

Characteristics of Creepers and Counterfeits

Jude 11-13

I. Illustrations from the Old Testament 11

1. They are like *Cain* who was: religious yet came to God in an unacceptable way
- Gen 4:4
2. They are like *Balaam* who was: greedy for money and wealth
 - ii. Num 22-24
 - iii. 2 Pet 2:14-15
 - iv. Tit 1:11; 2 Pet 2:4; Matt 23:25
3. They are like *Korah* who was openly rebellious
- Num 16

II. Illustrations from Nature 12-13

4. Like *hidden reefs*, they are dangerous and unseen
“Hidden Reefs...”
 - i. They look like other Christians Matt 7:15; 2 Cor 11:14
 - ii. They often have the title or position of spiritual leadership
 - iii. They often oppose the truth indirectly“In your love feasts...”
5. Like *selfish shepherds*, they care for themselves – not the flock
 - i. The word caring is the verb “to shepherd”
 - ii. Ez 34:1-6; Jn 10:13
6. Like *waterless clouds*, they promise relief but are useless
- Prov 25:14
7. Like *dead trees*, they are fruitless, lifeless, and barren
 - i. False teachers lack fruit Gal 5:22-23; Heb 13:15; Eph 5:9
 - ii. You will know them by their fruits Matt 7:16-18
8. Like *raging waves*, they churn up and leave behind filth
9. Like *wandering stars*, they lead others astray

III. Applications

Be committed to sound doctrine and the truth of Christ!