**Faith Foundations 2022-2023**

**The Catholic Epistles, Part 2**

**Session 10—Jude 8-16**

**In this middle section of the book of Jude, the author continues his denunciation of false teachers, much like we read in 2 Peter several weeks ago. In this case, however, Jude uses different examples to make his points than Peter does, and he does so in a very interesting way. Unless you have read this passage from Jude before, some of these examples will be completely new and unfamiliar to you.**

**Read Jude 8-13. On what do the false teachers “rely?” What does this mean?**

**Because of their reliance on their dreams, what do the false teachers do?**

**In verse 9, what example does Jude use to contrast righteous conduct with the sinfulness of the false teachers? Where is this story found in the Bible? (Hint: This is a trick question!)**

**Who is Michael, and what is his role elsewhere in Scripture (see Daniel 12:1-3 and Revelation 12:7-12)?**

**Read Deuteronomy 34:1-6 and Zechariah 3:1-2. How do these two passages provide some context to the event Jude describes?**

**If you have time, do a little online research into this question on your own. From which ancient document does Jude’s example in this verse probably come?**

**What do the false teachers do to those things they do not understand?**

**What do the things the false teachers *do* understand do to them? Why might this be?**

**Which three biblical examples does Jude use to describe the errors of the false teachers? Skim Genesis 4:1-16, Numbers 22-24, and Numbers 16 to familiarize yourself with them. How do these examples illustrate Jude’s points about the false teachers?**

**How are the false teachers “hidden reefs?” What does this mean?**

**What are love feasts, and what are the false teachers doing at them?**

**How else does Jude describe the false teachers in verses 12-13? What is he conveying with these descriptions?**

**What has been reserved for the false teachers? What is this talking about?**

**Read Jude 14-16. Whom does Jude quote to further illustrate his point about the false teachers? Where in the Bible is this quote found? (Hint: This is another trick question!)**

**If you have time, do some more online research on your own into this passage. From which ancient document does this quote actually come?**

**What point is Jude making by using this quote?**

**In verse 16, how does Jude put the finishing touches on his description of the false teachers? What overall picture of these people is he presenting to his readers?**

**Like Peter, Jude uses examples with which his readers would have been familiar to make his point, except some of his examples are extrabiblical in origin. This is much like a pastor using pop culture references in a sermon to illustrate a point, so there is no need to be disturbed by the presence of this material, as some theologians (such as Martin Luther) have been over the centuries. It does, however, make for some interesting discussion!**

**Regardless, the point is clear: false teaching in the church is extremely dangerous, and it must be called out and removed when it is discovered. Failure to do so can lead to compromise on the Word of God and the Gospel of Jesus Christ, which the church can never allow. Thankfully, God will not permit the false teachers to prevail forever; He will rescue His people from them and shine the pure light of His Word on their heresy. Even if they seem to have the upper hand at any given time, God always remains in control!**