

# CONTENDING FOR OUR FAITH

## Lesson 3: The Arrogance and Implosion of False Teachers Jude 8-11

- I. **Fabricating their own kingdoms:** False teachers are fabricators of their own kingdoms where they consume human flesh and mock all authority but themselves – v.8.
  - Self-generated dreams are used to substantiate their claims
  - Human beings are viewed as pawns to be exploited for their own ends
  - Authoritative beings are disregarded to justify their own position
  - Angelic dignitaries are blasphemed and ridiculed to elevate themselves
  
- II. **Ignoring the archangel's example:** False teachers ignore the model of God's archangel Michael who acknowledged Satan's power and referred his dispute with him to the Lord – v.9.
  - Apparently Satan had a legitimate claim to the corpse of Moses
  - The Lord may have decided to hide Moses' corpse lest it become an object of worship among the Israelites
  - The archangel was ordered to secure Moses' corpse from Satan
  - In his dispute with Satan, Michael acquiesced and appealed to God's authority so the body would be released to him
  - The Lord buried Moses' corpse in a secret place (Deuteronomy 34:6)
  - Satan's claim to human corpses will be terminated when the Lord raises the dead through bodily resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:54-55; 1 Thessalonians 4:16)
  
- III. **Behaving like egotistical nitwits:** The ignorance of false teachers permits them to be arrogant toward invisible powers at the same time their knowledge of natural laws provides no protection from ruination when they violate them – v.10.
  
- IV. **Sealing their doom:** False teachers are as doomed as faithless Cain (Genesis 4:1-8), greedy Balaam (Numbers 22:1-22), and rebellious Korah (Numbers 16:1-35) – v.11.
  - Faithless Cain developed his own brand of religion (Genesis 4:2-5), rejected God's forgiveness (4:6-7), and took the lives of those who stood in his way (4:8)
  - Greedy Balaam demonstrated that he was ultimately motivated by money (Numbers 22:7-13,15-21)
  - Rebellious Korah demonstrated that the quest to usurp God-ordained authority leads to disaster (Numbers 16:1-3)