

**Jude - a Book Study introduction** a study for Gulf Coast Baptist Church  
Sunday Evening Breakouts by Steve Thomas 6-2-24

**Introduction**

Jude is one of the shortest books in the canon, but is filled with doctrine and references to some amazing Old Testament accounts. The short letter has three sections, an opening charge, the body of the letter, marked with at least 10 references to Jewish literature, some found in the Old Testament warning God's people of false teachers that have infiltrated the early church, and a closing. Jude finishes the book with closing charge where he tells the believers how to contend for the faith, a greatly misunderstood phrase used in modern day Christianity to justify carnality and contention among God's people. These instructions are of vital importance to the believer who is focused on living the life that God intends for him.

**The Opening Charge**

Jude identifies himself, gives a greeting, and then sets out the purpose of his letter. Having planned on writing a larger letter dealing with the faith that they all had in common, he instead felt constrained to write this shorter letter dealing with a present crisis in the Church. Jude warns of the men who have crept in preaching a false doctrine. He urges God's people to contend for the faith, warning that these men are denying Christ, and leading God's people into lasciviousness.

**Allusions to Jewish Literature**

In order to illustrate his point about the dangers now facing the Church, Jude alludes to several passages that fill Old Testament passages and a few well-known Jewish passages not found in the canon of Scripture. The passages all refer to rebellion and the Divine Justice that followed. Jude also refers to a trio of characters who defied God's orders and challenged the authority that He set up in their lives. Jude's use of these accounts are not random, but calculated to send a message that God will not allow the attack on His Church to stand without His intervention. These rebels in the Old Testament were not content with their own rebellion, but sought to corrupt others as well. Jude then uses three metaphors to further illustrate his point calling attention selfish shepherds, clouds without rain, and chaotic waves, all found in OT literature.

Jude then refers to a book not found in the canon, the book of Enoch. However, the book of Enoch is actually quoting from three Old Testament books, Deuteronomy, Zechariah, and Isaiah. Jude gives a message echoed by Peter, John, Paul, and even Jesus himself to warn of false teachers that are here and more that will be on the way.

**Closing Charge**

Jude's closing is a powerful warning filled with actionable steps for the Grace Believer. Jude sends the message that a proper Theology must be accompanied by Godly behavior. He also gives a pathway to make sure that a believer can accomplish this. He directs the believer to build themselves up on their faith, keep themselves in the love of God, and to have compassion on two groups of people - those in doubt and those who are in need of rescue. He closes with a doxology directing attention towards God who will accomplish the work.



**JESUS BROTHERS**  
AFTER THE RESURRECTION THEY BECAME DISCIPLES, LEADERS AND MESSENGERS (1 CORINTHIANS 15:9)



**JUDAH**  
THEY BECAME DISCIPLES, LEADERS AND MESSENGERS

# THE LETTER OF JUDAH

**JUDAH**  
GREEK: ΙΟΥΔΑΣ  
HEBREW: יהודה

**GOD'S GRACE DEMANDS A WHOLE-LIFE RESPONSE**  
JUDAH DOESN'T FOCUS ON THEOLOGY, BUT ON PRACTICAL CHOICES (SEE JOHN 14:15)

## WV1-4 OPENING CHARGE

**WV1-3** CONTINUING FOR THE FAITH

**BUT THIS WAS MORE URGENT**

**AND THIS WAS PLANNED**

**SCANDAL! JUDAH WASN'T SUPPOSE TO BE HERE!**

**BECAUSE OF THE CONSPIRACY**

**WE ARE FREE IN CHRIST**

**EVERYTHING IS NOW ALLOWABLE!**

**THEY UNSTOLE GOD'S GRACE AS A LICENSE TO SIN.**

**AND REJECT THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS.**

## WV5-19 ACCUSATION OF CORRUPT LEADERS

**WRITTEN IN A COMMUNITY**

**ASSUMES DEEP KNOWLEDGE OF THE HEBREW BIBLE & OTHER JEWISH LITERATURE**

**WHY DOES JUDAH QUOTE FROM STRANGE BOOKS?**

**LEOPARD?**

**TEMPER? MOSES?**

**1** **BEETH'S OUTRAGES** (HEBREWS 1)  
**2** **REBELLIOUS ARABS** (1 CORINTH 10)  
**3** **NEW BE GOOD!** (1 CORINTH 10)  
**4** **BENEFITTING FROM THE CROSS** (1 CORINTH 10)  
**5** **REBELS AGAINST GOD'S AUTHORITY**  
**6** **SEXUALLY IMMORAL**  
**7** **REJECT GOD'S MESSENGERS**

## WV20-25 CLOSING CHARGE

**WV20-21** CONTINUING FOR THE FAITH ON METAPHOR: COMMUNITY OF JESUS-TEMPLE

**STAYING ALERT**

**LOVE GOD**

**THE MOST = THE GOOD HOLY FAITH**

**PLEASE THE ONLY GOD AND CAN KEEP YOU FROM SINNING**

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