

## APPLES OF SODOM and the JUDAS GOATS



**Deuteronomy 32:32** For their vine *is* of the vine of Sodom, and of the fields of Gomorrah: their grapes *are* grapes of gall, their clusters *are* bitter:

There is a fruit known as the Apples of Sodom; the following is said of them.

*Josephus (BJ, IV, viii, 4) says that "the traces (or shadows) of the five cities (of the plain) are still to be seen, as well as the ashes growing in their fruits, which fruits have a color as if they were fit to be eaten; but if you pluck them with your hands they dissolve into smoke and ashes."* <https://www.biblestudytools.com/dictionary/apples-of-sodom/>

*American biblical scholar Edward Robinson describes it as the fruit of the *Asclepias gigantea vel procera*, a tree 10–15 feet high, with a grayish cork-like bark called *osher* by the Arabs. He says the fruit resembled a large, smooth apple or orange, hanging in clusters of three or four. When pressed or struck, it exploded with a puff, like a bladder or puff-ball, leaving in the hand only the shreds of the thin rind and a few fibers. It is filled chiefly with air, which gives it the round form.* [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calotropis\\_procera](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calotropis_procera)

This fruit and the Judas Goats are like the false doctrines and false teachers which spread a doctrine devoid of the truth of the LORD Jesus. As the Apples of Sodom are beautiful of color and look good on the outside and fit to eat; yet when plucked they dissolve into smoke and ashes. So is the false doctrines preached today in this generation of antichrist; they sound good but are devoid of any power to bring about conviction, repentance, and the loving and saving knowledge of the LORD Jesus Christ. These Apples of Sodom and false teachings are truly grapes of gall and a wild vine indeed; having no part of the true vine.

**Deuteronomy 32:5** They have corrupted themselves, their spot *is* not *the spot* of his children: *they are* a perverse and crooked generation.

**Deuteronomy 32:18** Of the Rock *that* begat thee thou art unmindful, and hast forgotten God that formed thee.

**Deuteronomy 32:21** They have moved me to jealousy with *that which is* not God; they have provoked me to anger with their vanities: and I will move them to jealousy with *those which are* not a people; I will provoke them to anger with a foolish nation.

**Deuteronomy 32:29** O that they were wise, *that* they understood this, *that* they would consider their latter end!

**Deuteronomy 32:31** For their rock *is* not as our Rock, even our enemies themselves *being* judges.

**Deuteronomy 32:32** For their vine *is* of the vine of Sodom, and of the fields of Gomorrah: their grapes *are* grapes of gall, their clusters *are* bitter:

The rebuke of the children of Israel is an example for all who forsake the way of the LORD and follow after false doctrines full of vanity; unable to lead people to the truth of the Gospel and the warnings of a coming judgment upon all those who reject the LORD Jesus Christ. Just as the Apples of Sodom are filled with air and without meat; so too is the social gospel filled with empty words like clouds without water. To their shame and ignorance people cry for such teaching; oh that they understood and “that they would consider their latter end!”

**2 Timothy 4:3** For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; **4** And they shall turn away *their* ears

from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

The deceived cry for the false preaching which on the surface sounds good and gives a false sense of security; it is a social gospel all shiny on the outside and puffs up the flesh; but it is a shallow gospel full of air and smoke with no meat of sustenance just as the Apples of Sodom.

**2 Kings 4:38-41** And Elisha came again to Gilgal: and *there was* a dearth in the land; and the sons of the prophets *were* sitting before him: and he said unto his servant, Set on the great pot, and seethe pottage for the sons of the prophets.**39** And one went out into the field to gather herbs, and found a wild vine, and gathered thereof wild gourds his lap full, and came and shred *them* into the pot of pottage: for they knew *them* not.**40** So they poured out for the men to eat. And it came to pass, as they were eating of the pottage, that they cried out, and said, O *thou* man of God, *there is* death in the pot. And they could not eat *thereof*.**41** But he said, Then bring meal. And he cast *it* into the pot; and he said, Pour out for the people, that they may eat. And there was no harm in the pot.

Elisha the prophet commanded the servant to set the pot of pottage on the fire; but the servant went out into the field and gathered gourds from the wild vine and mixed them into the pot of pottage and it made the pottage uneatable for they proclaimed “there is death in the pot”. Like the servant; there are those today which thinking they do Gods service bring in damnable heresies (wild vines) and add it to the Gospel polluting it; bringing death into the church.

**2 Peter 2:1** But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

The same is true of the false preaching added to the true gospel it will bring death to the deceived as the fruit of the wild vine brought death to the pot. But as the prophet Elisa commanded meal to be put into the pot to restore the pottage and make it edible; so does the true gospel restore the soul and spirit and cleanse it from deception; restoring the hearer that will believe and accept it. There is only one true gospel; the gospel of the LORD Jesus Christ. He is the true vine.

**John 15:1** I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.

#### THE JUDAS GOATS



**Jeremiah 23:21** I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran: I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied.

The Judas Goat was a goat used in animal herding especially for sheep. He was trained to lead the sheep often times in the stockyards to slaughter. The goat was specially trained to lead the sheep up the ramps into the slaughter house. At the top of the ramp there would be an area where the Judas Goat would step aside and the sheep would keep going and pass him by into the slaughter area. The Judas Goat would then go and get the next herd and bring them to their death.

There are many Judas Goats today but they are nether goats nor in the stockyards; but rather are false preachers and in the pulpits and they lead many to their deaths.

**Jeremiah 23:16** Thus saith the LORD of hosts, Hearken not unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you: they make you vain: they speak a vision of their own heart, *and* not out of the mouth of the LORD.

**Matthew 7:15** Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

**2 Peter 2:1** But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

They bring death in the pot! The false preachers come in sheep's clothing appearing to do the works of the LORD Jesus Christ; but they are nothing more than Judas Goats offering the Apples of Sodom filled with emptiness and heresies; and because of biblical ignorance many will be deceived and led to slaughter. Unfortunately many do not know whom they follow just as the poor sheep in the stockyard knew not whom they followed; people truly are ignorant and willing to follow and accept any doctrine as long as it feels good, sounds good and requires nothing. Remember "A faith that can't be tested; can't be trusted." Adrian Rogers

**Hosea 4:6** My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

The sheep are to follow the true Shepherd and true gospel of the LORD Jesus Christ. We must live out the Gospel in feeding the sheep with the true Word of God and not some convenient, cultural Christianity. God will judge and separate the sheep from the goats; do not bite of the apples of Sodom and indulge in the lies of the Judas Goats.

**Matthew 25:33** And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.<sup>34</sup> Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

**Matthew 25:35** For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:<sup>36</sup> Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

The true gospel will feed the lost with the bread of life, and give the hearer the meat of the true word of God and not what they want to hear to feel good; but rather what they need to hear to repent and come to salvation in the LORD Jesus Christ. The true gospel will give drink of the 'Living Water' to the thirsty which are looking for something the world and the lies of the Judas Goats can't provide. The true gospel will clothe the naked with a robe of righteousness

**John 6:35** And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

**John 4:10** Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.

**John 4:14** But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

**Isaiah 61:10** I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels. The true gospel will heal the sick in sin that will believe and accept it.

**1 Peter 2:24** Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

**Luke 4:18** The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

The gospel of the true Shepard will do all these things. But the gospel of the goats can accomplish none of these things for it has no fruit like the Apples of Sodom.

We must beware and stand against the Gospel of the Goats; which will lead many to slaughter; the eternal death of all who reject the LORD Jesus Christ. It has no power to save and minister to the lost and it bears no fruit for the Kingdom. In the end the gospel of the goats leads to destruction. BEWARE THE APPLES OF SODOM and THE GOSPEL OF THE GOATS!

**Matthew 25:41** Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:**42** For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink:**43** I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

The Judas Goats of the pulpit peddle their lies and deceit for filthy lucre and they care not for the flock. They are using the souls of men as merchandise selling them lies as truth. It is the collection plate that moves their message and not the Holy Spirit; deceitful workers they are and their destruction is as sure as those that will believe their lies.

**2 Peter 2:2** And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.**3** And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

**2 Peter 2:9**The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:

There is one LORD, and One truth; the LORD JESUS CHRIST and there is no other way to heaven than through His shed blood.

**John 10:1-5** Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.**2** But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.**3** To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out.**4** And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.**5** And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.

**Acts 4:12** Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

‘BEWARE THE APPLES OF SODOM AND THE JUDAS GOATS THAT PEDDLE THEM’

JESUS SAVES-To God Be The Glory.

R.E.G.