

CONTENDING FOR OUR FAITH

Lesson 2: Historical Precedents of Judgment Jude 5-7

- I. **The 1st historical precedent of judgment:** The Lord took most of the lives of the Exodus believers before they could enter the Promised Land, because they failed to believe His word at Kadesh Barnea – v.5.
 - A. The nation of Israel was redeemed on the first Passover and began a journey of faith to the Promised Land – Exodus 12:12-13, 14:30-31, 15:1-3.
 - B. The Israelites refused to believe God’s promise that He would defeat the Canaanites and lead them to take possession of the Promised Land – Numbers 13:26-14:4.
 - C. The Lord took all but two of the Israelite men’s lives over the next forty years, so they would not be able to possess the Promised Land – Numbers 14:26-30, Hebrews 3:16-19.

- II. **The 2nd historical precedent of judgment:** The Lord confined the fallen angels to await their eternal sentencing for having sexual relations with human women prior to the world-wide flood (cp. Genesis 6:1-4) – v.6.
 - A. The term "sons of God" refers to fallen angels in Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7; Psalm 29:1; 89:6.
 - B. Angels have often taken on human form and performed many human functions according to Genesis 18:1-16; 19:3-5.
 - C. The type of sexual relations between these fallen angels and human women was highly unusual in producing the "nephilim" as a giant offspring and serving as a major reason for the world-wide flood.

- III. **The 3rd historical precedent of judgment:** The Lord destroyed the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah for going after strange flesh in their rampant pursuit of homosexuality (cp. Genesis 18-19) – v.7.
 - A. Two angels personally witnessed the rampant homosexuality of the Sodomites – Genesis 19:1-11.
 - B. Lot and his family were rescued from the annihilation of Sodom and Gomorrah and permitted to live in Zoar – Genesis 19:12-29.
 - C. Lot and his daughters engaged in incestuous sexual relations, culminating in the births of the Moabites and Ammonites – Genesis 19:30-38.

Conclusion: As we contend for our faith, we need to work through the illusions of popularity as validation (Luke 6:26), charisma as indispensable (2 Corinthians 11:14), and success as the bottom line (1 Corinthians 4:2).