"Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle." -- Exodus 40:34



This hammer is pre-Flood, found inside sandstone supposedly from 135-140 million years ago. The steel in the hammer is 96.6% iron, 2.6% chlorine, and 0.74% sulfur, which could only have been produced in an atmosphere of higher pressure than today's. The steel is high quality, not produced under primitive conditions. The wooden handle is partially turned to coal.

Creation Museum, Glen Rose, TX

"For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust" 2 Peter 1:4





Question of the week:

In Antioch of Pisidia, as Paul was explaining that he was going to quit working with the recalcitrant Jews and go to the Gentiles, he quoted from Isaiah about his being a light to the world. For what purpose?

Last week's question: What king of the northern kingdom of Israel bought the hill from Shemer, and named it "Samaria"? Answer: Omri, father of Ahab and father-in-law of Jezebel (1 Kings 16:24).

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 69	Wednesday Night (6/19) — 62
Morning Assembly – 103	Butte Lord's Day – 15
Evening Assembly – 51	GF Lord's Day – 65,92 Wed 51



Jewels from Jude

Ungodly Persons among You

One of the lessons the saint needs to learn is that there are a variety of "voices" filling the realm in which humanity functions. That is why Jesus was so emphatic about His "voice." "My sheep hear My voice," asseverated the Great Shepherd of the sheep (John 10:27). The goal of the other voices is to drown out the voice of the Shepherd. Sometimes those "voices" are from the outside, the voices of Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Catholicism, denominationalism, evolutionism, etc. But sometimes the voices are working inside the church, as were those who "crept in" in the days of Jude, turning "the grace of God into licentiousness." The cacophony of such voices still fills the air today.

• **Grumblers** – God has never liked "grumbling," or complaining voices. The nation of Israel was comprised of quite a bunch of complain-

ers; the apostle Paul, in exhorting the saints in Corinth, told them not to "grumble, as some of them [in the wilderness] did, and were destroyed by the destroyer" (1 Corinthians 10:10). When Jesus spoke some "difficult" statements in the synagogue at Capernaum about "eating His flesh and drinking His blood," some "grumbled," and "withdrew, not walking with Him anymore" (John 6:66). Grumblers (whiners, complainers, destructively critical) are destroyers of the worst kind, blocking forward momentum and creating stumbling blocks for those who otherwise might be upbeat and excited about the progress of the gospel. Of the "ungodly" working in the first century church, Jude says, "These are grumblers..." (Jude 1:16).

Finding fault – It is one thing to be concerned about doctrine or direction of a congregation; it is another to be critical without cause or understanding. Could a person have found issues with the congregation of Corinth, or even problems in Philippi? Yes! But there are those who are constantly "finding fault," Jude says. These fault finders are not interested in real solutions, nor are they interested in "getting down where people live" and showing genuine concern by helping in a real and positive way. Their interest in "finding fault" is to cause division or direct attention away from themselves so that they do not have to work on their own spirituality and bad attitudes.

• Following after their own lusts - Generally speaking, the best "defense" is a really nasty

"offense." The grumblers and the fault finders, says Jude, are "following after their own lusts." These, working inside the church, do not want to submit themselves to the discipline and lordship of Jesus Christ. Instead, they throw darts and rocks at others (particularly local church leadership) to deflect attention away from their own destructive words and actions.

 Arrogant flatterers – "For through the grace given to me," Paul instructed the Roman brethren, "I say to every man among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has Choose who you listen to, and choose well!

allotted to each a measure of faith" (Romans 12:3). When people "think more highly" of themselves than they ought to think, then arrogance sets in and their judgment is flawed. One of the "lusts" often followed by saints who fall into such a deep hole is ambition to create a following. By complaining and finding fault (often more imagined than real), they attempt to create a schism, with themselves at the head of one of those breaks in the local church. "They speak arrogantly," notes Jude, "flattering people for the sake of gaining an advantage." With these types of people in any congregation, there will be a lot of destructive talk going around.

Sooner or later every person who claims to be a follower of Christ has to decide which voice he is going to listen to. The "voice" of the Great Shepherd of the sheep is clearly delineated in the written words of the new covenant writings, augmented by what is called the Old Testament. There are those in tested and trusted church leadership who "speak, as it were, the utterances of God" (1 Peter 4:11). There are those who are described as "spiritual," who work hard at keeping the saints on track and "restoring" those who wander off a bit (Galatians 6:1). And there are those who "are grumblers, finding fault, following after their own lusts; they speak arrogantly, flattering people for the sake of gaining an advantage." Choose who you listen to, and choose well!