

Background: “Jude” is Judas Greek (half brother of Jesus)

- **Vs. 1 “Bond Servant”** indebted to another for debt they owed.
Jude considers himself a bond servant to Jesus for a debt.
- **Vs. 1 “Brother of James”** Jude has every right to call himself brother of Jesus but he doesn’t
 - Jude specifically emphasizes spiritual connection to Jesus, not biological.

I. Jude Identifies Believers with 3 Truths – Called, Loved, Kept

1. Vs. 1 *“to those who are called, loved, kept by the Father”*

- **“Called” or “Sanctified”**
John 6:44 *“No one can come to me unless the Father draws him unto me.”*
- **“Loved”** Romans 5:8 *“God demonstrates His love in this way. He died for our sins.”*
John 3:16 *“For God so loved the world, He gave His only son.”*
- **“Kept” or “Preserved”**
 - John 10 *“My sheep know my voice, no one can snatch them from me”*
 - John 17:11-12 *“Father keep them just as I have kept them.”*

Why Would Jude Address His Audience This Way? – 2 Reasons

1. To Remind Them of Who They Are in Christ.
 - Remind ourselves regularly who and whose we are in Christ Jesus.
 - *“Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”*
2. To Contrast Believers’ Identity w/ False Teachers He’s About to Describe
 - Jude reminds his audience of their calling so they are equipped to fight for solid teaching.
 - Paul reminded Timothy of credentials to stand for sound doctrine.

What was Jude Writing About to Believers?

Vs. 3 *“I was planning to write to you about our common salvation, but I have to change”*

- **“Contend earnestly for the faith”**
 - What is “the faith”. Not personal belief. This is about doctrine of the Gospel.
- **“Appealing”** pleading with audience to fight for the faith.
- **“Contend earnestly”** Present tense verb.
 - Don’t do this once & stop. Keep doing this always.
 - Not just a fight with current false teachers, but a continual fight
- **“Once and for all delivered to the Saints”**
 - God’s Word is complete. It doesn’t need anything else.
 - We have all we need in Christ Jesus.
 - **II Peter 1:3** **Life** = natural elements living. **Godliness** = salvation & eternal glorification

II. What is Jude's Main Concern? False Teachers in the Church

• Vs. 4 ***“certain false teachers have crept in unnoticed”***

- Often times the greatest dangers arise from within Church

Jude Gives A Couple of Ways to Identify These False Teachers

1. Vs. 3b ***“....faith delivered to the saints once & for all.”***

- False teachers typically have new ideas and new revelation from God.
- They always have “latest & greatest” update from God.

2. Vs. 4 ***“....crept in unnoticed”***

- False teachers never announce their heresy.

3. Vs. 4 ***“....turn grace of God into licentiousness & deny Jesus our only Master.”***

- Licentiousness = license to sin. Total disregard for anything moral. Corruption.

Galatians 2:4-5 Paul didn't give false teachers any room to wiggle. Didn't listen for a moment.

III. Jude Reminds of Previous Licentiousness & Denial of God

Jude 1:5-8

- Vs. 5 *“I desire to remind you even though you know all things”*
“Even though you already know this” (NIV)

There are basic truths in life that we all need to be reminded of too.....

- If you drive without insurance, plan on losing your license.

Jude Is Going to Remind His Audience of the Destruction of The Ungodly

- Vs. 4 *“.....ungodly people who were marked for condemnation.”*
 - “marked out” = literally translated written about beforehand.
 - Not so much individual selection rather condemnation as a result of ungodly behavior
 - This is a universal descriptor of rejecting God.

“Remember what happened to others who abused God’s grace and denied God as Master”

II Peter 2:1-8 Peter Introduces an Uncanny Discussion That Parallels Jude’s Warnings

- Vs. 1 *“watch out for false prophets and false teachers among you.”*
 - *“secretly introduce heresies”*
 - *“they will deny the Master”*
- Vs. 3 *“their judgment from long ago will still happen, their destruction is not asleep.”*

Then Peter Gives Us 3 Distinct Examples of Faithless Heresy and Judgment

Example #1 Vs. 4 God did not spare angels when they sinned, and He will ultimately judge them.

Example #2 Vs. 5 God did not spare the ancient world that refused to repent and rejected God.

Example #3 Vs. 6 God leveled & destroyed Sodom & Gomorrah as a warning for ungodly people.

Jude Follows Similar Pattern - Gives 3 Historic Examples of Licentiousness Resulting in Destruction

Example #1: Vs. 5 The Jews that God rescued from Egypt.

- These people saw the hand of God deliver them from slavery & bondage.
- They witnessed God’s redemptive Grace in their lives and chose to deny Him.

Example #2 Vs. 6 Angels who did not keep their own domain.

- We cannot speculate because Jude expects audience to be aware of this scriptural history
- I believe this refers to Angels aligning themselves w/ Satan & not God.

(Controversy about what angels did)

- Vs 7 “in the same way as these”. Who is the “these” Jude is referring to?
 - What does the fabric of the passage exist to reveal?
 - These false teachers are acting just like these examples and will be condemned for it.

Example #3 Sodom & Gomorrah

- These cities were engaging in gross immorality.
- These people were abandoning the purpose for which God had created them
- These people were going after strange flesh.
 - Homosexual relationships, polygamy, and worse acts.
- Parallel definition of fire. Literal Burn & Eternal Burn

Vs. 8 *“Yet in the same manner these men also by dreaming, defile the flesh, and reject authority, and revile angelic majesties.”*

- “These Men” doesn’t refer to Sodom & Gomorrah but the false teachers.
- “By dreaming” = more literally “as a result of their personal lusts” they act out.

So What are Paul, Peter, James, Jude Warning Us Of?

1. Jude Emplores believers to recognize & remember who they are in Christ Jesus First

- As we embrace what God has said about us, we live with greater confidence.
- We are less tempted to investigate “works based” doctrines because we know we don’t need that.
- Most false doctrine gains momentum when it advertises solutions for pleasing God.
 - 3 steps to better prayer life.
 - 10 ways to stop sinning
 - 5 methods to draw closer to God
- Believers who are grounded in their understanding have no need for extraneous “self-help”

2. Jude Emplores Believers to Contend Earnestly for the Faith By recognizing the False Teachers

- Crept in unnoticed – we should expect to battle false doctrine under the church roof
- We easily recognize false teachers outside in the world, but harder inside the church
- We need to recognize that grace is not an excuse or license to sin
(Some might advocate that flesh doesn’t matter because God has already accounted for that)

3. Jude Expects Believers to Soberly Consider the Impending Consequences for Denial of Jesus

- This shouldn’t scare us as though we potentially face this condemnation
- This SHOULD move us to compassion for the lost
- Knowledge of the wrath of God should move us to attitudes of thanksgiving for what God has done on our behalf.

Jude basically spends time elaborating on the various ways that men revile the authority of God, how they twist truth and promote ungodly activity leading to destruction.

Korah & sons rejected Moses and ultimately God. Engaged in rebellion much like the angels rebelling against God.

Balaam was willing to curse God's people as long as there was a paycheck at the end.

How many pulpits are occupied by those just seeking a paycheck?

Many amazing word pictures to describe how these men are cast about.