Intro: 11 Woe to them! For they walked in the way of Cain and abandoned themselves for the sake of gain to Balaam’s error and perished in Korah’s rebellion. 12 These are hidden reefs at your love feasts, as they feast with you without fear, shepherds feeding themselves; waterless clouds, swept along by winds; fruitless trees in late autumn, twice dead, uprooted;

XI. America has followed in the way of Cain – 11 Woe to them! For they walked in the way of Cain and abandoned themselves for the sake of gain to Balaam’s error and perished in Korah’s rebellion.

a. Cain’s way was the way of Jealousy

• He allowed His jealousy to turn into uncontrollable anger. Which lead to murdering his brother. God accepted Abel’s sacrifice and rejected his which led him to become jealous and angry.

° 6 Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm, for love is strong as death, jealousy is fierce as the grave. Its flashes are flashes of fire, the very flame of the Lord. Song of Songs 8:6

b. Cain’s way was the way unbelief

• He didn’t believe in what God would say He would do. The reason why God favor was on Abel and not Cain was lack of belief. It was by faith (believing) Abel offered a better sacrifice than Cain. It wasn’t that Cain didn’t offer a sacrifice, but he didn’t have faith when he offered it. He didn’t believe in God on a personal basis. He talked with God, he knew God existed, he just didn’t believe in God. People talk to God every day, people know that God exists, they just don’t believe in God personally.

° 4 By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. Hebrews 11:4

c. Cain’s way was the way of murder

• His jealousy led him to his anger and then his anger led him to commit murder. We should never let our anger lead us to sin against our Christian family, or anyone for that matter. We should never give the devil any place in our lives to commit sin.

° 25 Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. 26 Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, 27 and give no opportunity to the devil. Ephesians 4:25-27

XII. America has followed in the way of Balaam – 11 Woe to them! For they walked in the way of Cain and abandoned themselves for the sake of gain to Balaam’s error and perished in Korah’s rebellion.

a. Balaam used his God-given talents for illicit purposes

• Even though he knew Balak was God’s enemy, he tried to sell his prophetic gifts to help him. When that didn’t work, Balaam counseled Balak on the most effective way to weaken Israel. This was through seduction, using Moabite and Midianite women to tempt the Israelites into sexual relationships and into pagan rituals. The Israelites who participated brought God’s judgment upon themselves.

b. Balaam’s way is to promote deception for financial reasons

• You can find this in Numbers 22:7-22. According to Jude v. 11, Balaam’s “error” was his willingness to accommodate pagan beliefs out of greed. Jude v. 4 also refers to the sin of those “who pervert the grace of our God into a license for immorality.” One trait of false teachers in the church is that they attempt to turn Christian liberty into a “freedom” to be wild. You could call him the modern-day Kenneth Copeland, Benny Hinn, Joyce Meyers of our day. Balaam’s donkey was had more respect for the Lord’s calling than he did (Num. 22:22-41).

c. The way of Balaam is to compromise with the world and get paid

• In practical terms, the teaching or doctrine of Balaam is the view that Christians can—or even should—compromise their convictions for the sake of popularity, money, sexual gratification, or personal gain. It’s the attitude that treats sin as “no big deal.” Christians can’t—and shouldn’t—totally shun the presence of sinners or unbelievers, but we are obligated to stand up for truth – Eph. 4:25, righteousness – Prov. 23:20; Rom. 14:22, and goodness 2Pt. 1:5, Mat. 5:16, whether it’s what others want to hear or not – Jn. 4:16-18; 8:11; Acts 24:24, 25.

° 25 Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

XIII. America has walked in the way of Korah – 11 Woe to them! For they walked in the way of Cain and abandoned themselves for the sake of gain to Balaam’s error and perished in Korah’s rebellion.

a. The way of Korah is rebelling against church leadership

• The story of the rebellion of Korah is recorded in Num. 16. The rebellion of Korah demonstrates the grim consequences of assuming the authority over God and of those whom He has chosen to be leaders of His people. He gathered 250 other men to challenge Moses’ authority as well: “You have gone too far! The whole community is holy, every one of them, and the Lord is with them.”

b. The way of Korah thinks they can do a better job than God

• Obviously, Korah thought that he could do a better job leading the people than Moses was doing. But by leading this revolt against God’s divinely appointed leaders, Korah was actually revolting against God. Moses proposed a test to prove the source of his authority. Korah and his followers did not pass the test, and God opened up the earth and swallowed the rebels, their families, and all their possessions. Furthermore, “fire came out from the LORD” and consumed the other 250 men who were party to Korah’s rebellion. The rest of the Israelites were terrified and fled.

c. Today’s way of Korah disregards God’s plan and authority

• The characteristics of false teachers within the church include pride, selfishness, jealousy, greed, lust for power, and disregard for the will of God. Just like Korah, today’s false teachers disregard God’s plan and are insubordinate to God’s appointed authorities. Their end will be the same as Korah’s. Thus, the warning: “Woe to them!” God had no interest in holding a popularity contest, collecting résumés, or letting someone appoint himself to the position of q prophet, priest, or leader. Korah’s problem was not that he was unqualified, humanly speaking, for the position, but that he was arrogant, stiff-necked, and self-promoting.

XIV. America has left a blemish upon the church – 12 These are hidden reefs at your love feasts, as they feast with you without fear, shepherds feeding themselves; waterless clouds, swept along by winds; fruitless trees in late autumn, twice dead, uprooted;

a. False teachers have hidden dangers for all Christians – “These are hidden reefs at your love feasts”

• Because of some other Pastor has a certain problem we all then have the save problem. If the Roman Catholic Priest have a problem with molesting children, then we all have the problem of molesting children. The world will put all Christians under the umbrella of a sin they point out to be. This blemish is a dark spot that the church will not address for fear of being called a hypocrite.

° 27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. Ephesians 5:27

b. They will play Christian during fellowship without fear – “as they feast with you without fear”

• They have no shame. They will show up for fellowship, worship, church gatherings, any church socials and put on the act of Christendom, they can fool even their mothers.

° 15 “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. Matthew 7:15

c. They are fake pastors feeding themselves – “shepherds feeding themselves”

• We are taught to feed the sheep, and instead they are feeding their selfish wants. Name any T.V. pastor and I would grant you that 99 percent of them fit the verse. They are only looking out for themselves. They feed you 100 percent fake doctrine, only to find you poor. While they buy their islands, jets, and keep their millions. They say if you tithe a hundred dollars God is required to give to you a 100-fold. This is false and this is what this verse is talking about.

° 23 Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or ‘There he is!’ do not believe it. 24 For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. 25 See, I have told you beforehand. Matthew 24:23-25

XV. American is filled with emptiness and uncertainty – 12 These are hidden reefs at your love feasts, as they feast with you without fear, shepherds feeding themselves; waterless clouds, swept along by winds; fruitless trees in late autumn, twice dead, uprooted;

a. They are empty in their personal life

• You listen to these false teachers, and they are empty. They have big ministries, big bank accounts, and a big name, but take that away and they have nothing. If they lose the ministry tomorrow, they will have nothing, even though they have everything this world has to offer. They are empty like waterless clouds.

° 24 “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money. Matthew 6:24

b. They are uncertain in their directions

• What is popular is what they will carry on with. If gay marriage will put people in the pews, then gay marriage it is; if having big programs, plays, arts, music, etc., is what will put people in the sets then bigger programs it is. Anything that carries us away from the Bible is a false doctrine.

° 9 The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps. Proverbs 16:9

c. They are fruitless in the late season

• They have big crowds but that is not what kind of fruit Jude is speaking of. They don’t have the fruit of the Spirit. They teach a false version of the Spirit. It mimics the real fruit but with a catch. They will have self-empowerment with it. It is now no longer the fruit of the Spirit, but now an atticful sweetener that is not real.

° 6 And he told this parable: A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. 7 And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ 8 And he answered him, Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. 9 Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down. Luke 13:6-9

d. They are twice dead and removed

• What does it mean twice dead? Here are some interpretations related to this verse.

1. They are dead Spiritually and Physically

° It shows that there is no hope that they will revive and be valuable to God. Using the word twice, back-to-back, expresses meaning that they are absolutely or altogether dead.

2. They are dead mentally and morally

• Life has passed over them and that no signs of life appear. They have never changed the moral and ethics of life, which has led them to be closed minded and resentful and reject-full of God’s word. They see their ministry as a burden and not a blessing. They cater to their audience and not to God. If you don’t believe me just look at Kenneth Copeland.

3. They will be uprooted or judged by God

• They may have their time for a while, but they will have the day before God.

° 21 “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ 23 And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’ Matthew 7:21-23