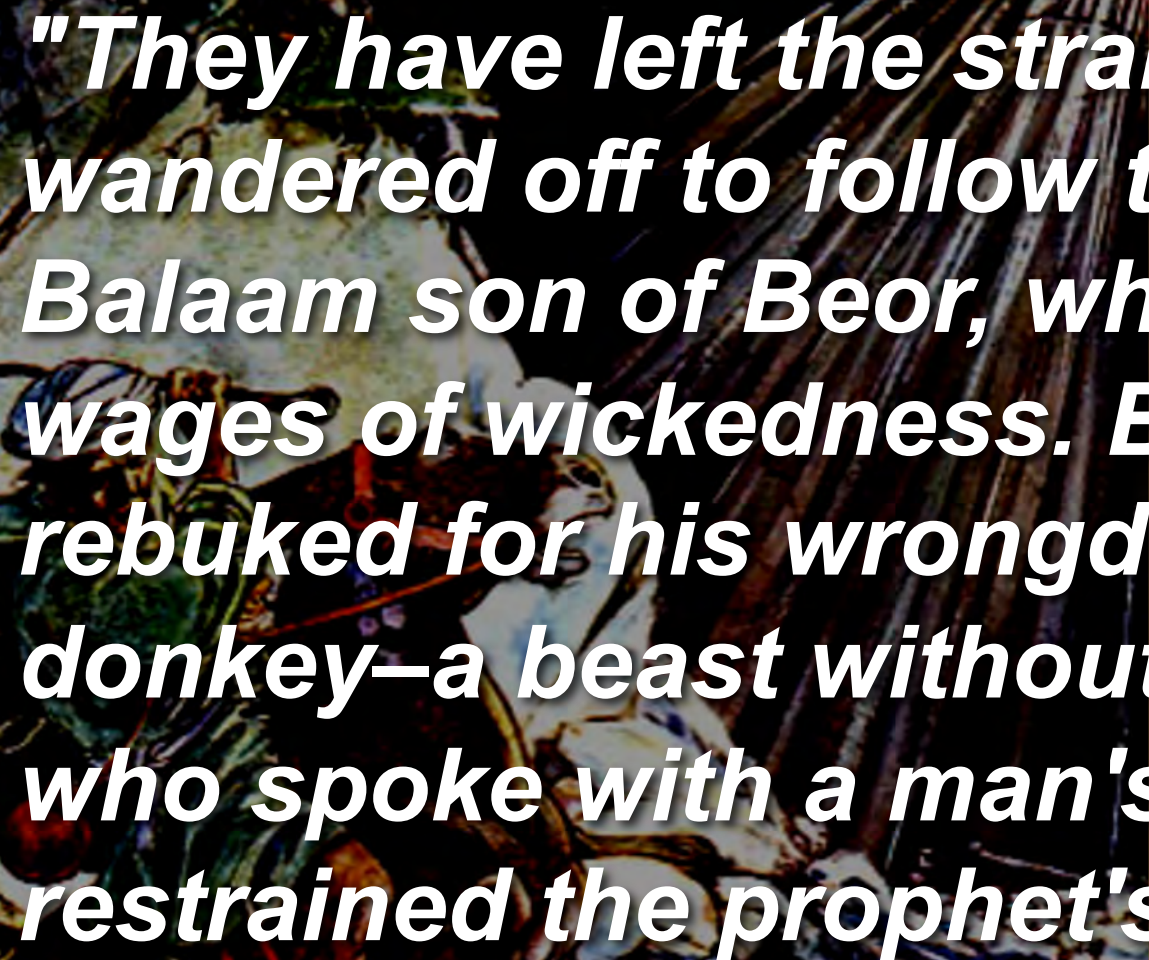


Balaam Numbers 22–24

The Balaam Narrative



- **Balak fails to turn God against Israel—blessing by Balaam (Num. 22–24)**



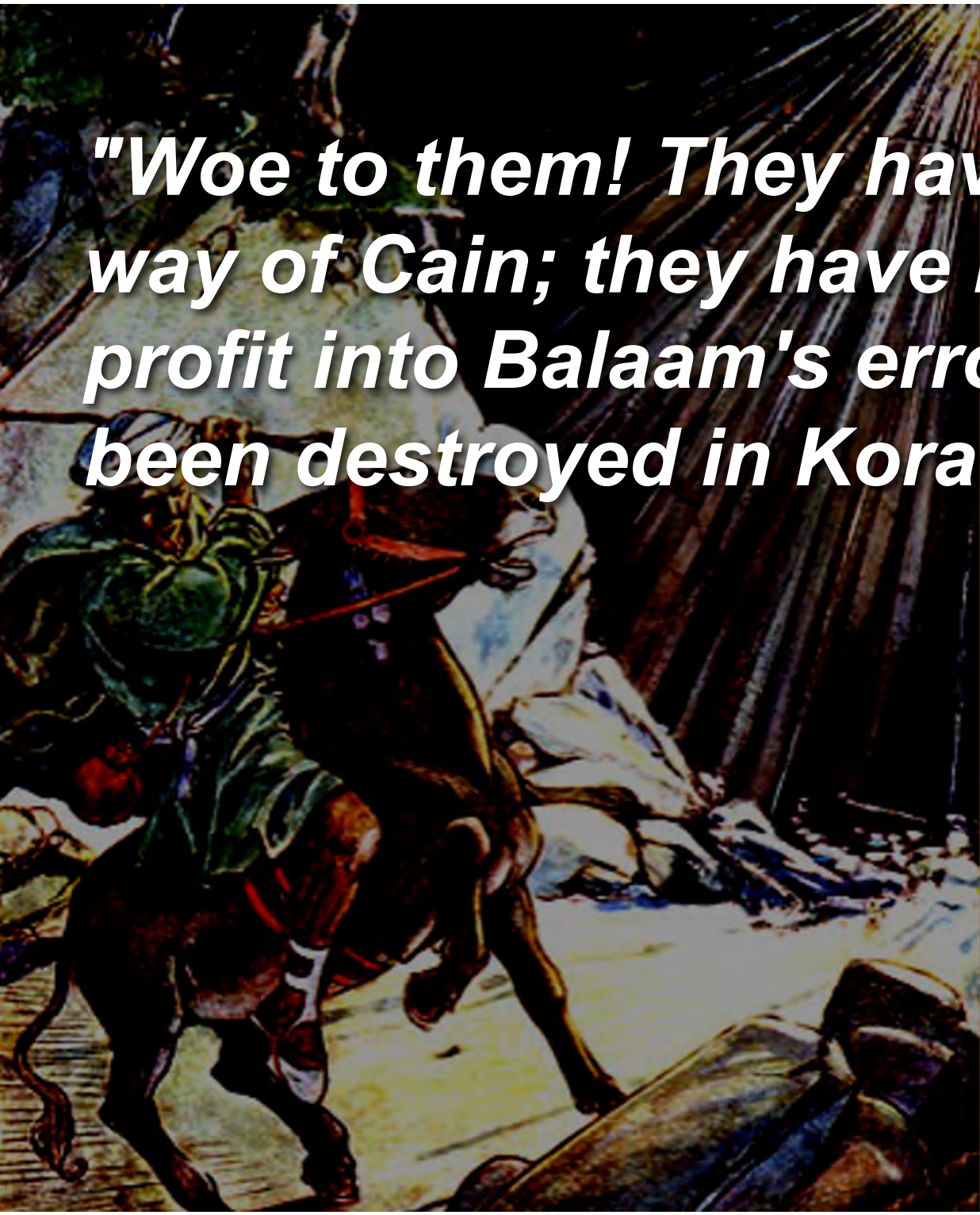
"They have left the straight way and wandered off to follow the way of Balaam son of Beor, who loved the wages of wickedness. But he was rebuked for his wrongdoing by a donkey—a beast without speech—who spoke with a man's voice and restrained the prophet's madness."

2 Peter 2:15-16 (NIV)

Transjordan Events

- Victory over Sihon and Og (Num. 21)
- Balak fails to turn God against Israel—blessing by Balaam (Num. 22–24)
- Balak succeeds to turn Israel against God—immorality at Beth-peor (Num. 25)





"Woe to them! They have taken the way of Cain; they have rushed for profit into Balaam's error; they have been destroyed in Korah's rebellion."

Jude 11 (NIV)

The Balaam Narrative (Num. 22–24)¹⁴⁰

Balak turned Israel
against God via
immorality at
Bethpeor (Num. 25)



Korah's Rebellion



Korah, Dathan and Abiram (Numbers 16:31-34)

More Complaining

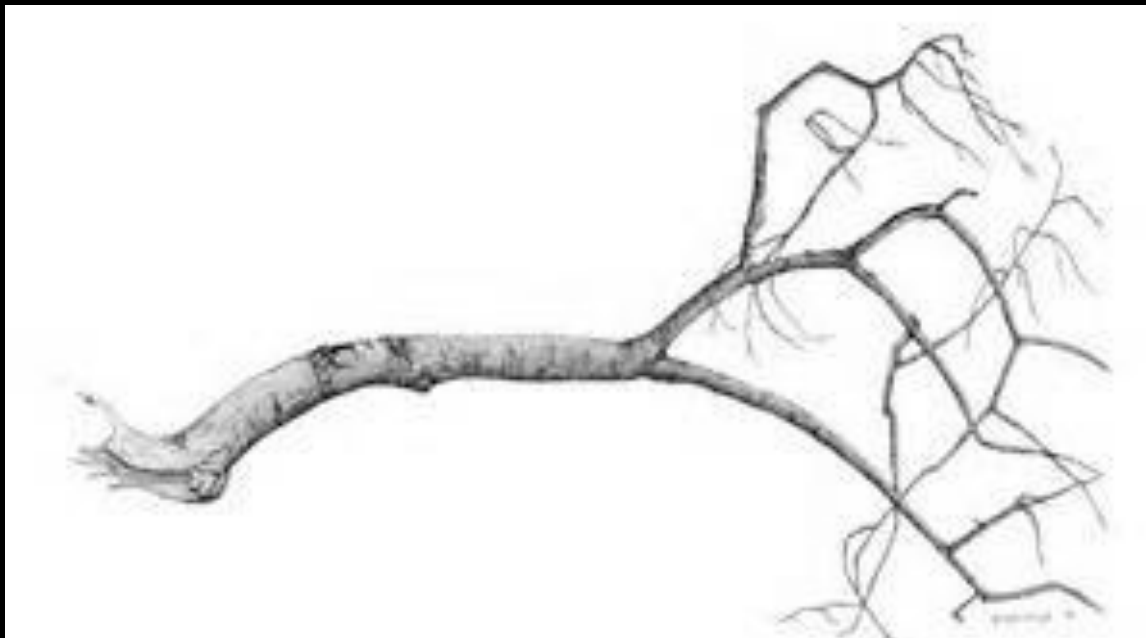


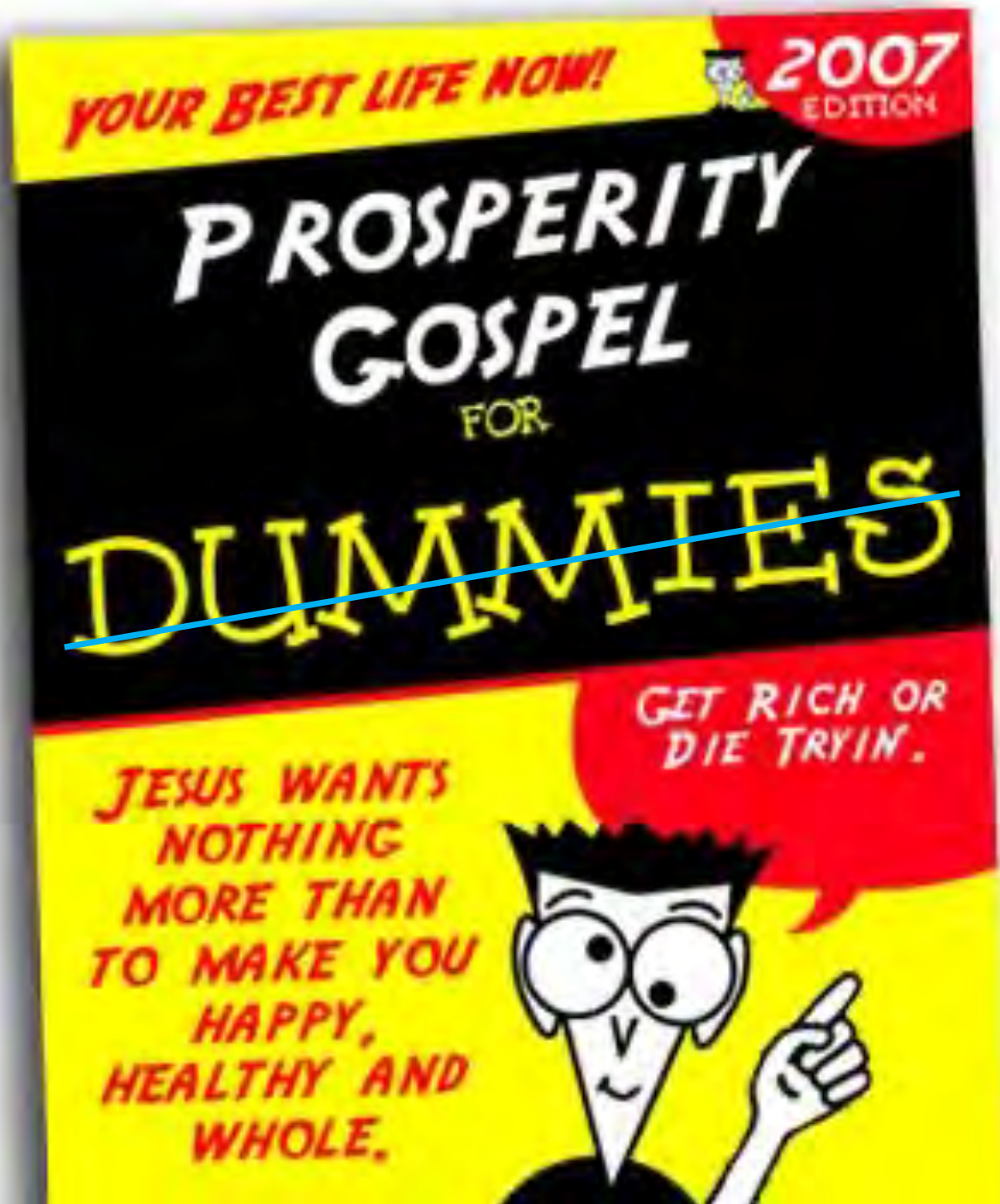
"Then fire blazed forth from the LORD and burned up the 250 men who were offering incense" (Num 16:35 NLT).

**"When these people eat with you in your fellowship meals commemorating the Lord's love, they are like dangerous reefs that can shipwreck you"
(Jude 12a NLT).**



"They are like shameless shepherds who care only for themselves. They are like clouds blowing over the land without giving any rain. They are like trees in autumn that are doubly dead, for they bear no fruit and have been pulled up by the roots" (Jude 12b NLT).





PASTORS

Psalm 1:1-3

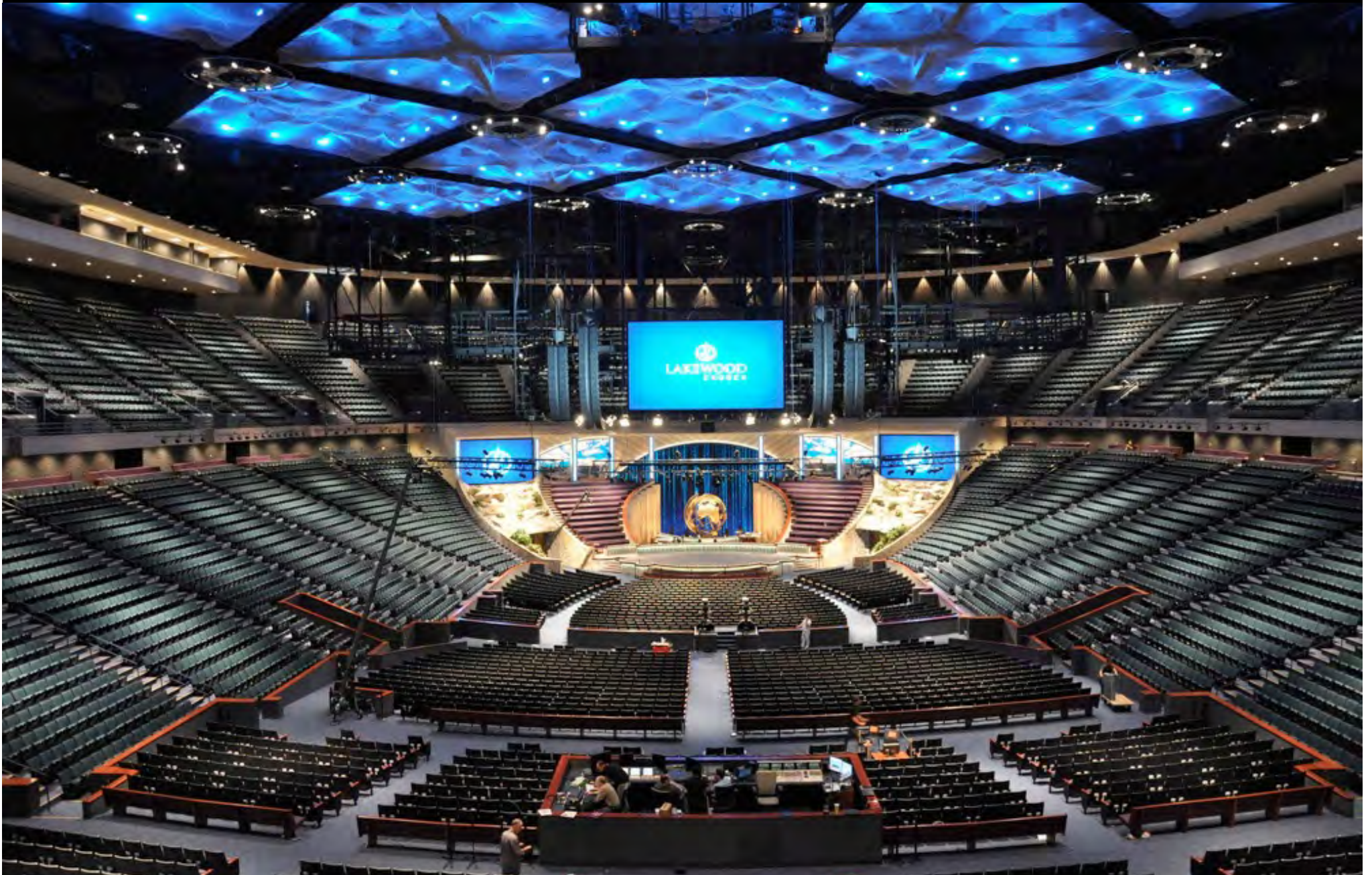
1 Peter 1:3-9

2 Corinthians 1:3-7

Lakewood Church, Houston, TX, USA



Lakewood Church, Houston, TX, USA



Lakewood fills the 16,800-seat facility



Joel Osteen, Founder of Lakewood Church



Joel Osteen House



JOEL OSTEEN'S ESTATE (CREDIT: [PLANETZION](#))

Joel Osteen, Former Pastor of Lakewood Church until he reverted to his water purifying business



**"They are like wild waves of the sea,
churning up the foam of their shameful
deeds. They are like wandering stars,
doomed forever to blackest darkness"
(Jude 13 NLT).**



Joel Osteen Interview by Larry King

YouTube Uploaded on Apr 7, 2008



"God alone will judge." "There are many ways to Jesus."

Joel Osteen Interview by Oprah Winfrey

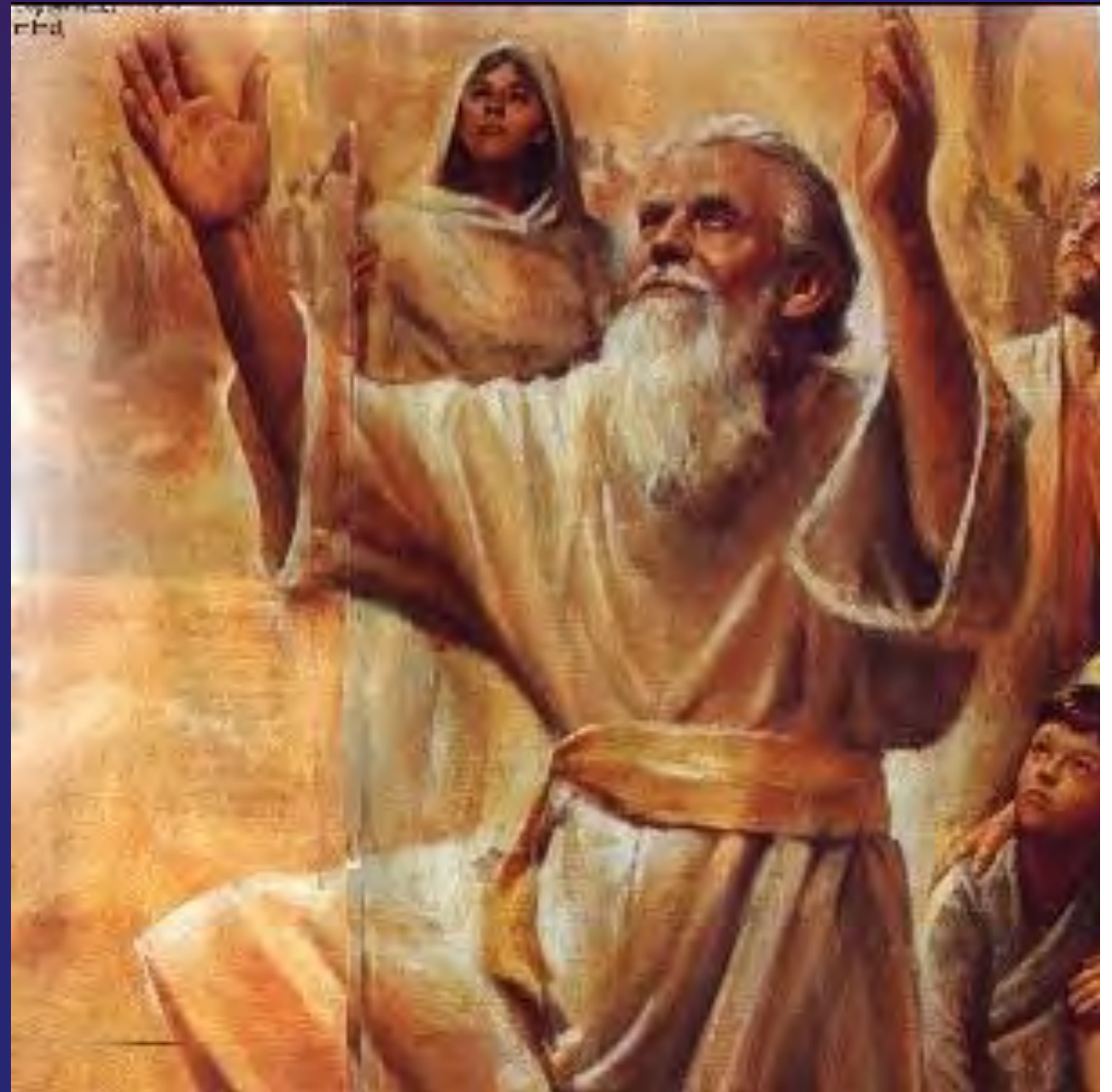


Oprah then moved to her point by asking, "Ok, here's the big question. Are there many paths to get to the one God?" Osteen responded, "Well, I believe Oprah that there, **I believe that Jesus is the way to the one God, but there are many paths to Jesus.** You know, you don't know how Jesus would reveal himself to somebody."

The Destiny of Pretenders (Jude 14-16)

Enoch as a Prophet

"Enoch, who lived
in the seventh
generation after
Adam, **prophesied**
about these
people"
(Jude 14a NLT).



No Gaps in Genesis 5

Issues in Jude

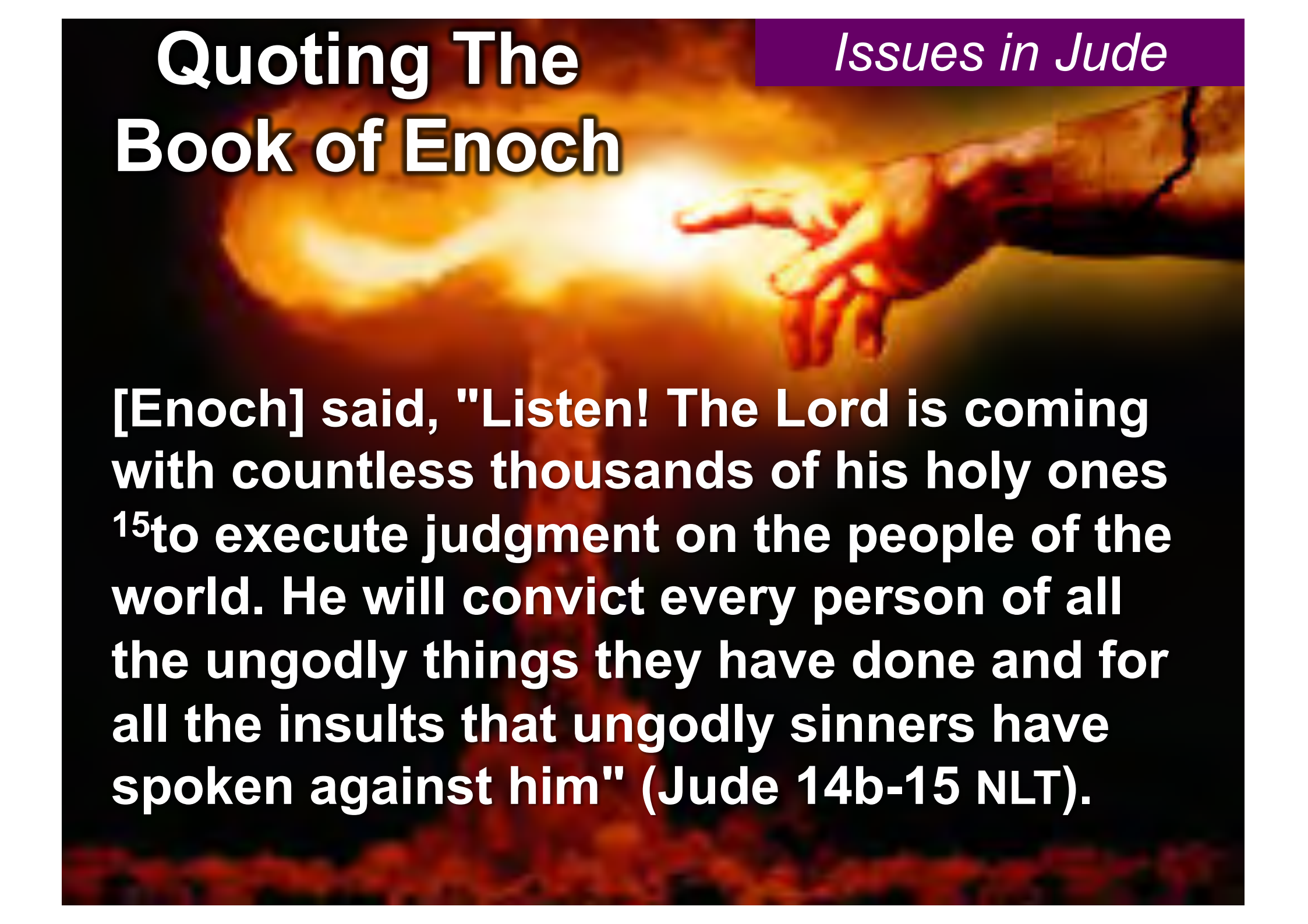
7 { Adam
Seth
Enosh
Kenan
Mahalalel
Jared
Enoch
Methuselah
Lamech
Noah

1. State lengths of time
2. Shorter lengths
3. Most natural
4. Show father-son
5. Jude 14

"Enoch, in the **seventh generation from Adam**, prophesied saying. . ."
(Jude 14a, NASB)

Quoting The Book of Enoch

Issues in Jude



[Enoch] said, "Listen! The Lord is coming with countless thousands of his holy ones¹⁵ to execute judgment on the people of the world. He will convict every person of all the ungodly things they have done and for all the insults that ungodly sinners have spoken against him" (Jude 14b-15 NLT).

Why is a Quote from Non-Scriptural Writings a Problem?

Jude does not imply that the entire 1 Enoch is inspired.

DAVE O'CONNELL
94 ©

"These people are grumblers and complainers, living only to satisfy their desires. They brag loudly about themselves, and they flatter others to get what they want" (Jude 16 NLT).



How can you defend the faith against pretenders?



I. **Affirm** the saints (1-2).



Jude

II. **Identify** the enemy (3-16).



Jude

III. **Strengthen** your faith (17-23).



III. Jude shows three ways how to avoid the pretenders' snares to safeguard his readers from apostasy (17-23) .

Remember 17-19

Nurture 20-21

Show mercy 22-23



"But you, my dear friends, must remember what the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ said. ¹⁸They told you that in the last times there would be scoffers whose purpose in life is to satisfy their ungodly desires. ¹⁹These people are the ones who are creating divisions among you. They follow their natural instincts because they do not have God's Spirit in them" (Jude 17-19 NLT).

Remember 17-19

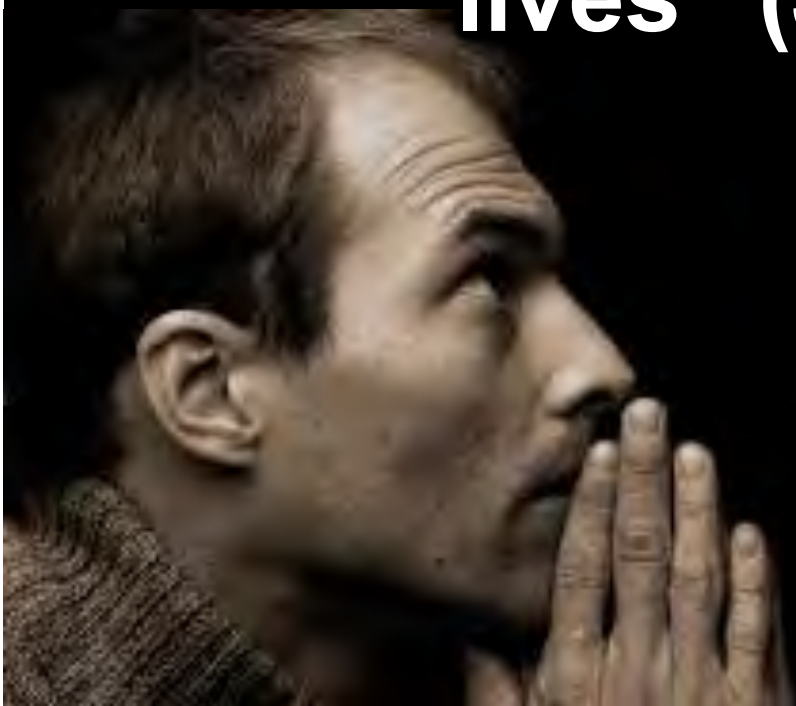
"But you, dear friends, must build each other up in your most holy faith, pray in the power of the Holy Spirit, ²¹and await the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will bring you eternal life. In this way, you will keep yourselves safe in God's love" (Jude 20-21 NLT).



Nurture 20-21

"And you must show mercy to those whose faith is wavering. ²³Rescue others by snatching them from the flames of judgment. Show mercy to still others, but do so with great caution, hating the sins that contaminate their lives" (Jude 22-23 NLT).

show mercy 22-23



How can you defend the faith against **pretenders**?

4 ways

Jude

I. **Affirm** the saints (1-2).



Jude

II. **Identify** the enemy (3-16).



Jude

III. **Strengthen** your faith (17-23).



Jude

IV. Praise God for security (24-25).



Jude

A collection of objects is arranged on a light-colored surface. In the top left, a portion of a chessboard with a checkered pattern and several chess pieces is visible. Below it, a blue ribbon with a circular medal hangs. To the right, a red ribbon with a circular medal is also visible. In the center, a pair of gold-rimmed glasses with tortoiseshell temples lies flat. At the bottom left, a round compass with a white face and black markings is partially shown. The background is a plain, light-colored surface.

Benediction (Jude 24-25 NLT)

"Now all glory to God, who is able to keep you from falling away and will bring you with great joy into his glorious presence without a single fault. ²⁵All glory to him who alone is God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord. All glory, majesty, power, and authority are his before all time, and in the present, and beyond all time! Amen."

How can you defend the faith against pretenders?



Be a **contender**
against pretenders



Main Idea of Jude

I. **Affirm** the saints (1-2).



Jude

II. **Identify** the enemy (3-16).



Jude

III. **Strengthen** your faith (17-23).



Jude

IV. Praise God for security (24-25).



Jude

The Apostle's Creed



153e

The Apostle's Creed

153e

Jesus didn't just become "the Christ" at his baptism, as Gnostics claimed. He was conceived by the Spirit.

A **Gnostics taught that the world was created by a Demiurge and "the**

Christ must have really been a man since he was born, he suffered, and he died.

and born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and buried.

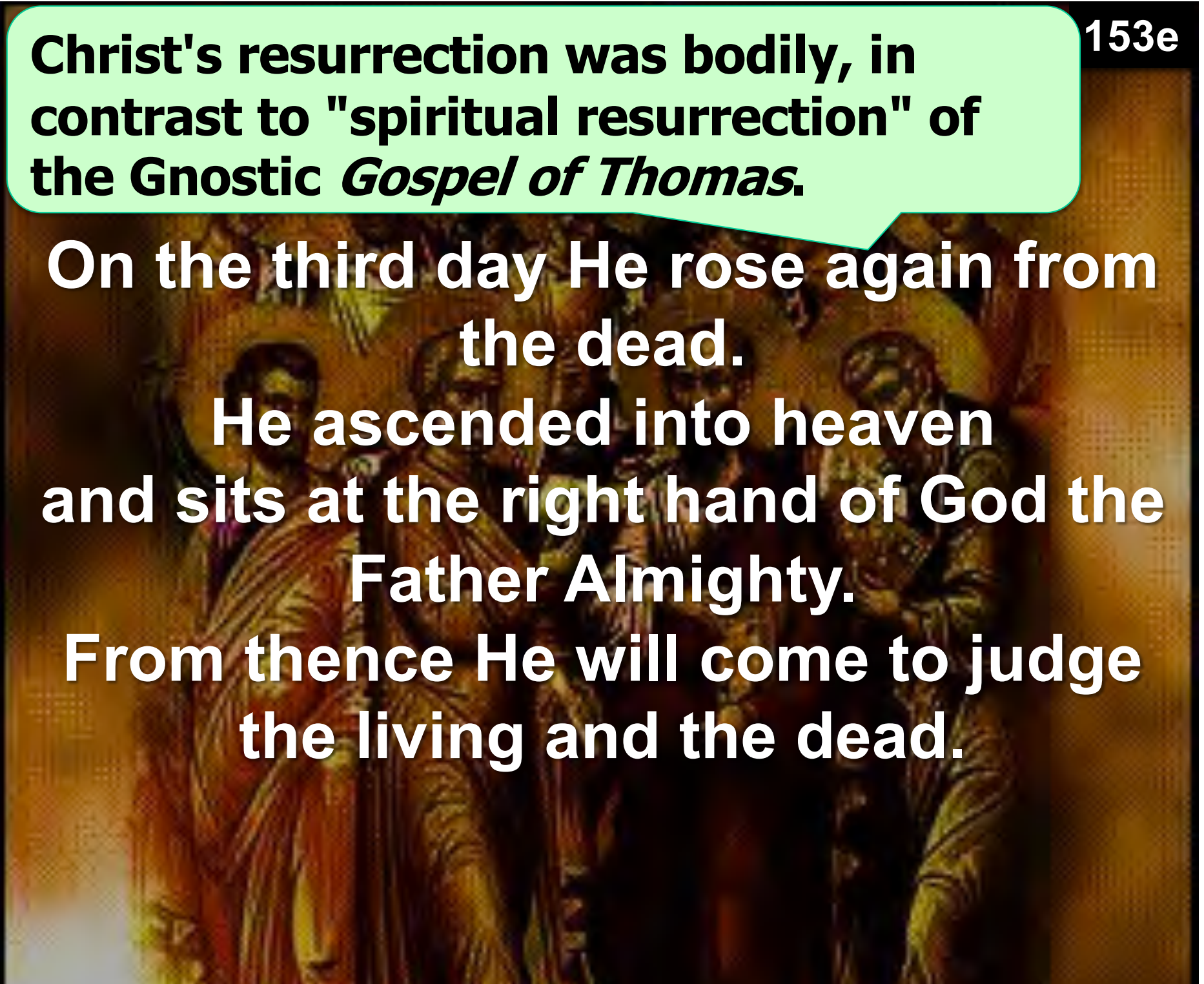
His death was not myth but in history during Pilate's rule (AD 26-36).

Christ's resurrection was bodily, in contrast to "spiritual resurrection" of the Gnostic *Gospel of Thomas*.

On the third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.



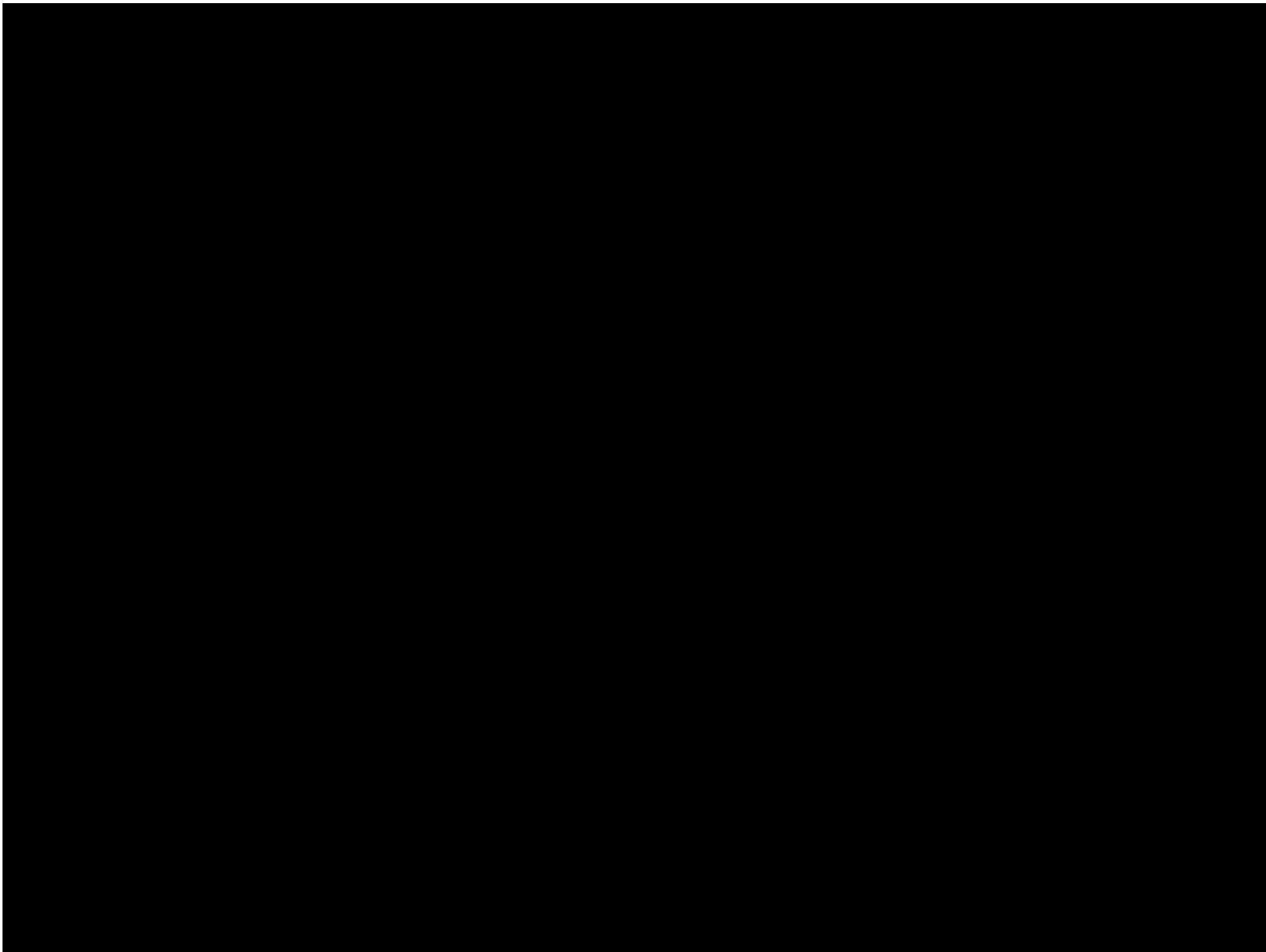
Instead of salvation by "special knowledge" (*gnosis*) for only a special few, all saints in the universal ("catholic") church hold these truths.

We don't need *enlightenment* from our *ignorance*. We need *forgiveness* of our *sins*.

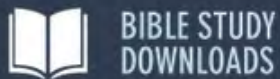
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Amen

Not just our *spirits* will join God after death. Heaven is a physical place where we will *physically* dwell with God for eternity.



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A large background image for the main banner showing a pair of hands holding an open, small, black leather-bound book with yellowed pages. The hands are weathered and the lighting is warm.

Welcome

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