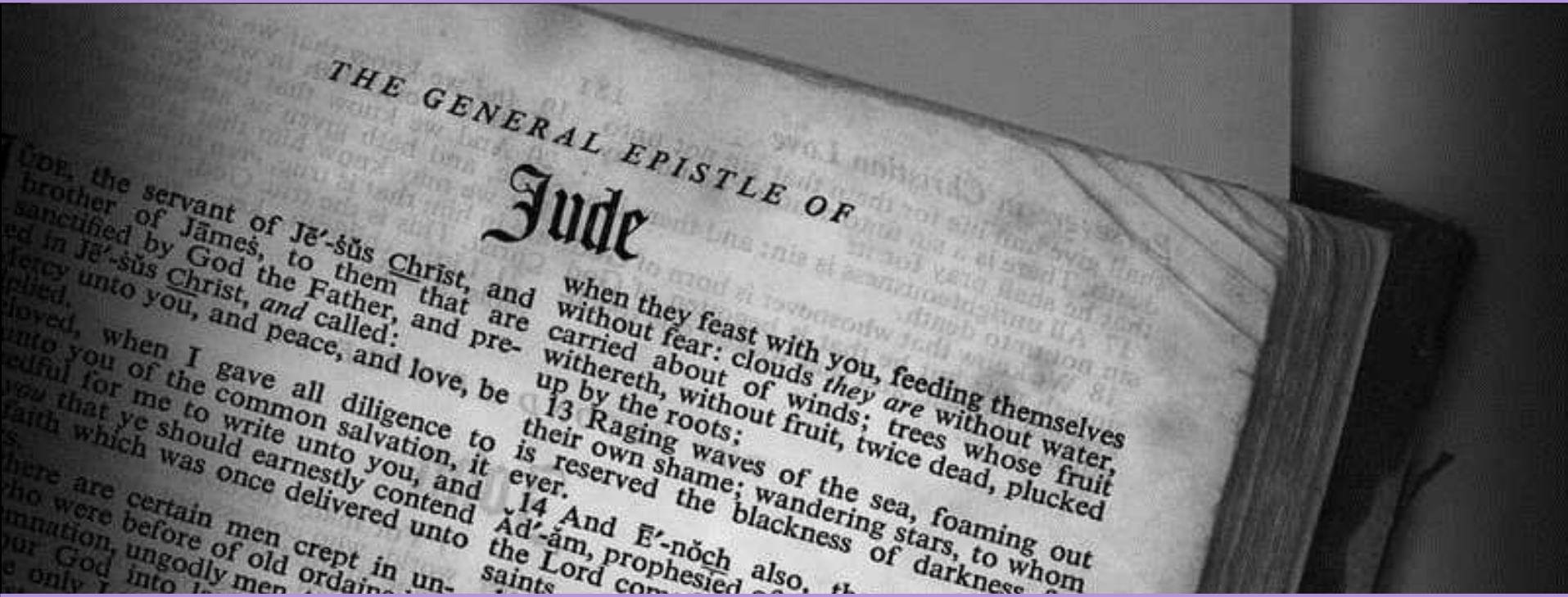




Jude



...a verse by verse study

From: Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ,
and a brother of James.

To: Christians everywhere-beloved of
God and chosen by him. May you be
given more and more of God's kindness,
peace, and love.

Dearly loved friends, I had been planning
to write you some thoughts about the
salvation God has given us, but now I
find I must write of something else
instead, urging you to stoutly defend the
truth that God gave once for all to his
people to keep without change through
the years.

I say this because some godless
teachers have wormed their way in
among you, saying that after we
become Christians we can do just as we
like without fear of God's punishment.

The fate of such people was written long ago, for they have turned against our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

My answer to them is: Remember this fact-which you know already-that the Lord saved a whole nation of people out of the land of Egypt and then killed every one of them who did not trust and obey him.

And I remind you of those angels who were once pure and holy but turned to a life of sin. Now God has them chained up in prisons of darkness, waiting for the judgment day.

And don't forget the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah and their neighboring towns, all full of lust of every kind, including lust of men for other men.

Those cities were destroyed by fire and continue to be a warning to us that there is a hell in which sinners are punished.

Yet these false teachers carelessly go right on living their evil, immoral lives, degrading their bodies and laughing at those in authority over them, even scoffing at the Glorious Ones.

Yet Michael, one of the mightiest of the angels, when he was arguing with Satan about Moses' body, did not dare to accuse even Satan, or jeer at him, but simply said, "The Lord rebuke you."

But these men mock and curse at anything they do not understand, and like animals, they do whatever they feel like, thereby ruining their souls.

Woe upon them! For they follow the example of Cain who killed his brother; and like Balaam, they will do anything for money; and like Korah, they have disobeyed God and will die under his curse.

When these men join you at the love feasts of the church, they are evil smears among you, laughing and carrying on, gorging and stuffing themselves without a thought for others.

They are like clouds blowing over dry land without giving rain, promising much, but producing nothing.

They are like fruit trees without any fruit at picking time. They are not only dead, but doubly dead, for they have been pulled out, roots and all, to be burned.

All they leave behind them is shame and disgrace like the dirty foam left along the beach by the wild waves. They wander around looking as bright as stars, but ahead of them is the everlasting gloom and darkness that God has prepared for them.

Enoch, who lived seven generations after Adam, knew about these men and said this about them: "See, the Lord is coming with millions of his holy ones. He will bring the people of the world before him in judgment, to receive just punishment and to prove the terrible things they have done in rebellion against God, revealing all they have said against him." These men are constant gripers, never satisfied, doing whatever evil they feel like; they are loudmouthed "show-offs," and when they show respect for others, it is only to get something from them in return.

Dear friends, remember what the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ told you, that in the last times there would come these scoffers whose whole purpose in life is to enjoy themselves in every evil way imaginable. They stir up arguments; they love the evil things of the world; they do not have the Holy Spirit living in them.

But you, dear friends, must build up your lives ever more strongly upon the foundation of our holy faith, learning to pray in the power and strength of the Holy Spirit.

Stay always within the boundaries where God's love can reach and bless you. Wait patiently for the eternal life that our Lord Jesus Christ in his mercy is going to give you. Try to help those who argue against you. Be merciful to those who doubt

Save some by snatching them as from the very flames of hell itself. And as for others, help them to find the Lord by being kind to them, but be careful that you yourselves aren't pulled along into their sins. Hate every trace of their sin while being merciful to them as sinners.

And now—all glory to him who alone is God, who saves us through Jesus Christ our Lord; yes, splendor and majesty, all power and authority are his from the beginning; his they are and his they evermore shall be.

And he is able to keep you from slipping and falling away, and to bring you, sinless and perfect, into his glorious presence with mighty shouts of everlasting joy. Amen.

The Epistle of Jude

- Written by Jude
 - the half brother of Jesus
 - Matthew 13:55-56 James / Joses / Simon / Jude + 2(?) Sisters
- Written to all believers
- Written to warn and encourage
 - Jude urges us to *remember* the things we have learned and heed the warnings
 - The Exodus & Wilderness Wanderings (Ex14,32 / Deut 32:18)
 - The Days of Noah (Gen 6)
 - Sodom & Gomorrah (Gen 19)
 - The death of Moses (Deut 34)
 - Cain (Gen 4)
 - Balaam
 - Enoch (Gen 5)

Reason for Writing

- To contend for the faith
- *Why* to contend: Because of apostates vv3-16
 - Their subtle perversions
 - Their certain doom
 - Their impious ways
 - Their utter falsity
- *How* to contend: Resources vv17-23
 - Apostasy has been foretold
 - Build, Pray, Keep, Look...
 - Support those who contend

Character of Apostates

- 1) Filthy dreamers
- 2) Defile the flesh
- 3) Despise dominion
- 4) Speak evil of dignities
- 5) Speak evil of what they don't know
- 6) They act on carnal instincts

Character of Apostates

- 7) Gone in the way of Cain
- 8) Ran greedily after the error of Balaam
- 9) Destroyed themselves in the gainsaying of Korah

Jude's Analysis

Apostates:

- 1) Reject God's Word
- 2) Mistake His Grace for a license to sin
- 3) Do not appreciate Spiritual things

They:

- 1) Want to come to God on their terms
- 2) Want to enjoy worldly pleasures
- 3) Want position and recognition

Character of Apostates

- 10) Spots (hidden rocks) in your love feasts
- 11) Feed themselves without fear
- 12) They are as clouds without water
- 13) Carried about of winds
- 14) Trees whose fruit withers
- 15) Without fruit
- 16) Twice dead
- 17) Plucked up by the roots
- 18) Raging waves of the sea
- 19) Foaming out shame
- 20) Wandering stars

Character of Apostates

21) Murmurers

22) Complainers

– We are to do all things without murmuring & complaining - Phil 2:14

23) Walking after their own lusts

24) Their mouth speaks great swelling words

– No corrupt word should proceed from our mouths – Eph 4:19

25) Having men's persons in admiration because of advantage

– We are to be impartial – James 2:1-4

Character of Apostates

26) Mockers

- as Peter had foretold

27) Walking after ungodly lusts

- as opposed to walking in the Spirit/ in the Way

28) Separate themselves

- To avoid accountability

29) Sensual

- Their 'freedom' is actually bondage

30) Without the Spirit

- They are unsaved and cannot discern

20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

Jude v20



21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Jude v21



22 And of some have compassion, making a difference:
And others save with fear, pulling them out of the
fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

Jude v22



23 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling,
and to present you faultless before the presence of
his glory with exceeding joy,

24 To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and
majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever.
Amen.

Jude v23-24



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An Active Christian Life v20-23

- 7 Christian practices that guarantee security
 - 1) Building yourself up on your most holy faith
 - 2) Praying in the Holy Spirit
 - 3) Keep yourselves in the love of God
 - 4) Looking for the mercy of Jesus Christ
 - 5) Having compassion (denying self)
 - 6) Doing good works
 - 7) Evangelism

20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,
21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Jude v20-21

- The objective: “Keep yourself in the love of God”
- To do that, Jude gives us two anchors:
 - 1) Build yourself up in your most holy faith
 - 2) Pray in the Holy Spirit

Our Mandate

- Keep yourself in the Love of God
- Not, keep *loving* God...
- But..
- *Keep yourself* in a place where you can be a recipient of God's love.
 - The father of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-32) never stopped loving his wayward son
 - However, the prodigal son removed himself from his father's presence & blessing

Removed From Blessing

¹⁸ If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:

Psalm 66:18

- If we regard iniquity God cannot grant us an audience in His presence
- God cannot allow anything in His presence that is unholy (see 1 Tim 6:16)
- That is why Jesus cried out “*My God, why hast Thou forsaken me?*” as He stood in our place

Removed From Blessing

- Israel were espoused to God
 - God led them and promised them blessing for obedience
 - But when they forsook Him, His blessing was removed
-
- Samson knew the blessing of God on his life
 - Yet when he removed himself, he lost the presence and power of God in his life

Removed From Blessing

⁷ If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door.

Genesis 4:7

- Cain removed himself from the place of blessing by offering the best he had.
 - Our best is as filthy rags before God!
- Our standing with God is solely based upon the shed blood of the Lamb

20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Jude v20-21

- Keep yourself in the place of blessing
- Keep 'walking in the way' – Psalm 119
- Keep 'walking in the Spirit' – Galatians 5:16

20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Jude v20-21

- Greek: aorist tense: *'build and keep on building'*
- *'to finish the structure of which the foundation has already been laid'*
 - See 1 Corinthians 3! ...also 1 Peter 2:5
- We cannot build! Christ alone builds the house!
- Note the key here is FAITH!
- It is trusting Jesus to do everything!

- 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.
- 5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

John 15:4-5

- Keep going out daily to get the Manor!
- *“I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst”* – John 6:35

20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Jude v20-21

- *“Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him”* – Matthew 6:8
- We don't know what to ask for, so we must learn to 'pray in the Spirit', allowing Him to lead us in our prayers

20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Jude v20-21

- We are to be constantly looking for His return for us.
- Mercy? 'God has not appointed us to wrath'!
- If we are looking for His return we will keep ourselves unspotted from the world – James 1:27

Recap

- To keep ourselves in the love of God:
 - 1) Abide in Christ – daily!
 - 2) Pray in the Spirit
 - 3) Keep looking for His return

Golden Rule!

¹² Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

Philippians 2:12

- Before ministering to others, make sure all is well at home!

22 And of some have compassion, making a difference:
And others save with fear, pulling them out of the
fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

Jude v22



An Active Christian Life v20-23

- 7 Christian practices that guarantee security
 - 1) Building yourself up on your most holy faith
 - 2) Praying in the Holy Spirit
 - 3) Keep yourselves in the love of God
 - 4) Looking for the mercy of Jesus Christ
 - 5) Having compassion (denying self)
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 - 7) Evangelism

22 And of some have compassion, making a difference:
And others save with fear, pulling them out of the
fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

Jude v22

Everyone has natural affinities; some people we like and others we do not like. We must never let those likes and dislikes rule in our Christian life. "If we walk in the light as God is in the light," God will give us communion with people for whom we have no natural affinity. - Oswald Chambers

22 And of some have compassion, making a difference:
And others save with fear, pulling them out of the
fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

Jude v22

*“Have you no wish for others to be saved? Then you're not
saved yourself, be sure of that!”* - Charles Spurgeon

“freely ye have received, freely give”. – Matthew 10:8

22 And of some have compassion, making a difference:
And others save with fear, pulling them out of the
fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

Jude v22

“I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase”

– 1 Corinthians 3:6

- The one who sows is not necessarily the one who waters.
- The one who waters is not necessarily the one who reaps.
- *“For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?”* – 1 Thessalonians 2:19
- Are you making a difference?

22 And of some have compassion, making a difference:
And others save with fear, pulling them out of the
fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

Jude v22

- Others save... but with extreme caution lest you be engulfed
- Our attitude to sin must be the same as God's!
- Even a little contaminant is enough ruin a priceless garment

23 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling,
and to present you faultless before the presence of
his glory with exceeding joy,

24 To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and
majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever.
Amen.

Jude v23-24

- Note that God is able to do three things:
 - 1) To keep you from falling
 - 2) To present you faultless
 - 3) Fill you with exceeding joy

23 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling,
and to present you faultless before the presence of
his glory with exceeding joy,

Jude v23

- God is able to keep you from falling
- God will make a way of escape from temptation – 1 Cor 10:13
- But we each have to choose!
- It is a moment-by-moment choice to *walk in the way* or *walk in the flesh*

23 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling,
and to present you faultless before the presence of
his glory with exceeding joy,

Jude v23

- This is God's work!
- You will be presented faultless because it is based on the completed work of Christ!
- ALL your sin is paid for in full
- *"He became sin..."* - 2 Corinthians 5:21

Cleansed From Sin

- 1 Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
- 2 Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity,

Psalm 32:1-2

Cleansed From Sin

- 5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,
- 6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

Ephesians 1:5-6

23 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling,
and to present you faultless before the presence of
his glory with exceeding joy,

Jude v23

- The promise of 'exceeding joy' depends on our abiding in Christ so that He can keep us from falling
- See - 1 Corinthians 3:15 / 2 John 1:8

24 To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Jude v24

- God is the only wise God, but He is also the only One who is truly wise
- Note that God is our Saviour
- Jesus is our Saviour, therefore Jesus is God!
- His is the dominion, power and glory...
- Forever!



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