

Jude 1:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

Analysis

To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

This continues Enoch's prophecy, elaborating Christ's judgment purpose. "Execute judgment upon all" (Greek *poiēsai krisin kata pantōn*, ποιῆσαι κρίσιν κατὰ πάντων) indicates universal, comprehensive judgment—no one escapes divine scrutiny. This echoes Jesus' teaching that all will stand before God's throne (Matthew 25:31-46, Romans 14:10-12, 2 Corinthians 5:10).

"To convince all that are ungodly" (Greek *kai elengxai pasan psychēn peri pantōn tōn ergōn asebeias autōn*, καὶ ἐλέγξαι πᾶσαν ψυχὴν περὶ πάντων τῶν ἔργων ἀσεβείας αὐτῶν) means to convict, expose, prove guilty. The judgment isn't arbitrary but evidential—God will demonstrate the justice of His verdicts by exposing sin's reality. No excuses will remain; every mouth will be stopped (Romans 3:19). "Ungodly" (Greek *asebeia*) means without reverence for God, living as if God doesn't exist or doesn't matter.

The fourfold repetition of "ungodly" emphasizes the comprehensive wickedness: ungodly people committing ungodly deeds through ungodly means. Additionally, judgment addresses "hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him" (Greek *peri pantōn tōn sklērōn hōn elalēsan kat autou hamartōloi asebeis*,

περὶ πάντων τῶν σκληρῶν ὡν ἐλάλησαν κατ' αὐτοῦ ἀμαρτωλοὶ ἀσεβεῖς). "Hard speeches" denotes harsh, rebellious words—blasphemy, mockery, rejection of God's authority. People will answer not only for deeds but words (Matthew 12:36-37).

Historical Context

The concept of universal judgment was central to Jewish and Christian eschatology, distinguishing biblical faith from pagan religions that lacked moral accountability. Greek and Roman gods didn't execute righteous judgment; they acted capriciously according to personal whims. Biblical faith insists on a day when all injustice will be rectified, all evil punished, all good rewarded—God's character guarantees this.

Early Christians, often persecuted and marginalized, took great comfort in judgment doctrine. Present injustices would be reversed; persecutors would face consequences; faithful sufferers would be vindicated. This wasn't vindictive but righteous—God's justice demands accountability. The delay of judgment demonstrates God's patience, giving opportunity for repentance (2 Peter 3:9), not indifference to evil.

The emphasis on both deeds and words reflects biblical understanding that accountability extends to all aspects of life. Ancient cultures often separated public behavior from private thoughts or casual speech. Scripture insists coherence—hearts, words, and deeds all reveal character and face judgment. Jesus taught that words reveal heart condition (Matthew 12:34-37); thoughtless speech demonstrates spiritual reality.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How should the certainty of comprehensive judgment affect daily decisions, priorities, and behaviors?
2. What's the balance between preaching judgment to warn sinners and preaching grace to save them?
3. How does accountability for words as well as deeds shape the way believers speak about God and others?

Interlinear Text

ποιῆσαι κρίσιν κατ' πάντων καὶ ἐξελέγξαι πάντων

To execute judgment against all and to convince all

G4160

G2920

G2596

G3956

G2532

G1827

G3956

τοὺς ἀσεβεῖς αὐτοῦ περὶ πάντων τῶν ἔργων

G3588 that are ungodly among them of all deeds

G765

G846

G4012

G3588

G2041

ἀσεβείας αὐτοῦ ὡν ἡσέβησαν καὶ

ungodly among them speeches which they have ungodly committed and

G763

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περὶ πάντων τῶν σκληρῶν ὡν ἐλάλησαν κατ'

of all their hard speeches which have spoken against

G4012

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G2980

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αὐτοῦ ἀμαρτωλοὶ ἀσεβεῖς

among them sinners that are ungodly

G846

G268

G765

Additional Cross-References

Romans 2:16 (Judgment): In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

1 Corinthians 4:5 (Judgment): Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will

make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.

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