

Jude: WOLVES AMONG US Week 2 — Beware the Way of Destruction Jude 5–16 | March 15, 2026

False teachers do not usually appear obvious at first. They sound convincing, look impressive, and use spiritual language — but they lead people away from truth and toward destruction.

Jude reminds us that discernment matters because **not every spiritual voice is safe, and not every popular voice is faithful.**

This Isn't New — Jude's Hall of Shame

Jude points backward before he looks around.

Three Historical Warnings

Case File Number One: Israel in the Wilderness

They saw God's power, yet still chose unbelief and rebellion.

Lesson: Seeing spiritual things is not the same as trusting God.

Case File Number Two: The Fallen Angels

They rejected God's appointed authority and now await judgment.

Lesson: No one is above God's judgment.

Case File Number Three: Sodom and Gomorrah

They gave themselves over to rebellion and sexual immorality.

Lesson: God's judgment against sin is real, even if delayed.

Three False Teacher Patterns

Jude gives three recognizable profiles:

The Way of Cain - *(Genesis 4:1–16; 1 John 3:12)*

Self-directed worship.

Wanting God on your own terms, then becoming angry when He does not comply.

Balaam's Error *(Numbers 22–24; 31:16; 2 Peter 2:15; Revelation 2:14)*

Using spiritual influence for personal gain.

Turning ministry into a commodity.

Korah's Rebellion *(Numbers 16:1–35; Psalm 106:16–18)*

Rejecting God-given authority and craving power or platform for yourself.

Recognizing False Teachers Today: Wolves With Ring Lights

Jude says they are:

- **Hidden reefs** — dangerous beneath the surface
- **Shepherds feeding themselves** — self-serving leaders
- **Waterless clouds** — all promise, no nourishment
- **Fruitless trees** — appearance without real spiritual life
- **Wild waves** — noisy, unstable, shame-producing
- **Wandering stars** — impressive to look at, unsafe to follow

Four Practical Discernment Tools

1. Know Your Bible — Not Just Your Favorite Verses

False teachers love isolated verses.

Read whole books. Learn the whole counsel of God.

2. Check the Doctrine

Ask:

- What do they teach about Jesus?
- What do they teach about Scripture?
- What do they teach about sin and salvation?

3. Examine the Fruit

Look beyond platform, excitement, and emotion.

Ask whether the teaching produces holiness, humility, truth, and Christlikeness.

4. Be Under Accountability

You were not meant to disciple yourself in isolation.

Be in a local church. Be known. Be corrected. Be encouraged.

Four Questions to Ask This Week

1. Does this teacher clearly preach the whole counsel of God, or just the parts that keep them popular?

2. Do I actually know what they believe about Jesus, sin, and salvation — or do I just know how they make me feel?

3. What kind of fruit is this teaching producing in others — and in me?

4. Am I being shaped primarily by a screen, or by a real, local, accountable church family?

This Week's Challenge

Audit your spiritual feed.

Look at:

- Podcasts
- YouTube subscriptions
- Instagram voices
- TikTok voices
- Worship influences

Then make changes where needed.

Unfollow what is entertaining but not discipling you.

Unsubscribe from voices that are popular but unfaithful.

Prioritize Scripture, Sunday gathering, and accountable church community.

Closing Encouragement

"Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling..." — Jude 24

Your ultimate safety is not in your own ability to spot every counterfeit.

Your safety is in **the God who keeps you.**

Do not follow the voice into the lake.

Know the Shepherd.

Know His voice.