## "Know Your Enemy, Part 1"

Sunday, March 5, 2023, 10:30 a.m. Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI Pastor Jonathan DeCou Jude 1:5-11

**BIG IDEA**: Aim at nothing, you'll hit it every time.

"I want to remind you...
you came to know these things once and for all..."
Jude 1:5a (CSB)

## **Past** ungodliness <u>recalled</u>. (v5-7)

- O Recall Israel's belligerent unbelief. (v5)
- O Recall the fallen angels' arrogant rebellion. (v6)
- Recall Sodom & Gomorrah's gross sensuality. (v7)

## Present ungodliness exposed. (v8-11)

- An ancient <u>illustration</u>. (v8-10)
  - The dispute between the <u>devil</u> and <u>Michael</u> the <u>archangel</u>.
- Three tragic <u>characterizations</u>. (v11)
  - The way of Cain: <u>Self-sufficient disobedience</u>. (v11a)
  - Balaam's error: Immoral "ministry" for mere profit.
     (v11b)
  - Korah's rebellion: <u>Defiance</u> against God's <u>appointed</u> <u>authority</u>. (v11c)

BIG IDEA: Aim at nothing, you'll hit it every time.

READ: Jude 1:1-25, then review v5-11

**THINK**: Contemplate Jude's exposé of ungodly heretical false teachers, then ask yourself these questions: What was your favorite Bible story growing up? Why? What is the similar result for the three past examples of ungodliness Jude cites? How could "chosen people" end up deserving judgment? Why does Jude recall the specific sins of unbelief, rebellion, and sensuality? What strikes you about the conflict between Michael the archangel and the devil? Why does Jude characterize present-day heretical false teachers as disobedient, greedy, immoral, and defiant? How would these traits be obvious?

**DO**: Write up a strategy for you to personally avoid the failures Jude warns about, then share your plan with at least one other individual.