

**JUDE – “GREETING TO THE CALLED; CONTEND FOR THE FAITH; OLD AND NEW APOSTATES; APOSTATES DEPRAVED AND DOOMED; APOSTATES PREDICTED; MAINTAIN YOUR LIFE WITH GOD; GLORY TO GOD!”**

**OBSERVATION**

**INTERPRETATION**

**APPLICATION**

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

**GREETING TO THE CALLED;**

*Jud 1:1 Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ:*

*Jud 1:2 Mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.*

**CONTEND FOR THE FAITH;**

*Jud 1:3 Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.*

*Jud 1:4 For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**OLD AND NEW APOSTATES; (Three times we’re reminded of instances where false teaching took over – also resulting in not keeping yourselves “in the love of God”- moving away from the spout where the glory comes out!**

*Jud 1:5 But I want to remind you, though you once knew this, that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe.*

*Jud 1:6 And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day;*

*Jud 1:7 as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.*

**vs. 1-2.** Jude was the brother of James, and both Jude and James were half brothers of Jesus (*Mark 6:3*). Perhaps the reason James grasped this kind of grace so firmly is that, although he had grown up in the same household as Jesus, initially he did not believe His Brother was the Son of God (*John 7:5*). (*1 Peter 1:3-5*); (*John 6:37*). (*John 10:28*). So preserved in Jesus Christ.

**v. 3** When I gave all diligence to write to you of the common salvation - Designed for all, and enjoyed by all believers. Here the design of the epistle is expressed; the end of which exactly answers the beginning. It was needful to exhort you to contend (*agonizo – fight to the death, as others before us!!!*) earnestly - Yet humbly, meekly, and lovingly; otherwise your contention will only hurt your cause, if not destroy your soul. For the faith - All the fundamental truths. Once delivered - By God, to remain unvaried for ever. *And deny* - there was that denial of Jesus being the Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ. And there was that denial that He was the only true God. Thus today, **the mark of the cult is the denial of the deity of Jesus Christ.** **v. 4** There are certain men crept in, who were of old described before - Even as early as Enoch; of whom it was foretold, that by their wilful sins they would incur this condemnation. Turning the grace of God - Revealed in the gospel. Into lasciviousness - Into an occasion of more abandoned wickedness.

**v. 5 Delivered by God! – Just like us!** He afterwards destroyed - The far greater part of that very people whom he had once saved. Let none therefore presume upon past mercies, as if he was now out of danger. **The problem here was unbelief – Kadesh Barnea! Ten spies affected 2-3 million people! It took them forty years to make a two-week journey because of their unbelief.**

**v. 6** And the angels, who kept not their first dignity - Once assigned them under the Son of God. But voluntarily left their own habitation and 1/3 of them fell! - He reserved - Delivered to be kept. In everlasting chains under darkness - O how unlike their own habitation! **The problem here was the pride of Satan – to follow the pride based rebellion of the devil-elevating that above the Word of God! Affected 1/3 of the angels, which fell! (Rev. 5:12) The five “I will”s. darkness - (John 3 17-19)**

**v. 7** The cities which gave themselves over to fornication - means, unnatural lusts. Are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire - the vengeance which they suffered is an example or a type of eternal fire. **They failed to keep themselves in God’s love.** Although they had many natural advantages, yet they lost out everything in the judgment of God - a good lesson for many of you who have been blessed of God with natural talents, natural advantages but fail to keep yourselves in God’s love. The judgment of God. So he says **These false teachers were saying that it doesn’t matter to God what kind of a sinful life, giving over to lust. Anything goes! Oh how current this issue is!**

**INTRODUCTION:** Jude is a short and compact Book - only six hundred thirteen words and twenty-five verses within the single chapter in the short book. There are eight illustrations from the Old Testament—each one containing fascinating implications and practical applications. Thus, it is, indeed, tempting for us to spend a long time in this wonderful epistle. And yet, we would like us to look at Jude in one sitting—no doubt the way it was intended to be read—in order that we might gain a feel for the Book of Jude in its totality and grasp its message personally.

Jude was written regarding false teachers that had come into the church. One of the primary false teachings was that of Gnosticism. This was a second century *heresy* claiming that *salvation* could be gained through secret knowledge. Gnosticism is derived from the Greek word *gnosis*, meaning "to know." Gnostics also believed that the material world (matter) is evil and that only the spirit is good. They constructed an evil God and beings of the Old Testament to explain the creation of the world (matter), and considered *Jesus Christ* a wholly spiritual God. That since the body is material and therefore evil- there was nothing you could do - you could live anyway you wanted to and if your belief (spirit) was good and unaffected by however you live, you were perfectly okay. (Romans 6:2) But Jesus said if you love Me, you’ll keep My commandments. One of the great things of God’s grace is forgiveness, but He also changes our life through His grace!

v. 3 **We all** are exhorted to fight to the death for what the Bible says, as others have done before us. Contend earnestly for the faith once delivered. Don’t go for any of these new high flying kind of ideas that men are bringing in. Weird interpretations and these other things. Stay with the basics. The basics that you were originally taught. **How about you? What do say that the Bible states, regarding abortion on demand and on homosexuality?**

v.5 But I’m **writing to remind you of these things** so that that after I die, you’ll still have them to remind you. The Lord knows how quickly we forget the goodness of God, the blessings of God, the provisions of God. Many reminders in the Old Testament - Samuel set up the Ebenezer stone to remind the people that God has brought us this far! When you see that stone, you’ll realize God has kept us this far, brought us this far.

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*Jud 1:8 Likewise also these dreamers defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of dignitaries.*

*Jud 1:9 Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"*

*Jud 1:10 But these speak evil of whatever they do not know; and whatever they know naturally, like brute beasts, in these things they corrupt themselves.*

**THREE ILLUSTRATIONS/EXPLANATIONS – That will pull you away!**

*Jud 1:11 Woe to them!*

*For they have gone in the way of Cain (ANGER), have run greedily in the error of Balaam (GREED) for profit, and perished in the rebellion of Korah (ENVY/REBELLION).*

**APOSTATES DEPRAVED AND DOOMED;**

*Jud 1:12 These are spots in your love feasts, while they feast with you without fear, serving only themselves. They are clouds without water, carried about by the winds; late autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots;*

*Jud 1:13 raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame; wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.*

**v. 8** In like manner these dreamers - Sleeping and dreaming all their lives. Despise authority - Those that are invested with it by Christ, and made by him the overseers of his flock. Rail at dignities - The apostle does not seem to speak of worldly dignities. These they had "in admiration for the sake of gain," Jud 1:16; but those holy men, who for the purity of their lives, the soundness of their doctrine, and the greatness of their labors in the work of the ministry, were truly honorable before God and all good men; and who were grossly vilified by those who turned the grace of God into lasciviousness. Probably they were the impure followers of Simon Magus, the same with the Gnostics and Nicolaitans, Rev 2:15. 2Pe 2:10.

**v. 9** Yet Michael - It does not appear whether St. Jude learned this by any revelation or from ancient tradition. It suffices, that these things were not only true, but acknowledged as such by them to whom he wrote. The archangel - This word occurs but once more in the sacred writings, 1Th 4:16. So that whether there be one archangel only, or more, it is not possible for us to determine. When he disputed with the devil - At what time we know not. Concerning the body of Moses - Possibly the devil would have discovered the place where it was buried, which God for wise reasons had concealed. Durst not bring even against him a railing accusation - Though so far beneath him in every respect. But simply said, (so great was his modesty!) The Lord rebuke thee - I leave thee to the Judge of all.

**v. 10** But these - Without all shame. Rail at the things of God which they know not - Neither can know, having no spiritual senses. And the natural things, which they know - By their natural senses, they abuse into occasions of sin. **Don't follow them!**

**v. 11** Woe unto them - Of all the apostles St. Jude alone, and that in this single place, denounces a woe. St. Peter, to the same effect, pronounces them "cursed children." For they have gone in the way of Cain - The murderer. And ran greedily - Literally, have been poured out, like a torrent without banks. After the error of Balaam - The covetous false prophet. And perished in the gainsaying of Korah - Vengeance has overtaken them as it did Korah, rising up against those whom God had sent.

**v. 12** These are spots - Blemishes. In your feasts of love - Anciently observed in all the churches. Feeding themselves without fear - Without any fear of God, or jealousy over themselves. Twice dead - In sin, first by nature, and afterwards by apostasy. Plucked up by the roots - And so incapable of ever reviving.

**v. 13** Wandering stars - Literally, planets, which shine for a time, but have no light in themselves, and will be soon cast into utter darkness. Thus the apostle illustrates their desperate wickedness by comparisons drawn from the air, earth, sea, and heavens.

**v. 9 Just as Michael rebuked Satan, when Satan disputed the whereabouts of Moses' body, we too are too resist. Not in an aggressive, hostile way, but simply, the Bible says : The Lord rebuke you"! That's wisdom! Don't ever try and get in a direct confrontation with Satan! You're no match. Always keep the Lord between you and Satan and you'll be alright.**

**v. 11 Cain, a poster child for self righteousness; Anger, hatred and venom, who devised his own way to God and it's okay with all that.**

**Balaam, an Old Testament prophet, who is characterized by greed! 24,000 died as a result of the following of Balaam's recommendation to Balak.**

**Korah – Envy resulting in rebellion was the characteristic here! He led a rebellion against the God led, God given position of Aaron and Moses. Korah's self promotion! Wanting someone else's power! We need to learn to be content where God has us!**

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*Jud 1:14 Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints,*

*Jud 1:15 to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."*

**APOSTATES PREDICTED;**

*Jud 1:16 These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage.*

*Jud 1:17 But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ:*

*Jud 1:18 how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts.*

*Jud 1:19 These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit.*

**MAINTAIN YOUR LIFE WITH GOD**

*Jud 1:20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,*

**v. 14** And of these also - As well as the antediluvian sinners Enoch - So early was the prophecy referred to, Jud\_1:4. The seventh from Adam - There were only five of the fathers between Adam and Enoch, 1Ch\_1:1-3. The first coming of Christ was revealed to Adam; his second, glorious coming, to Enoch; and the seventh from Adam foretold the things which will conclude the seventh age of the world. St. Jude might know this either from some ancient book, or tradition, or immediate revelation. Behold - As if it were already done, the Lord cometh!

**v. 15** To execute judgment - Enoch herein looked beyond the flood. Upon all - Sinners, in general. And to convict all the ungodly, in particular, of all the grievous things which ungodly sinners (a sinner is bad; but the ungodly who sin without fear are worse) have spoken against him, Jud\_1:8, Jud\_1:10, though they might not think, all those speeches were against him.

**v. 16** These are murmurers - Against men. Complainers - Literally, complainers of their fate, against God. Walking - With regard to themselves. After their own foolish and mischievous desires. Having men's persons in admiration for the sake of gain - Admiring and commending them only for what they can get.

**v. 17** By the apostles - He does not exempt himself from the number of apostles. For in the next verse he says, they told you, not us.

**v. 18** Jude says in effect, "Remember what the apostles said to you. They told you that there would come mockers in the last time and that they would walk after their own ungodly lusts." That is, the desires of the apostates are totally apart from God and from the will of God.

**v. 19** These are they who separate themselves, sensual, **not having the Spirit - Having natural senses and understanding only, not the Spirit of God;** otherwise they could not separate. For that it is a sin, and a very heinous one, "to separate from the church," is out of all question. But then it should be observed, That by the church is meant a body of living Christians, who are "an habitation of God through the Spirit:" That by separating is understood, renouncing all religious intercourse with them; no longer joining with them in solemn prayer, or the other public offices of religion: and, That we have no more authority from scripture to call even this schism, than to call it murder.

**v. 20** But you, beloved, not separating, but building yourselves up in your most holy faith - Than which none can be more holy in itself, or more conducive to the most refined and exalted holiness. **The first way to keep yourself in the love of God is to be built up in your faith.** Awfully hard to trust someone you don't know. Easy to trust someone who has proved himself faithful time after time. Praying through the Holy Spirit - Who alone is able to build you up, as he alone laid the foundation. In this and the following verse St. Jude mentions the Father, Son, and Spirit, together with faith, love, and hope.

**v. 18 Mockers - one of the most effective ways of Satan. The reason behind mocking is a rejection of God's truth, not intellectually, but it's a sin reason. Because the Word of God denies their sin which they like more than what the Word of God condemns. – What sin do you love that that the Bible condemns?**

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*Jud 1:21 keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.  
Jud 1:22 And on some have compassion, making a distinction;  
Jud 1:23 but others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.*

**GLORY TO GOD!”**

*Jud 1:24 Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,  
Jud 1:25 To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, Be glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever. Amen.*

**THE LOVE OF GOD! – Phelps, Penrod & Gardner**  
*The love of God is greater far Than tongue or pen can ever tell. It goes beyond the highest star And reaches to the lowest hell. The guilty pair, bowed down with care, God gave His Son to win; His erring child He reconciled And pardoned from his sin.*

*O love of God, how rich and pure! How measureless and strong! It shall forevermore endure The saints' and angels' song.*

*Could we with ink the ocean fill, And were the skies of parchment made; Were every stalk on earth a quill, And every man a scribe by trade; To write the love of God above Would drain the ocean dry; Nor could the scroll contain the whole, Though stretched from sky to sky.*

*O love of God, how rich and pure! How measureless and strong! It shall forevermore endure The saints' and angels' song.*

**v. 21** By these means, through his grace, keep yourselves in the love of God, and in the confident expectation of that eternal life which is purchased for you, and conferred upon you, through the mere mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**v. 22** Meantime watch over others, as well as yourselves, and give them such help as their various needs require. For instance, Some, that are wavering in judgment, staggered by others' or by their own evil reasoning, endeavor more deeply to convince of the whole truth as it is in Jesus. Some snatch, with a swift and strong hand, out of the fire of sin and temptation. On others show compassion in a milder and gentler way; though still with a jealous fear, lest yourselves be infected with the disease you endeavor to cure. See, therefore, that while you love the sinners, ye retain the utmost abhorrence of their sins, and of any the least degree of, or approach to, them.

**v. 23** In the Old Testament, whenever a man was cleansed from leprosy—a picture of sin—his garments were to be burned (Leviticus 13:52). Jude uses this as an analogy to say, “When you’re dealing with folks who are caught up in perversity, make sure you yourself are not affected.” In other words, “Save the man, but burn the garment.”

**v. 24** Now to him who alone is able to keep them from falling - Into any of these errors or sins. And to present them faultless in the presence of his glory - That is, in his own presence, when he shall be revealed in all his glory.

**v. 25** Finally, after all of his warning, Jude leaves us in a place of rest, saying God is the One who will keep us from falling. God’s love is unconditional, never turned off, never diminished. The only question is: Will you plant yourself in the place where you can be drenched with it? Jude tells us exactly how to do that as he exhorts us to stay in the Word, pray in the Spirit, and look for our Lord’s coming. “If you know these things, happy are you if you do them,” Jesus said (see John 13:17). I love the simplicity of the Word! May the Lord build your faith as you study it. May He fill you with love as you pray in the Spirit. May He give you hope as you look for His coming. Amen!

**Reminder:**

I’d like to draw your attention back to verse one, as Jude is addressing, “To those that are loved by God and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called.” Preserved in Jesus Christ. He’s keeping you. That’s in verse one. Then in verse 21, he says, “Now keep yourself in the love of God.” So you start out with God’s part or the Lord’s part, He’s keeping you. But then there’s our part, too. **It’s important that you keep yourself in the love of God.**

Then he closes it by saying, Now unto Him who is able to keep you. So His part comes in again. Our part, persevere! **Just hold on to Jesus Christ** and you can be sure He’s going to hold on to you. Keep yourself in that place.

**v.20 But how do you stand?**

- **Building yourselves up in the Word of God! Do you trust God? How well do you know Him?**
- **Praying in context with the Holy Spirit in your prayers! (3 things) – 1. Ask the Spirit to guide; 2. Rom. 8:26 groaning over the situation; 3. 1 Cor. 14 – praying in tongues.**
- **Keep yourselves in the love of God – Not by trying to earn it, in our strength! Rom. 5:8; Col. 2:14 His love for you is absolutely unconditional! Keep yourself under the spout where the glory comes out! – Stay obedient to the Word of God**
- **Looking for the return of the Lord – the coming of Jesus!**

**v.21 We are to keep ourselves in the love of God by looking for the coming of Jesus.** How it affects my priorities, how it changes my perspective, how it alters my emotions when I say, “**Lord, today I’m going to look for Your coming.**” Today might be the day, dear saints. What a difference it makes when we remember this. “All we should ever talk about is **being in the Word, looking for His coming, and praying!**.” That’s exactly what Jude tells us to do in order to keep ourselves in God’s love.

**v. 22** Did you come to the Lord through love; through encouragement?

**v. 23** Or did you come to the Lord through fear; the threat of your going to hell?

**v. 24** **It’s God who keeps us from stumbling!** Though we are not able of keeping ourselves, He is “able to keep you from stumbling.”

**It’s Jesus who presents us faultless before the Father!** One day Jesus is going to present you to the Father. And **as** He presents me to the Father, forgiven, cleansed, kept by His power, I’ll tell you, the joy that I will experience in meeting the Father, seeing the Father! He’s able to keep you from falling.

**It’s Jesus who presents us with exceeding joy!**