

Memory Verse

Jude 11

Woe to them! For they walked in the way of Cain and abandoned themselves for the sake of gain to Balaam's error and perished in Korah's rebellion.

GRACELIFE



CHURCH

JUDE

Defend the Faith,
Grow in Grace

Pt. 7 – 3 Examples of
False Teachers Pt. 1

Jude, written before 70AD to Jewish followers of Christ warns of false teachers. We've seen *Jude's warning* about the character, teaching and lifestyle of these individuals who have *turned away from truth*, or apostatized. We have *contrasted them* with what *Biblical leaders should be based on 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1*. We come to *verse 11*, and learn about **3 historic examples** Jude gives as an illustration of what he has been saying about false teachers.

Jude 11

Woe to them! For they walked in the way of Cain and abandoned themselves for the sake of gain to Balaam's error and perished in Korah's rebellion.

A. 11a – Woe to Them!

In *true Old Testament prophetic style*, Jude begins *verse 11* with a pronouncement of judgment on the false teachers. The word "woe" in the Old and New Testament was a *declaration of God's judgment* on those who were against Him and refused to repent.

A. 11a – Woe to Them!

Isaiah 5:8-23

Isaiah 5:20-21 - **Woe** to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter! 21**Woe** to those who are wise in their own eyes, and shrewd in their own sight!

A. 11a – Woe to Them!

Habakkuk 2:6-20

Habakkuk 2:19 - **Woe** to him who says to a wooden thing, "Awake," to a silent stone, "Arise!" Can this teach? Behold, it is overlaid with gold and silver, and there is no breath at all in it.

A. 11a – Woe to Them!

Matthew 23:1-36

Matthew 23:27 - “**Woe** to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within are full of dead people’s bones and all uncleanness.

B. 11b – The Way of Cain

Genesis 4:1-24 and 1 John 3:12

The "*way of Cain*" is **going down Cain's path**, as the *NET states*. This means false teachers went down the same road as Cain. What road is that?
Genesis 4.

Genesis 4:3-10 - In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, 4and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, 5but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. 6The LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? 7If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not

well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it.” 8Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. 9Then the LORD said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” He said, “I do not know; am I my brother’s keeper?” 10And the LORD said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to me from the ground.

B. 11b – The Way of Cain

Hebrews 11 says Abel's offering was done *by faith*, whereas Cain's offering was *not*. Some say it had to do with *Abel's offering of an animal* and *Cain's offering of fruit*. God never rebukes Cain for **what** he offered, but **how** he offered it. You may ask, "How did Cain know his offering was *not accepted*?" We are not told. We are told what the Lord said to him, and what Cain did.

B. 11b – The Way of Cain

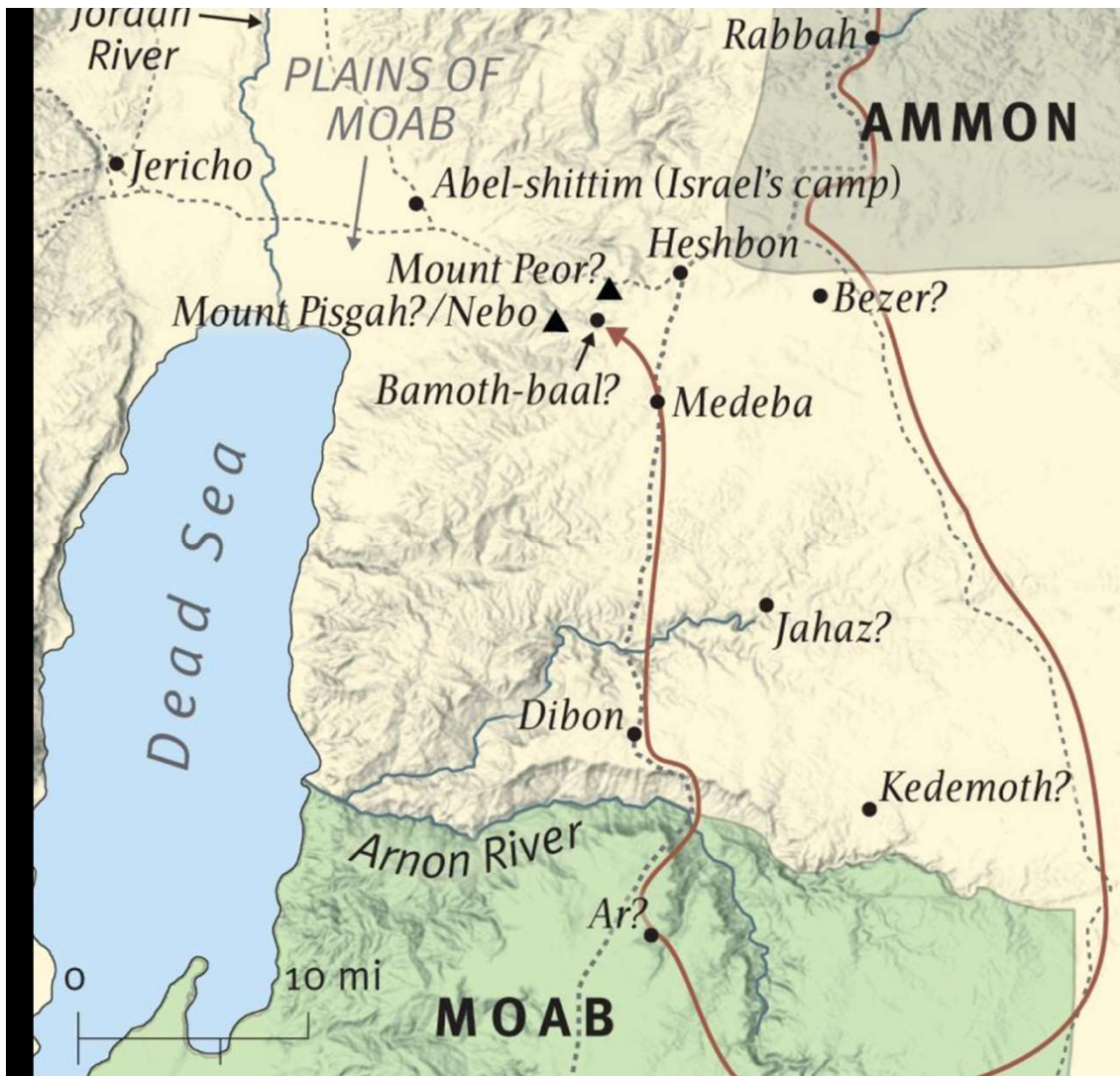
Cain's anger was *first against God, then his brother*. He murdered his brother because he was angry at God! Beware of unjust anger! It will eat at you like cancer, and you **will eventually end up killing someone**, physically, verbally, mentally, emotionally and more. It **all goes back to being angry at God**.

C. 11c – The Greed of Balaam

Numbers 22-24, 31 and 2 Peter 2:15

From the way of Cain, we come to the greed of Balaam. Jude uses an Old Testament historical example of a *false prophet*. Peter says in:

2 Peter 2:15 - forsaking the right way, they [**false teachers**] have gone astray, having followed the way of Balaam, the *son* of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;



Balaam
blesses
Israel

From the ESV
Study Bible

C. 11c – The Greed of Balaam

As you read this, you find Balaam was greedy: *Numbers 22:7, 18, and 24:12* talk about his greed. In *Numbers 25*, you find that **Baal**, a pagan god, was *worshipped at Peor*. In *Numbers 31* God tells Moses to have the Israelites go to war against the Midianites. They win, and kill Balaam. He *connected the Israelites* in the *pagan worship* of Baal, and *sexual immorality* with the women of the Midianites.

D. 11d – The Rebellion of Korah

Numbers 16:1-35

These false teachers will *perish or be judged* like Korah. The certainty of their judgment is again in view in this part of the verse.

Who was Korah? We back to the Old Testament again, to *Numbers 16*.

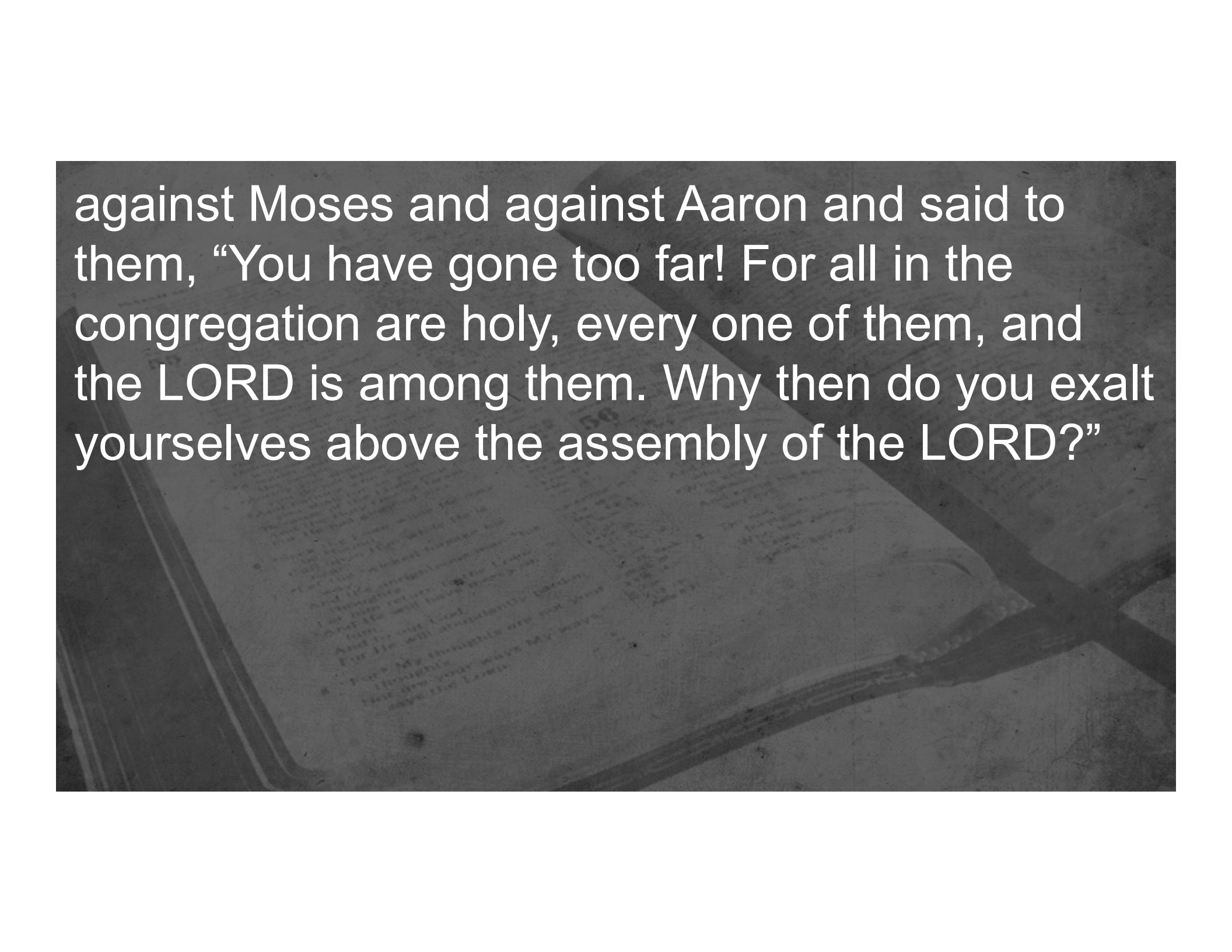
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Who was Korah? We back to the Old Testament again, to *Numbers 16*.

Numbers 16:1-3 - Now Korah the son of Izhar, son of Kohath, son of Levi, and Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab, and On the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took men. 2And they rose up before Moses, with a number of the people of Israel, 250 chiefs of the congregation, chosen from the assembly, well-known men. 3They assembled themselves together

The background of the image is a dark, grayscale photograph of an open book. The pages are visible, with some text faintly legible, including the words "And the LORD is among them." and "Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?". The text is overlaid in a large, white, sans-serif font.

against Moses and against Aaron and said to them, “You have gone too far! For all in the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?”

D. 11d – The Rebellion of Korah

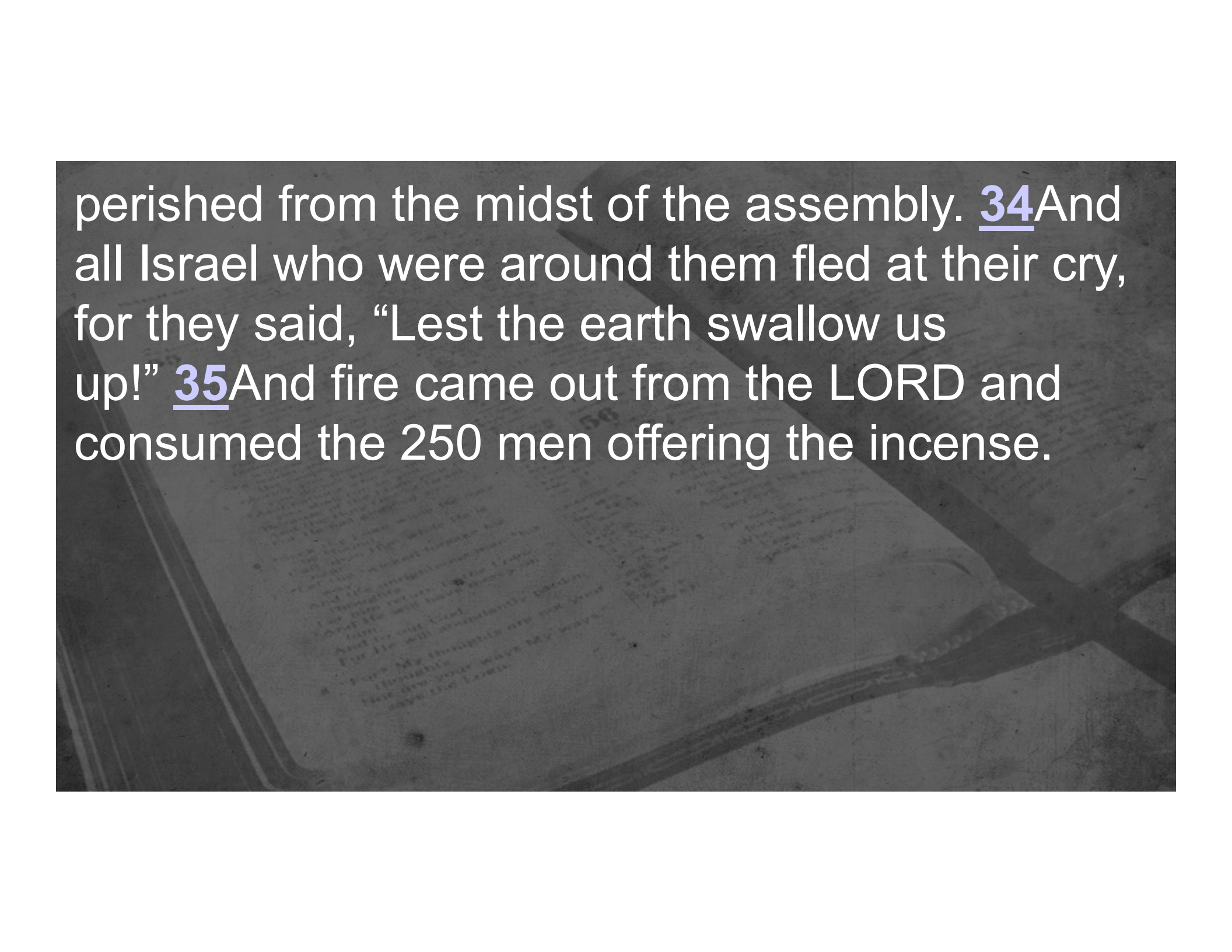
In verses 4-27, Moses fell on his face and said to them in the morning the LORD will show whom He has chosen. He said to take an item used in the sacrifices, put fire in it and *bring it before the LORD tomorrow*. God said He would destroy the congregation, but Moses and Aaron interceded for them. God said He would *only punish the guilty party*. Moses told everyone to get away from Korah and those who rebelled.

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Numbers 16:28-35 - 28And Moses said, “Hereby you shall know that the LORD has sent me to do all these works, and that it has not been of my own accord. 29If these men die as all men die, or if they are visited by the fate of all mankind, then the LORD has not sent me. 30But if the LORD creates something new, and the ground opens its mouth and swallows them up with all that belongs to them, and they go down alive into

Sheol, then you shall know that these men have despised the LORD.” 31And as soon as he had finished speaking all these words, the ground under them split apart. 32And the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, with their households and all the people who belonged to Korah and all their goods. 33So they and all that belonged to them went down alive into Sheol, and the earth closed over them, and they



perished from the midst of the assembly. 34And all Israel who were around them fled at their cry, for they said, “Lest the earth swallow us up!” 35And fire came out from the LORD and consumed the 250 men offering the incense.

D. 11d – The Rebellion of Korah

False teachers **will be judged**. They *rebelled against God's word*, and the *apostles*.

False teachers/prophets rebel against the word of God today. They *reject God's truth*, and create their own ideas and proclaim them as God's truth. **They are blasphemous!**

D. 11d – The Rebellion of Korah

1 *Timothy* 3:1-3 - The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. 2Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, **respectable**, hospitable, able to teach, 3not a drunkard, **not violent but gentle**, not quarrelsome, **not a lover of money**.

D. 11d – The Rebellion of Korah

Paul says a Godly overseer, pastor, bishop or elder, words used interchangeably, *must not be violent, like Cain*. The KJV uses the words “*striker*” and “*not a brawler*” to describe this. *He must not be greedy, like Balaam!* He knows that money is needed, and may *ask for it at times*, or *ask for a raise when needed*. But he **doesn't love it!**



*False teachers use the Lord to
honor themselves.*

*True teachers use money to
honor the Lord.*