

Jude

Jesus

I. Greeting Called/Sanctified/Preserved

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

- **Jesus had 4 Half-Brothers:** James, Joseph, Simon, and **Jude** [Mat 13:55, Mark 6:3]
- **Became believers after Jesus Resurrection...**

Jude begins: From Brother of Jesus to Bondservant of Jesus
To Called/Sanctified/Preserved. Past Tense. Done deal

Romans 8:30 ...whom He [God] **predestined**, these He also **called**; whom He **called**, these He also **justified**; and whom He **justified**, these He also **glorified**.

Many called/Few are chosen
Those who answer the call/invitation are those who were chosen

Mercy/Peace/Love
From Jude/Father/Son/Holy Spirit

1 Peter 1:2 To the elect according to the foreknowledge of God **the Father**, in sanctification of **the Spirit**, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of **Jesus Christ**: Grace to you and peace be **multiplied**.

Mercy/Peace/Love Multiplied... lit Bundled up and given to You!

II. Contend for the Faith

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.

I was excited to write a happy letter about Salvation
I found it necessary instead to exhort you: Fight for the faith that saved you!

Excited to Encourage
Necessary to Exhort

Philippians 1:6 ...He who has begun a good work in you **will complete it** until the day of Jesus Christ...

IOWs V 1 Salvation is in the bag... Called/Sanctified/Preserved. Done
The Lord speaks to Jude... Change *your message* to *My message*.

New Message: Exhort them to Contend earnestly for the faith
Lit. Get ready to enter the contest/Fight for the faith you have/others need

Why? While you were sleeping the devil has been working...

4 For certain men have **crept in unnoticed...**

- **Crept:** gr. *par-ice-doo'-no* Lit To enter secretly, slip in stealthily. rt. Go into/Go under
- **Creep:** gr. *en-doo'-no* Lit To put on. Envelop. Hide in. rt. To sink into

1 Peter 5:7 ...cast all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. [Does not mean to go to sleep] **8 Be sober, be vigilant;** because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, **seeking whom he may devour.** **9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith**

The Devil Eats those who Sleep [NJC]

While you were sleeping he has been working in your church...Creeping in through certain men

4b... [Men] 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 Marked Out. Men with no Fear of God**
 1. **Teach Licentiousness:** Unbridled lust, excess, wantonness, outrageousness, shamelessness, insolence, Seen any of this from TV Evangelists?
 2. **Deny Jesus as God/Deny His Authority**

You were warned about this in OT Scripture ...

III. Old/New Apostates

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.** **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; **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.**

I'm reminding you of what you once knew
God is a consuming fire. His judgment is sure as seen in 3 OT Examples

- **Unbelieving Jews**
- **Fallen Angels**
- **Sodom/Gomorrah**

Commonality: Transgression/Trans-aggression
Unfaithful/Treacherous/Trespassers

Pridefully hoping they can willfully sin/Get away w/it
Presumptuous Sin: Straying out of their lane. Transgressing...

- **Unbelieving Jews:** Transgressed by unbelief leading to greater sin/death. Out of bounds

1 Corinthians 10:5 But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. **6** Now these things **became our examples**, to the intent that **we should not lust after evil things** as they also lusted. **7** And do not become **idolaters** as were some of them. As it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play." **8** Nor let us commit **sexual immorality**, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell; **9** nor let us **tempt Christ**, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents; **10** nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer. **11** Now all these things **happened to them as examples**, and they were written for **our admonition**, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

- **Fallen Angels:** Transgressed by not keeping to their domain. Strayed from their lane

Left their abode: gr. *oy-kay-tay-ree-on*. Dwelling. House. Body.

Genesis 6:1 Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, **2** that the sons of God [Fallen Angels possessing men] saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose. **3** And the Lord said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years." **4** 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...**11** The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. **12** So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth.

- **Sodom/Gomorrah:** Transgressed by giving themselves over to strange flesh. Crossed the line

Genesis 19:24 Then the Lord rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from the Lord out of the heavens. [Followed by suffering the vengeance of Eternal Fire v 7]

2 Peter 2:6 [God turned...] the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly...**9** then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, **10** and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. **They are presumptuous, self-willed.**

Jude reminds his recipients of 3 sure OT Examples...Jews.Angels.Sodom
All Transgressed/All went their own way not fearing God/All were judged

8 Likewise also these **dreamers...**

Dreamers: Metaph. Beguiled w/sensual images/Carried away to immoral conduct

8b These dreamers **defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of dignitaries.**

Here's how you spot a creep
Men are marked out v 4

▪ **Transgressions to look for...**

1. Teach Licentiousness
2. Deny the Deity of Jesus/His Lordship
3. **Defile the Flesh:** Dye w/another color. Pollute. Contaminate self/others
4. **Reject Authority**
5. **Speak Evil of Dignitaries,** Disrespect of God's Authority Structure

Giving themselves/others license to speak/To do what God condemns
Believing they're beyond the reach of God's Consuming Fire

Speaking Evil of/Rejecting Authority

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!**"

- God buried Moses in an unmarked grave so not to be found/worshiped
- Archangel Michael/Ex-Archangel Satan duked it out
- Michael allowed the LORD to rebuke Satan...as should we

Exodus 22:28 "You shall not revile God, **nor curse a ruler of your people** [God's anointed].

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.

2 Peter 2:12 But these, like natural brute beasts **made to be caught and destroyed**, speak **evil of the things they do not understand**, and will utterly perish in their own corruption,

Speak whatever they feel/Corrupting themselves
Not led by the Holy Spirit/Given over to demons

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.

Jude wanted to write a happy letter
Instead he is filled with righteous anger toward those who pervert the faith

Woe to them! It is not a small thing to stumble a little one

Matthew 18:6 [Millstone award] ...whoever causes one of these little ones **who believe in Me** to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

Q. What made them Creeps? **A.** Motives
Consumed with Self/Self-Exaltation

- **Gone** **The Way of Cain** Jealousy
- **Ran to** **The Error of Balaam** Greed
- **Perished in** **The Rebellion of Korah** Despising Authority. Pride

3 Ways Churches are Destroyed by Creeps

- **Jealousy/Envy:** The Way of Cain

1 John 3:12 ...[Don't be like...] Cain who was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because **his works were evil and his brother's righteous.**

- **Greed:** The Error of Balaam

2 Peter 2:15 They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who **loved the wages of unrighteousness...** Paid by a pagan king to curse God's people

- **Despising Authority:** Rebellion of Korah

Numbers 16:1 Now Korah the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, with Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab, and On the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, **took men**; 2 and they **rose up** before Moses with some of the children of Israel, two hundred and fifty leaders of the congregation, representatives of the congregation, men of renown. 3 They **gathered together** against Moses and Aaron, and said to them, "You take too much upon yourselves, for all the congregation is holy, every one of them, and the Lord is among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the Lord?" **...31** Now it came to pass, as he finished speaking all these words, that the **ground split apart under them**, 32 and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, with their households and all the men with Korah, with all their goods. 33 So they and all those with them went down alive into the pit; the earth closed over them, and they **perished from among the assembly**. 34 Then all Israel who were around them fled at their cry, for they said, "Lest the earth swallow us up also!" 35 And a fire came out from the Lord and consumed the two hundred and fifty men who were offering incense **...41 On the next day** all the congregation of the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron, saying, "**You have killed the people of the Lord.**" 42 Now it happened, when the congregation had gathered against Moses and Aaron, that they turned toward the tabernacle of meeting; and suddenly the cloud covered it, and the glory of the Lord appeared. 43 Then Moses and Aaron came before the tabernacle of meeting. 44 And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 45 "Get away from among this congregation, that I may consume them in a moment." And they fell on their faces. 46 So Moses said to Aaron, "Take a censer and put fire in it from the altar, put incense on it, and take it quickly to the congregation and make atonement for them; for wrath has gone out from the Lord. The plague has begun." 47 Then Aaron took it as Moses commanded, and ran into the midst of the assembly; and already the plague had begun among the people. So he put in the incense and made atonement for the people. 48 And he **stood between the dead and the living; so the plague was stopped**. 49 Now those who died in the plague were fourteen thousand seven hundred, besides those who died in the Korah incident. 50 So Aaron returned to Moses at the door of the tabernacle of meeting, for the **plague had stopped**.

- **Transgressions to look for...**

1. **Teaching** Licentiousness
2. **Denying** the Deity/Authority of Jesus
3. **Defiling** the Flesh: Dye w/another color. Pollute. Contaminate self/others

4. **Rejecting** Authority
5. **Speaking** Evil of Dignitaries, i.e. what/who God calls

- **Motivations to Spot**

- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Going... | The Way of Cain | Jealousy |
| 2. Running to... | The Error of Balaam | Greed |
| 3. Conspiring like... | The Rebellion of Korah | Despising Authority. Pride |

IV. Apostates Depraved/Doomed

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

- **Dangerous Spots** at your love feasts before Communion

Spots: gr. *spilas*. Lit. a rock in the sea, ledge, reef. metaph. of men who by their conduct damage others morally, wreck them as it were. No fear of God, i.e. fools claiming to be wise

- **Empty Clouds:** Promising rain/Filled w/nothing. Spiritual buffoons led by emotions.
- **Fruitless Trees:** 2x Dead. Dead while alive/Awaiting 2nd Death
- **Waves:** Crashing/Foaming then disappearing...

Busyness is no mark of correctness. The fruit of these men was like the foam or scum at the seashore. Jude has in mind the ugly shoreline after a storm has washed up all sorts of driftwood, seaweed and debris. [Guzik]

- **Stars:** Comets appearing/moving like they know where they're going. Shooting stars vs stability

All Metaphors for those who promise all but deliver nothing. Creeps/Fakers
For whom is Reserved the Blackness of Darkness Forever

14 Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, **prophesied about these men also...**

Jude quoting of the book of Enoch doesn't mean that the whole book of Enoch inspired Scripture — *only the portion Jude quotes.*[Guzik]

14b ... "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints

- **The Lord is Coming 2X**

1. **In the air to get His saints** at the Rapture before the Tribulation
2. **With His saints to the earth at Judgment** at the end of the Tribulation

Jude speaks of the Latter
Jesus Christ/His church coming to Earth after the Tribulation for Judgment...

15 ...to execute **judgment on all...**

Judgment on All the Earth
Sheep and Goat Judgment Mat 25

15b ... 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."**

Transgressors will be Judged
Transgressors are Ungodly...Those who speak/act against Jesus

1 Samuel 2:3 [Hannah] "Talk no more so very proudly; Let no arrogance come from your mouth, For the Lord is the God of knowledge; And by Him actions are weighed."

V. They Will Come

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

▪ **Transgressions to look for...**

1. Teach Licentiousness
2. Deny the Deity of Jesus
3. Defile the Flesh: Dye w/another color. Pollute. Contaminate
4. Reject Authority
5. Speak Evil of Dignitaries, i.e. what God calls good

▪ **Motivations to Spot...**

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Jealousy | Going The Way of Cain |
| 2. Greed | Running to The Error of Balaam |
| 3. Despising Authority | The Rebellion of Korah |

▪ **Actions to be aware of...**

1. **Grumbling:** Nothing is right at this church
2. **Complaining:** Leadership doesn't know what they're doing
3. **Lusting:** Coveting so called prominent positions
4. **Spouting:** How great they are and...
5. **Flattering:** How great you are too...*let's make some needed changes together*

Don't be like that... Don't be tempted by that...Get rid of that
Or lose your church

17 But you, beloved, **remember the words** which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: 18 how they told you that **there would be mockers in the last time** who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. 19 These are sensual persons, who **cause divisions**, not having the Spirit.

Don't be a Mocker. Don't be a Divider.
Sign of being unsaved/Not having the Spirit of God v18

Romans 8:9 ...you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, **if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.**

They *will* come...

Acts 20:29 For I **know this**, that after my departure savage wolves **will come** in among you, not sparing the flock. 30 Also from among yourselves men **will rise** up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. 31 Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.

1 Timothy 4:1 Now the **Spirit expressly** says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, 2 speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron

2 Timothy 3:1 **But know this**, that in the last days **perilous times will come**: 2 For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, 4 traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5 having a **form of godliness** but denying its power. And from such people turn away! 6 For of **this sort are those who creep into households** and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, 7 **always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth**. 8 Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, **so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds**, disapproved concerning the faith; 9 but they will progress no further, for their folly will be manifest to all, as theirs also was.

- Creeps are exposed by truth which today is a rare commodity...

2 Timothy 4:3 For the time will come when they will **not endure sound doctrine**, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers...

Sign of Last Days: Mockers/Dividers will come
No fear of God or Eternal Judgment

2 Peter 3:3 ...knowing this first: that **scoffers will come** in the last days, walking according to their own lusts...

Stay in the Word. Stay in the Word

VI. Church Maintenance

20 **But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, 21 keep yourselves in the love of God**

How to Keep your Church Healthy

- **Maintain:** Deal w/Creeps/Trans-aggressors
- **Edify** One Another

- **Pray.** Really pray to God
- **Keep** yourself in the love of God. Obedience. C.f. John 15

Living Everyday with an Eternal Perspective...

21b ...looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

He is coming for His church unto Eternal Life

Titus 2:13 ...look for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ...

Hebrews 9:28 ...To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

1 John 3:2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. **3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.**

What about those who come in?

Spirit-Led Discernment/Humility is Essential when Confronting Potential Wolves...

- **Wolf Spotters:** Ephesus went to both extremes...Pray for balance
 1. **Acts 20:** Paul warned them about being too lenient. More Love than Truth
 2. **Rev. 2:** Jesus rebuked them for lack of love. More Truth than Love

Restoration if at all Possible

Galatians 6:1 Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself **lest you also be tempted.**

Restoration is the Goal if at all Possible

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

V 1 We are Called/Sanctified/Preserved. Done.

Rejoice in your Salvation while at the same time *Keeping your eyes open for Creeps*

Contending for the faith means Spotting/Confronting/Dealing w/Trespassers

Romans 16:17 Now I urge you, brethren, **note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them.** **18** For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.

VII. Glory to God

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,

Saving/Keeping Power of Jesus
Presenting His Bride to the Father

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