

# As There Were...

- *But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you 2Pet. 2:1-2*
- What brought these false prophets?
- *Thus says the Lord: "Stand in the ways and see, And ask for the old paths, where the good way is, And walk in it; Then you will find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk in it.' Also, I set watchmen over you, saying, 'Listen to the sound of the trumpet!' But they said, 'We will not listen.'" Jer. 6:16-17*
- **The people wanted them!**

# As There were...

- *An astonishing and horrible thing Has been committed in the land: The prophets prophesy falsely, And the priests rule by their own power; And My people love to have it so. Jer. 5:31*
- *Indeed they are prophets of the deceit of their own heart, 27 who try to make My people forget My name by their dreams Jer. 23:26-32*
- *"The prophets prophesy lies in My name. I have not sent them, commanded them, nor spoken to them; they prophesy to you a false vision, divination, a worthless thing, and the deceit of their heart. 14:14*
- *"I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran. I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied. Jer. 23:21*

# There Will Be...

- *But false prophets also arose among the people, just as **there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce** destructive heresies 2Pet. 2:1-2*
- *For certain persons have **crept in unnoticed**, those who were **long beforehand marked out** for this condemnation, Jude 4*
- *You will know them by their fruits ... Therefore by their fruits you will know them. Mt. 7:16, 20*
- **If we seek these fruits ... we will know them.**

# Long Ago Marked Out

- *Woe to them! For they **have gone in the way of Cain**, have **run greedily in the error of Balaam** for profit, and **perished in the gainsaying of Korah.** Jude 11*
- Way of Cain – Pleasure of false worship
- Error of Balaam – Twisting Scripture to exploit lusts in weak people.
- The **Gainsaying** of Korah...
- *anti-logia* ... contradiction, controversy, disputation, opposing arguments, answering speeches, (Liddell and Scott Greek Lexicon NT:485)

# The History & Context of Korah

- God sent the 12 spies into Canaan. After their report, the people rebelled and God condemned them to die in the wilderness Num. 13-14
- The very next event is the gainsaying (controversy, contradiction, opposing arguments) of Korah.

# The Gainsaying of Korah

- Now **Korah** the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, with **Dathan** and **Abiram** the sons of Eliab, and On the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took men; 2 and they **rose up before Moses with some of the children of Israel**, two hundred and fifty leaders of the congregation, representatives of the congregation, men of renown. 3 They **gathered together against Moses and Aaron**, and said to them, **You take too much upon yourselves, for all the congregation is holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the congregation of the LORD?**

Num. 16:1-3

# The Gainsaying

- *“you take too much on yourselves”*
- *“you exalt yourselves above”* the rest of the congregation.
- *All the congregation is holy*
- *Every one of them*
- *The Lord is among them*
- *You exalt yourselves above the people.*
- Korah’s opposing argument – You have no more authority than we do. Everyone’s opinion is just as good as yours.
- Sought to remove God’s authority from Moses.

# Moses Tries to Reason with them

- *And Moses sent to call Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab, but they said, We will not come up!*
- *Is it a small thing that **you have brought us up out of a land flowing with milk and honey, to kill us in the wilderness, that you should keep acting like a prince over us?***
- *Will you put out the eyes of these men? We will not come up Num 16:12-14*
- All the miracles, God giving Moses the Law meant nothing to them.
- They refused to accept His inspiration /authority



# The Worst Possible Outcome

- *And Korah **gathered all the congregation against them** at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. Then the glory of the LORD appeared to all the congregation. 20 And the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, 21 **Separate yourselves from among this congregation, that I may consume them in a moment.** Num 16:18*
- Entire congregation persuaded by gainsaying
- It was all Moses' and Aaron's fault!
- Korah, Dathan and Abiram were now the good guys and Moses and Aaron were evil.

# God Sets Up the Consequences

- *26 And he spoke to the congregation, saying, **Depart now from the tents of these wicked men! Touch nothing of theirs, lest you be consumed in all their sins..** Num 16:25-27*

# There Would Be No Doubt

- *Then Moses said: **By this you shall know that the LORD has sent me to do all these works, for I have not done them of my own will.** 29 If these men die naturally like all men, or if they are visited by the common fate of all men, then the LORD has not sent me. 30 But **if the LORD creates a new thing, and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them up with all that belongs to them, and they go down alive into the pit, then you will understand that these men have rejected the LORD.** Num 16:28-30*

# God Leaves No Doubt

- *Now it came to pass, as he finished speaking all these words, that the ground split apart under them, 32 and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, with their households and all the men with Korah, with all their goods. Num 16:31-35*

# But It was not Enough

- Not even all that God did could bring the people out of their error and deception the arguments and contradictions Korah had created.
- *On the next day **all the congregation of the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron, saying, "You have killed the people of the Lord."** 42 Now it happened, when **the congregation had gathered against Moses and Aaron,** that they turned toward the tabernacle of meeting; and suddenly the cloud covered it, and the glory of the Lord appeared. Num 16:41-45*

# The Problem Continues Today

- *For, His letters, they say, are weighty and strong; but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech of no account. 2 Cor 10:10*
- *If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord. 38 But if anyone is ignorant, let him be ignorant. 1 Cor 14:37-38*
- Nothing has changed!
- The contradictions and controversy, disputation, opposing arguments have done the same today.

# By Their Fruits...

- Good Fruits:
- *Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, 21 for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. 2 Pet. 1:20-21*
- *All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2Tim 3:16-17*

# Fables of Today

- *For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables 2 Tim 4:3-4*
- Everyone is inspired today. Paul's words can now be set aside.
- Miracles and Signs abound.
- Trust and respect for Scripture and the inspired writings of the apostles and prophets are set aside without fear – Just as with Korah.



# The way of Truth – Evil Spoken of

- *But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. 2 And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. 3 By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; 2Pet 2:1-3*

# Truth Few Believe Today

- *5 They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world, and the world hears them. 6 We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error. 1 John 4:5-6*
- *Jesus prophesy has been fulfilled again and again*
- *Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. 14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. Mt 7:13-14*
- *Multitudes contradict Him— Just Like Korah*

# By Their Fruits...

- *"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. 22 Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' 23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!' Matt 7:21-23*

# The Gainsaying if we Don't Believe this

if you do not **BELIEVE** that I am He, you will die in your sins." Jn. 8:24

unless you **REPENT** you will all likewise perish. Lk. 13:5

if you **CONFESS** with your mouth the Lord Jesus and **BELIEVE** in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. Rom. 10:9-10

Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He who **BELIEVES** and **is BAPTIZED** will be saved; Mk. 16:15-16

**REPENT**, and let every one of you **be BAPTIZED** in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins Ats 2:38

If we **CONFESS OUR SINS**, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.