

Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, you and your friends who sit before you, for they are men who are a sign: behold, I will bring my servant the Branch. Zechariah 3:8 (ESV)

For behold, on the stone that I have set before Joshua, on a single stone with seven eyes, I will engrave its inscription, declares the Lord of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of this land in a single day. Zechariah 3:9 (ESV)

But these people blaspheme all that they do not understand, and they are destroyed by all that they, like unreasoning animals, understand instinctively. Jude 10 (ESV)

### How do we spot a spiritual terrorist?

1. Their dreams, visions from God, or conversations with angels are the source of authority in their life, not the Word of God.
2. They live a sexually immoral or loose lifestyle.
3. They despise authority over them. They are an authority unto themselves.
4. They disrespect angels by despising God's moral law.

### Life Group Questions

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1. Review the message. What was most impactful?
2. What is wrong with the "God told me" defense when it comes to making choices in our life?
3. How do we know if we should trust our dreams and experiences?
4. Do you think it is easy or difficult to submit to spiritual authority? In what areas of your life do you tend to reject outside authority?
5. How would you explain Jude 9 to a new student of the Bible?
6. What does Michael's dispute with Satan over the body of Moses tell us about how we are to fight with the devil? Where else in Scripture do we see this kind of strategy?
7. In Jude 10, Jude compares false believers to animals. What does he mean by that comparison? Is he simply insulting them?
8. Read 2 Peter 2:1-14. 2 Peter was written about a year before Jude. This passage is similar to the verses in Jude we are studying. What additional insights does 2 Peter provide to the challenge of spiritual terrorists that Jude is writing about?



## Jude 8-10 – How To Spot A Spiritual Terrorist

September 19, 2021

### 1. What is the difference between apostasy and spiritual terrorism?

- Apostasy is to turn you back on Jesus and leave the faith.
- Spiritual terrorism is to turn your back on Jesus then sneak back into the church and fight against the faith.

### 2. Jude is highly structured.

- In verses 5-7, we see three examples of judgement by Jesus for those who turn their back on Jesus.
- In verses 8-10, we see qualities of a spiritual terrorist that helps us spot them.
- In verse 11, we see three influences of spiritual terrorists.

### 3. We can identify a spiritual terrorist today by studying spiritual terrorists of the past.

Yet in like manner these people also, relying on their dreams, defile the flesh, reject authority, and blaspheme the glorious ones. Jude 8 (ESV)

#### A. Spiritual terrorists rely on their dreams for authority.

*...relying on their dreams... Jude 8 (ESV)*

"If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you a sign or a wonder, and the sign or wonder that he tells you comes to pass, and if he says, 'Let us go after other gods,' which you have not known, 'and let us serve them,' you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams. For the LORD your God is testing you, to know whether you love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. You shall walk after the LORD your God and fear him and keep his commandments and obey his voice, and you shall serve him and hold fast to him. But that prophet or that

dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has taught rebellion against the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you out of the house of slavery, to make you leave the way in which the LORD your God commanded you to walk. So you shall purge the evil from your midst.

Deuteronomy 13:1–5 (ESV)

Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind,... Colossians 2:18 (ESV)

#### **B. Spiritual terrorists defile the flesh.**

...defile the flesh,... Jude 8 (ESV)

And they rose up early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought peace offerings. And the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play. Exodus 32:6 (ESV)

#### **C. Spiritual terrorists reject authority.**

...reject authority,... Jude 8 (ESV)

For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ. Jude 4 (ESV)

#### **D. Spiritual terrorists blaspheme glorious ones.**

...blaspheme the glorious ones. Jude 8 (ESV)

...and especially those who indulge in the lust of defiling passion and despise authority. Bold and willful, they do not tremble as they blaspheme the glorious ones, whereas angels, though greater in might and power, do not pronounce a blasphemous judgment against them before the Lord. 2 Peter 2:10–11 (ESV)

He said, "The LORD came from Sinai and dawned from Seir upon us; he shone forth from Mount Paran; he came from the ten thousands of holy ones, with flaming fire at his right hand. Deuteronomy 33:2 (ESV)

The chariots of God are twice ten thousand, thousands upon thousands; the Lord is among them; Sinai is now in the sanctuary. Psalm 68:17 (ESV)

...you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it. Acts 7:53 (ESV)

Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation?... Hebrews 2:1–3 (ESV)

For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ. Jude 4 (ESV)

### **4. The archangel Michael contending with Satan for the body of Moses is an example of angelic humility.**

But when the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, was disputing about the body of Moses, he did not presume to pronounce a blasphemous judgment, but said, "The Lord rebuke you." Jude 9 (ESV)

#### **A. When Jude quotes from a book that is not part of our Bible, that doesn't mean the book should become part of the Bible.**

for " 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, " 'For we are indeed his offspring.' Acts 17:28 (ESV)

Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. Revelation 12:7–8 (ESV)

And the Lord said to Satan, "The Lord rebuke you, O Satan! The Lord who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is not this a brand plucked from the fire?" Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments. And the angel said to those who were standing before him, "Remove the filthy garments from him." And to him he said, "Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments." Zechariah 3:2–4 (ESV)