

Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to those who are called, <sup>1</sup>sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ: <sup>2</sup>Mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

### Contend for the Faith

<sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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 <sup>5</sup>God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

### Old and New Apostates

<sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>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; <sup>7</sup>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.

<sup>8</sup>Likewise also these dreamers defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of dignitaries. <sup>9</sup>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!" <sup>10</sup>But these speak evil of whatever they do not know; and whatever they know naturally, like brute beasts, in these things they corrupt themselves. <sup>11</sup>Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit, and perished in the rebellion of Korah.

### Apostates Depraved and Doomed

<sup>12</sup>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; <sup>13</sup>raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame; wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.

<sup>14</sup>Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, <sup>15</sup>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

<sup>16</sup>These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling *words*, flattering people to gain advantage. <sup>17</sup>But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: <sup>18</sup>how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. <sup>19</sup>These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit.

### Maintain Your Life with God

<sup>20</sup>But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, <sup>21</sup>keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

<sup>22</sup>And on some have compassion, making a distinction; <sup>23</sup>but others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

Glory to God

<sup>24</sup>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,

<sup>25</sup>To God our Savior,  
Who alone is wise,  
*Be* glory and majesty,  
Dominion and power,  
Both now and forever.  
Amen.

**Jude 1:** 'Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James,'

Jude introduces himself, like James did, as first, a bondservant of Jesus Christ; then he says that he is James' brother. James, we learned, was one of Jesus Christ's half brothers... half brother, not step brother. The same is true of Jude.

They are not step brothers of Jesus Christ; that is a lie of Catholicism which teaches that Joseph had several sons and daughters already when he married Mary. Jesus was Mary's firstborn child, Fathered by the Holy Spirit, and then she and Joseph had several other sons and daughters. Catholicism needs that lie to support the lie that Mary was a perpetual virgin. They need that lie to support the lie that Mary was born without original sin which they need to prove the lie that Mary lived a sinless life which they need to prove the lie that Mary is, in fact, our co-redeemer with Jesus. Jesus and Mary were responsible for securing our Salvation. Lies upon lies upon lies... and not just in Catholicism. False teachers and false prophets are now rampant throughout the Church. Jude will warn his readers that they are coming and were already at work even then.

**Verse 1b:** To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ.'

Jude is addressing, in this one sentence fragment, three crucial truths of true Christianity: that we were called by God, that our Salvation is according to God's own will and choice, that our sanctification is God's work and responsibility and that we are eternally secure in Christ, kept safe by His power until He returns for us.

Jude refers to his readers as 'the called.' It is the same as in all the epistles, the letters from Romans through Jude. This 'calling' is of God's effective, irresistible personal call to Salvation... not to His general call to everyone... this is the call to the chosen. 'Many are called but few are chosen.'

God has called all the World in His general invitation but only those He chose and elected before the foundation of the World are the ones specifically called.

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

He reminds us that for us, God's children, the true Church, His mercy and love are our without measure or end and that is the source of our peace... peace with God and peace in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Jude is also contrasting true Christian faith and Judaism. In the Old Covenant, there is law, striving and failure. In Christianity, there is mercy, peace and love.

**Verse 3:** Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation,'

For God so loved the World but these are His beloved, those upon whom God set His never ending love... His chosen children.

**Verse 3b:** 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.

This sounds as if Jude had written a previous letter that has been lost.

He says it is necessary for him to write this letter, telling them, 'Stand strong in the faith, in the salvation of which I wrote previously... contend earnestly... stand up and speak out when you hear anyone lying about Christianity, bring false doctrine.'

This letter is necessary, we will learn, because false teachers had already crept into churches.

He says our faith was delivered once for all. Men like Peter, James, John, Paul and others, men who were eye witnesses of the Gospel or, like Paul, taught later by Jesus Christ Himself, have delivered to you the true Gospel. Anyone who comes later with any message that doesn't line up perfectly, with what these have written, is a false teacher and a liar.

Whenever we hear someone lying about the truth of the Gospel, Jude commands us, by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, to stand up and contend for the truth.

Recently I saw a video of Brian Houston speaking in his mega church, Hillsong... and he said... an exact quote... **'...the Muslim and you... we actually serve the same God... to a Muslim, Allah... to us, Abba Father, God...'**

That is the kind of rot that infests the Church today. If I had been in that audience... I don't know if I'd've had the courage to stand up and contend, to stand against such an egregious lie but if I heard that and did not stand and contend with him over that lie, even though I'd've probably been removed by their security... I would have been guilty of condoning that lie being spread to his entire building full of foolish people. Not one person in that megachurch took issue with Houston's foolishness.

False teachers and false prophets infect so much of the Church today... they are a wicked infestation. Jesus Christ warned about it, Paul warned about it as did Peter and John... and now Jude is doing so again.

**Verse 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.

Men and women have crept into the Church and now they are on TV, radio, pastoring megachurches and writing books by the thousands.

Jesus said, 'I will build My Church and the gates of Hell will not prevail against it. Satan knew he could not confront and pervert Christianity out in the open so he has worked to infiltrate it by stealth. In ancient times, the lies centered on the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ. He wasn't really God in the flesh, His sacrifice wasn't actually a finished work, all sufficient, and many more lies. In modern times, he started with small, seemingly insignificant heresies, like the social gospel... what could be wrong with the church helping people, after all... the power of positive thinking... name it and claim it... sorcery and witchcraft... the power of casting spells. Send in your money to buy my god's favor.'

Here's a quote from a Church of God site: 'A proper baptism is absolutely necessary in order to have your sins washed away, and to be added to the kingdom of Christ.'

Absolutely necessary! Here is a work that we must do to be saved, even though Paul wrote that we are saved only by God's grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He didn't say, By grace through faith plus baptism.

'... men, who **long ago, were marked out for this condemnation.**'

As difficult as it is to digest, the Bible not only teaches that some were appointed to Salvation but also that some were appointed not to salvation.

Now when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord. And **as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.**' Acts 14:38 (All the rest, who had not been appointed to eternal life, did not believe nor did they ever after.)

They stumble, being disobedient to the word, **to which they also were appointed.** 'But you *are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.*' 1 Peter 2:8

Those to whom Jude is writing, true believers then and now, are not in danger of losing their Salvation but they were, and we are, being warned to know God's Word, to know when we are hearing heresy and to speak up against it, to contend earnestly for the Faith.

**'who turn the grace of our God into lewdness,'** How many 'leaders' have divorced their wives after having an adulterous affair with their secretaries, taken a year off of ministry, or less, and then come right back as if nothing happened? A really foul example would be Todd Bentley... or those who have been caught in a combination of drugs and homosexuality like Ted Haggard. Jimmy Swaggart was another example. All these men, and so many more, took off a few months and were quickly back at it, sometimes bigger than ever. This is just a few of them; the lists go on and on. I'm not perfect and neither is anyone else but pastors and teachers are held, by God, to a higher standard.

My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment. Jms 3:1  
Now Jude will remind us with 3 examples of God's strict requirement to knowing and believing the truth:

**Verse 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.'

All the Israelites were led, by Moses, out of Egypt. A short time and distance later they were poised to enter the Promised Land. Moses sent 12 spies into Canaan to check it out. When the spies returned, 10 of them gave a fearful, unfaithful report while the other two, Joshua and Caleb, said, 'We can do this... God is with us!' The people believed the 10 cowards. Therefore, God caused them to wander in the wilderness for 40 years until everyone who had been 20 years and older, who had all disbelieved God, except Moses, Joshua and Caleb, died. None of them, except Joshua and Caleb, were allowed to enter Canaan.

God has no grandchildren or nieces or nephews. No one can enter the Kingdom of God by blending into the crowd to sneak in unnoticed. Those who believe will be saved. Those who disbelieve will be damned. That is why God places such heavy emphasis on the truth and only the truth being taught and learned.

**Verse 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.'

Jude is referencing the Angels from Genesis 6: **'the sons of God'** saw the daughters of men that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose... There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the **sons of God** came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those *were* the mighty men who *were* of old, men of renown.'

Some people believe that this simply refers to the *Godly line of Seth* and the *sinful line of Cain*... and not to angels at all. I won't take time to teach this all over again but... I believe that this does refer to angels for several reasons, one being, that the only other time this phrase, **sons of God**, in Hebrew is used, 'ben elohim,' is in Job chapter one when **it is obviously angels**.

After introducing Job, the scene shifts to Heaven: 'Now there was a day when the **sons of God** came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. 'And the LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" So Satan answered the LORD and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it."

In Genesis 6, they were the angels 'who did not keep their proper domain.' Their proper domain was in the spiritual realm. They entered the physical realm and intermingled with humans.

If you look in any reputable Bible, this verse in Jude will point you to Gen 6 or at least to 2 Peter 2 and from there to Gen 6.

For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast *them* down to hell and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; 2 Peter 2:4

These angels knew the truth of all of Who God is and His will. They believed that they could disregard God's proper order in Creation

These angels are Jude's second example of the consequences of disbelief.

**Verse 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.

Here is another indication that Gen 6 refers to angels going after human woman and not simply the lines of Enoch and Caan... it says, 'in a similar manner to these, (these, being the angels of verse 6 and going after strange flesh... ) the men of Sodom going after strange flesh, homosexual sin, while the angels went after human flesh... heterospecies sexual sin.

And this is also an indication that the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah really was due, in part, to their rampant sexual sin, including homosexuality. Some like to say that sexual sin played no part in these city's destruction because of Ezek. 16:49 which says, 'Look, this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom: She and her daughter had pride, fullness of food, and abundance of idleness; neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy.' They like to say that the real sin of Sodom was inhospitality... not sexual sin. However, they seem to ignore the very next verse that says: 'And they were haughty and ***committed abomination before Me***; therefore I took them away ***as I saw fit***.'

God said, 'As I saw fit.' He does everything as He sees fit and we have no place to question Him or tell Him, 'We think it would be better if You did things our way.' He saw fit to completely destroy the entire cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, to erase them from the face of the Earth and to send to Hell everyone who lived there except Lot, his wife and their 2 daughters... but Lot's wife died soon after, being turned into a pillar of salt.

These are Jude's three reminders of the consequences of disbelieving and disobeying God's Word and this will be the price and penalty for false teachers and false prophets.

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

These false teachers and prophets engage in sexual perversion. Most of them do not place themselves under any authority. Most of these large megachurches and TV ministries... the leaders don't answer to any governing authority... what the 'pastor' says, is binding on the church... if you don't like it... leave. The 'pastors' train their congregations to treat them like kings. They drive Bentleys and Rolls Royces and fly in their own private jets; some of them have multiple jets.

**Verse 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!"

Jude quotes from two non-canonical, pseudepigraphal 'books.' '1 Enoch' and 'Assumption of Moses.' non-canonical means a book that was not included into the Canon of Scripture. Our Bible, with 66 books, is the final Canon which God inspired those at the Councils of Nicea, AD 325 and Constantinople AD381 to compile.

What we have now, our Bible with 66 books, was compiled by Jerome around AD 400. He had translated it into Latin, it was the Vulgate. He translated it into the 'vulgar' language, the commonly used language of the Roman Empire. Vulgar simply means common. Unfortunately, not long after, the Emperor Constantine chose to make Christianity the official religion of the Empire, using religion to consolidate and control the vast Empire. This was the birth of Catholicism. Paganism, idolatry and goddess worship were all incorporated into Christianity which became Catholicism. The Bible was kept in Latin and was eventually made available only to priests. Anyone else having Scripture was put to death. This began the Dark Ages. The World only came out of the Dark Ages with the Spiritual enlightenment of the Reformation when the truth of Salvation by Grace through Faith was 'rediscovered' by Luther, Calvin and others or the 14th and 15th Centuries.

pseudepigraphal means a book written by someone other than whose name is on it. If someone other than Jude had written this book, it would be pseudepigraphal.

Jude quotes 'Assumption of Moses here when discussing Moses' body. He refers to 1 Enoch in describing angels imprisoned and also in vs 14 when he quotes from 1 Enoch. 1 Enoch is where we get most of our

information regarding what happened in Genesis 6: Angels taking human women as wives. Since the Holy Spirit inspired Jude to refer to these other books means that what Jude is referencing is absolutely true but it doesn't mean that the rest of those books are necessarily true. However, since Jude does refer to 1 Enoch, it certainly gives credence to considering other things the book says, such as re: Gen. 6.

In the Bible, we are only told that Moses died on Mt. Nebo, having been denied, by God, from entering the Promised Land because of his outburst of anger at striking the Rock in response to the people's complaining. It must have been that God sent Michael, the archangel who watches over Israel, down to bury Moses' body. Even Michael, probably the most powerful angel, didn't rebuke Satan and yet, so many false teachers today are teaching Christians to go after demons... attack them, send them to the pit. I have no plan or desire to confront demons... I want to always keep Jesus Christ between me and them.

In fact... remember what Jesus said about these very same ones referenced by Jude: 'Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, **cast out demons in Your name**, and done many wonders in Your name?' <sup>23</sup> And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me.'

**Verse 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.

These false teachers have been blinded by Satan; they don't understand the truth of Scripture, of Redemption and Salvation. Don't forget: those that are false teachers, infesting television airwaves, are not born again; they are not saved; they are the blind who lead the blind and they will all fall into the pit. They corrupt themselves and all whom they teach with their evil and pernicious ways.

**Verse 11:** Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit, and perished in the rebellion of Korah.

Cain was envious and filled with hatred. Balaam was greedy and self seeking. Korah was swallowed up into the Earth when he tried to usurp authority in the ministries of Moses and Aaron.