



They invited themselves or did they?

August 19, 2019

JUDE 4 NKJV - (4) 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.

Notice the scripture says, "**certain people have crept in unnoticed**", meaning we didn't know they were in place, but certain people have also crept in whom we invited! Let's look at the scripture: I would like to make a statement concerning the men / women who come into churches and lead them astray. They are better known as "**false teachers**." "The apostle (Jude) now gives a reason for thus defending the truth, that there were artful and wicked men who had crept into the church, pretending to be religious teachers, but whose doctrines tended to drain the very foundations of truth." The fact these false teachers were able to creep into a church shows the shepherd of the church and/or the people let their guard down. They clearly were complacent and content watchmen sleep on the job.

"Now the Spirit speaks expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;" (**1 Timothy 4:1**) Churches are rarely destroyed from outside. It is the Devil's cunning trick to send in a uncalled man / woman who is poorly trained and not well equipped for the ministry. These "hirelings", having no call of God, aspire to the ministry as a profession. They are smooth talkers often well versed in modern psychology. Their message is weak and watery and contains no meat (substance). In order to hold the crowd they turn to manipulation often by music, emotion, unproductive religious programs, etc. Application of God's word is practically missing!

It benefits every church of God **that loves the Lord** and **His word** to be on guard. Satan has such a man / woman readily and available to move and take over every sound biblical church. These outward charismatic preachers / teachers change the grace of God into lasciviousness, which means something indecent, wanton and without restraint. No leader of a church is perfect, but they are to stand in high esteem because of the Spirit of God is upon them. Much more could be said, I'll just end by saying, "**don't be deceived.**"

SCRIPTURE READING

EZEKIEL 13:9

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Integrity: Who you are when the light is out.