



[Jude 1:6-9](#)

(6) And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority but abandoned their own home—these he has kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains for judgment on the great Day. (7) In a similar way, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding towns gave themselves up to sexual immorality and perversion. They serve as an example of those who suffer the punishment of eternal fire. (8) In the very same way, these dreamers pollute their own bodies, reject authority and slander celestial beings. (9) But even the archangel Michael, when he was disputing with the devil about the body of Moses, did not dare to bring a slanderous accusation against him, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

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Jude is attacking [false prophets](#), and thus men and demons are interwoven in the context. He indicts these false prophets for three sins:

1. Lust: They defile the flesh, allowing a feeling to take them over the edge into sin.
2. Rebellion: They flout authority in general, but primarily that of Christ. It is hidden in the Greek, but the word *authority* is really "lordship." It normally refers to Christ and His lordship over us.
3. Disrespect or disregard of spirit beings.

This third [sin](#) is interesting because he is saying that it is not that these false prophets will not talk about [Satan](#), but their speech is gratuitous, despising, or denigrating of angelic powers. Their preaching suggests that these demons are not something Christians need to be concerned about. They side-step the issue.

Why would they do that? Because a false spirit is leading them, so they downgrade the existence and powers of demons through their preaching. This is clearly seen in

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Protestant Christianity, especially the mainline denominations that have gone to the point that they almost universally agree that Satan the Devil and his demons do not really exist. It shows how successful the demons have been in their deceptions.

On the other hand, there are evangelical or Pentecostal groups who talk about demons and Satan in a flippant, dismissive way: "Oh, we're going to put down the Devil tonight!" They say such things in their tent shows as part of their evangelistic campaigns. But what they are doing? They are putting Satan into a position where they seem to have power over him. They are so deceived.

The [truth](#) in regard to Satan is somewhere in between. The [true church](#) of [God](#) will have that truth, and they will understand that, yes, Satan is, he is powerful, but because of God, they do have power over him in that they can reject him and his deceptions. We are not puppets on a string, and he cannot influence us unless we give him the opportunity. If we are spiritually aware and can see him at work, we do not have to submit to him.

Jude is giving us signs to look for in the preaching of [false ministers](#). They will denigrate Satan and his demons, there will be indications of lusts, and they will flout the authority of Jesus Christ.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see:

[Satan \(Part 4\)](#)



Related Topics:

[Authority](#)

[Authority of Christ](#)

[Demonic principalities](#)

[False Ministers/Prophets](#)

[Lust](#)

[Rebellion](#)

[Satan](#)

[Satan's Deception](#)

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