

## BOASTING OF A FALSE GIFT

**TEXT:** *Proverbs 25:14: Whoso boasteth himself of a false gift is like clouds and wind without rain.*

### CONTEXT:

*2 Peter 2:17: These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest: to whom the mist of darkness is reserved forever.*

*Jude 1:12: These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withered, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the root.*



One of the weirdest phenomena of celebrated Death Valley is its rainstorms which never hit the ground. Often you can see an ominous black cloud in the distance. Long streamers of rain will streak down the horizon. In hurrying to get out of a flash flood, to your amusement, no water will fall. Why? The air is so dry and hot that the rain evaporates before hitting the ground.

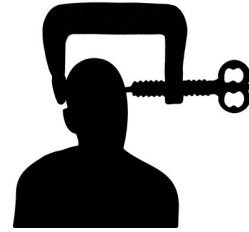
No doubt many of you have experienced this same disappointment when expecting an answer to prayer for healing or some prophecy made over you that was never fulfilled.

In explaining the evil of false teachers, **Jude 12** says they are **clouds without water**. One can imagine experiencing a long drought, and when eagerly anticipated clouds finally come, they pass over without spilling that precious liquid on the thirsty earth. Those who promise salvation by any other means than through our Lord Jesus Christ are like those clouds — they promise much, but deliver nothing.



We are in an age of spiritual drought. The waters of spiritual blessings are promised, but they never come. Peter tells of those who promise liberty, but they themselves are the servants of corruption.

***2 Peter 2:19: While they promised them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.***



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