

**Homework**  
**Session Three: Having Not the Spirit**

1. This week we opened up with the example of an apostate being likened to a military commander who has not only abandoned his post/assignment, but has taken others along with him. Consider Jude v8: *"Likewise also these dreamers defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of dignitaries."* Now answer the following.

- a. Imagine a high ranking military official deserting his post. What do you think would happen to this individual if apprehended by his leaders?
- b. In your opinion, what would or could cause a military official to abandon his assignment? How could he convince others to do the same?
- c. What parallel(s) can we draw as we think about this as a spiritual principle?

2. Jude v10 says, *"But these speak evil of whatever they do not know, and whatever they know naturally, like brute beasts, in these things they corrupt themselves."* The word *brute* in the NT is *álogos*, meaning **irrational, destitute of reason, contrary to reason, absurd**.

- a. Read Galatians 5:16,17 and explain what is activated within us when we are exhibiting "brutish" behavior according to the Word.
- b. Now read James 1:21-24. What would cause someone to forget what kind of person they are?
- c. Why is it so important to walk in the light of truth that we understand in God's Word?

This week we looked at three character profiles of those who would find themselves separated eternally from God: Cain, Balaam, and Korah. The next questions will deal with them.

3. **Cain.** Read Genesis 4:1-7, paying attention to verses 6 and 7. Now read 1 Peter 5:6-8. If Cain had the advantage of possessing the New Testament, what encouragement could he have found in those verses? What were some of Cain's issues, according to these passages?

4. **Balaam.** (His full story can be found in Numbers 22-24.) Read Numbers 31:15,16. These verses tell how through Balaam's counsel, Israel's enemies were able to cause God's people to sin. Now read what Jesus said to the church in Pergamos, Revelation 2:14,15.

- a. What is the "doctrine of Balaam"?
- b. In Session One, we discussed how the Nicolaitans taught that there needn't be a separation between idol worship and Christian worship. How are the doctrines of Balaam and the Nicolaitans the same?
- c. Read Galatians 1:6-10. With what you have learned so far about the danger of erroneous teaching, share your thoughts about what Paul has to say in these verses.

5. **Korah.** Read Numbers 16. Make your own observations about this story and write a few of them here:

6. Numbers 16:41 is very interesting. Who do the people accuse of killing Korah and his followers? Why do you think the children of Israel were blinded to the truth?

- a. Numbers 16:49 states that 14,700 people died in a plague; clearly we can see that the rebellion of Korah defiled many which ended up in physical death. In what ways did those who perished in the plague become tainted by Korah?

7. Read Psalm 103. Verse 7 says, "*He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel.*" The word used for ways in Hebrew is *derek*, meaning **a pathway; a course of life; manner**. The word used for acts is *`aliylah*, meaning **works; exploit, or performance**. Why is it more important to know God's ways and not just His acts?