

(vv1,2) *'Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James...'* And so begins this one-chapter letter, written by Jesus' half-brother Jude. He was also the brother of James, the leader in the church at Jerusalem and the writer of the New Testament Epistle that bears his name.

This letter is about apostasy (**a falling away, defection**). The message is incredibly applicable to the days we live in. *'...to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called: Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied.'* Written to believers, this message is going to get into heavy material, the Holy Spirit wants us to know that we are purified, set apart unto God, our salvation is kept by Jesus, who also Personally invited each one of us into His Kingdom. These activities are done by God in you.

(v3) *'Beloved...'* Jude is writing to believers, if you are not saved this letter has little meaning in your life. *'...when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation...'* Jude set out to write a letter concerning the glorious salvation we share in, but God had something else in mind. Let's look at what Peter wrote concerning this salvation we share in:

2 PETER 2 (vv1-12) Peter uses the same idea of the *'grace and peace'* that we have through the righteousness of Jesus Christ (**JEREMIAH 23:5-8; 33:14-22**). Jesus is our Righteousness, this is not just a New Testament idea, all through the Old Testament we see that the saved are those who believe God and receive Him into their lives as Lord and Savior (**2 PETER 1:1,2; ROMANS 1:16,17; 3:19-28; PHILIPPIANS 3:1-10**). As Peter writes we can understand that in his letter our common salvation is an important and encouraging subject. God wants us to have His grace and peace in our lives by each believer being established in the truth concerning Jesus Christ.

(v3) *'...it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.'* The Holy Spirit moved powerfully upon Jude to change his subject and encourage the church then and now of the need to battle for the faith. False teachers will always attack the Word of God, as they do in abundance today. With the words *'...the faith which was once delivered unto the saints'* we must understand that there is nothing new to be given, God's Word, the Bible, is complete and anyone or any group which claims new revelation from God are obviously corrupt and should not be believed.

GALATIANS 1 (vv13-24) The original faith was being destroyed by false teachers in Jude's time, as it is today. Paul would write by inspiration of the Holy

Spirit: *'But when it pleased God, Who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by His grace, To reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the heathen...'* the faith *'once delivered'* is the whole body of revealed salvation truth as contained in the Bible. Jesus is that Salvation; Jesus is the Faith! We contend by upholding the Word of God for its:

- inspiration (God-breathed)
- inerrancy (without error)
- authority (power)
- sufficiency (contains all of God's Truth)

The Bible is God's Holy Word; we contend by always understanding that His Truth is revealed in the Bible and anyone who attacks that attacks God Himself.

GALATIANS 3 (vv10-29) *'Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree.)'* We are redeemed by Jesus, He alone atoned for the sins of the world. *'Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.'* Jesus is the faith; we contend by always speaking of Jesus and what He alone has done.

1 CORINTHIANS 15 (vv1-8) Paul lays out for us the Gospel essentials:

- *'that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures'*
- *'and that He was buried'*
- *'and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures'*

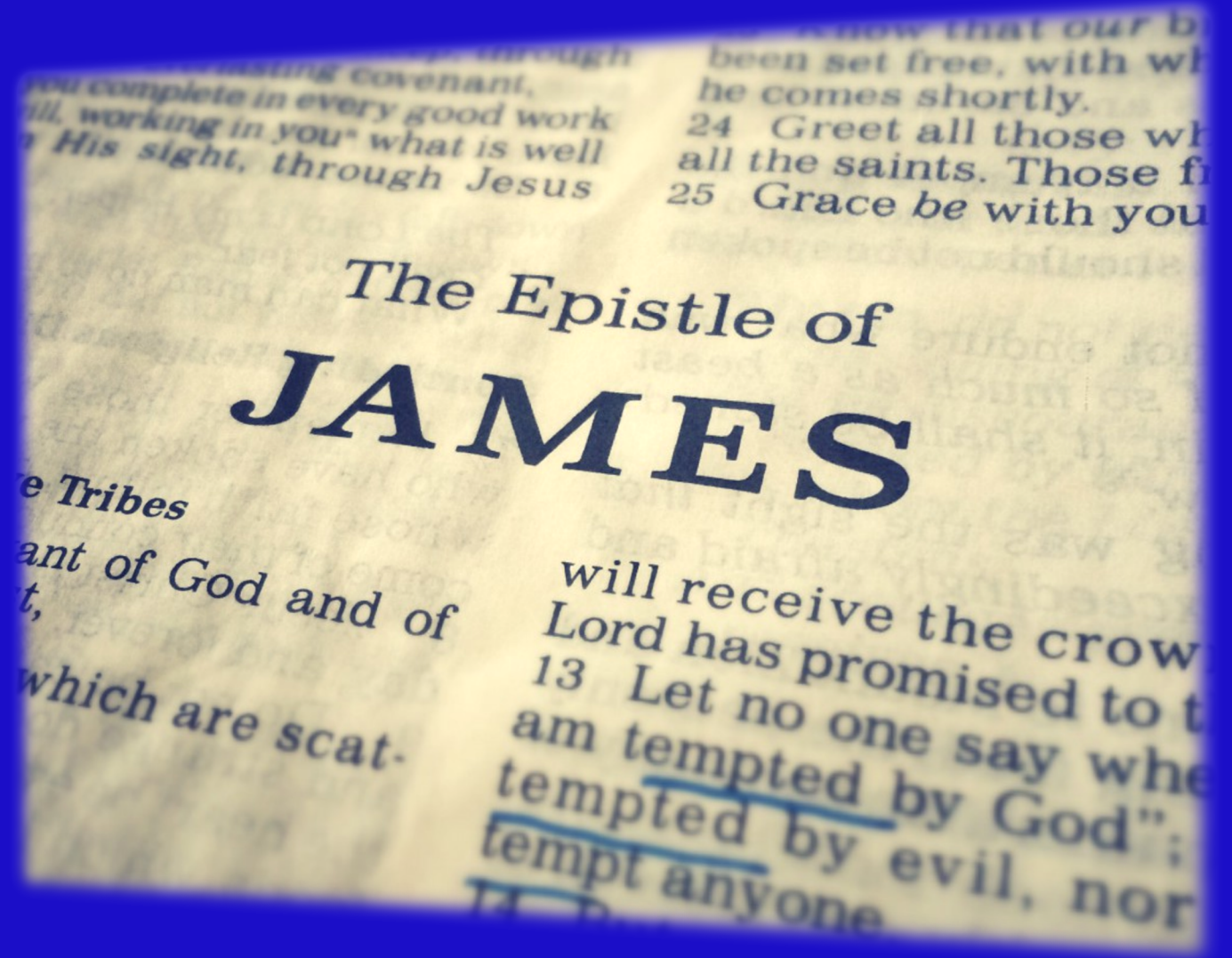
(v4) The nature of the threat is made known clearly here and that threat has never stopped right up unto this day. *'For certain men have crept in unnoticed...'* the church was being infiltrated secretly by ungodly men, the movement was one of deceit and craftiness. *'...who long ago were marked out for this condemnation...'* God's Word long ago condemned all apostasy and was written as a warning to anyone who would try it at any time in history. The Bible condemns these men and women, and today the condemnation is unchanged. *'...ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.'* False teachers are Satan's counterfeits, they slip in as ministers, as brothers, as sisters in the Lord, however they corrupt the Gospel and are enemies of the Cross **2 CORINTHIANS 11:12-15. EPHESIANS 4:1-16** Jesus has given us Spiritual gifts and wants us to understand that He has won the battle already, and we join in that victory by trusting Him and relying on His power and strength. **EPHESIANS 6:10-19** Wear God's Full Armor! **ISAIAH 55:1-3; MATTHEW 11:28-30**

JUDE

contending for the faith

JAMES 1

- Brother of Jesus
- Not a believer before the resurrection (John 7:5)
- Became the leader of the Church in Jerusalem (Acts 15)



APOSTASY

ἀποστασία **'apostasía'** {ap-os-tas-ee'-ah}-

defection from truth (properly, the state)
("apostasy"):—falling away, forsake... a falling away,
defection, apostasy;

JUDE 1:1 '...to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called:

'sanctified' - purified and set apart unto God

'preserved' - guarded; to be kept

'called' - invited

Jude 1:3 ...when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation...

2Pet 1:2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord.

Jer 33:16 In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely: and this is the name wherewith she shall be called, **The LORD our righteousness.**

Jehovah Tsidkenu

THE LORD MY RIGHTEOUSNESS

In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'

Jeremiah 23:6

2Pet 1:1 Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

2Pet 1:2 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

Rom 1:17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD

through

faith

in

Jesus Christ

for all who **believe**

Romans 3:22

not having a righteousness of my own
but one that is through faith in Jesus

CHRIS

Philippians 3:9

JUDE 1:3 '...it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.'

JUDE 1:3 '...ye should earnestly contend for the faith...'

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JESUS CHRIST
IS
LORD

The Word of God (the Bible):

- **inspiration** (God-breathed)
 - **inerrancy** (without error)
 - **authority** (power)
- **sufficiency** (contains all of God's Truth)

Gal 3:13 Christ hath redeemed us
from the curse of the law, being
made a curse for us...

Gal 3:25 But after that faith is
come, we are no longer under a
schoolmaster.

GOSPEL ESSENTIALS:

- 'that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures'
 - 'and that He was buried'
- 'and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures'

Jude 1:4 For there are certain men crept
in unawares [unnoticed/ secretly]...'

'...who were before of old ordained to this
condemnation...'



Deut 32:35 Vengeance is Mine, and recompense;
Their foot shall slip in due time; For the day of
their calamity is at hand, And the things to come
hasten upon them.'

2Pet 2:3 By covetousness they will exploit you with
deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has
not been idle, and their destruction does not
slumber.

Jude 1:4 '...ungodly men...'

'...turning the grace of our God into
lasciviousness [immorality]...'

'...and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord
Jesus Christ.'

2Cor 11:13 For such are false apostles,
deceitful workers, transforming themselves
into the apostles of Christ.

EPHESIANS 4:14



**THAT WE SHOULD NO LONGER BE CHILDREN,
TOSSED TO AND FRO AND CARRIED ABOUT
WITH EVERY WIND OF DOCTRINE, BY
THE TRICKERY OF MEN, IN THE CUNNING
CRAFTINESS OF DECEITFUL PLOTTING**

Jude 1:4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, **who were before of old ordained to this condemnation**, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

2Pet 2:3 And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

THE ARMOR OF GOD

Helmet of Salvation

Breastplate of
Righteousness

Belt of [absolute] Truth

Sword of the Spirit

Shield of
Faith

Feet Protected by
the Gospel

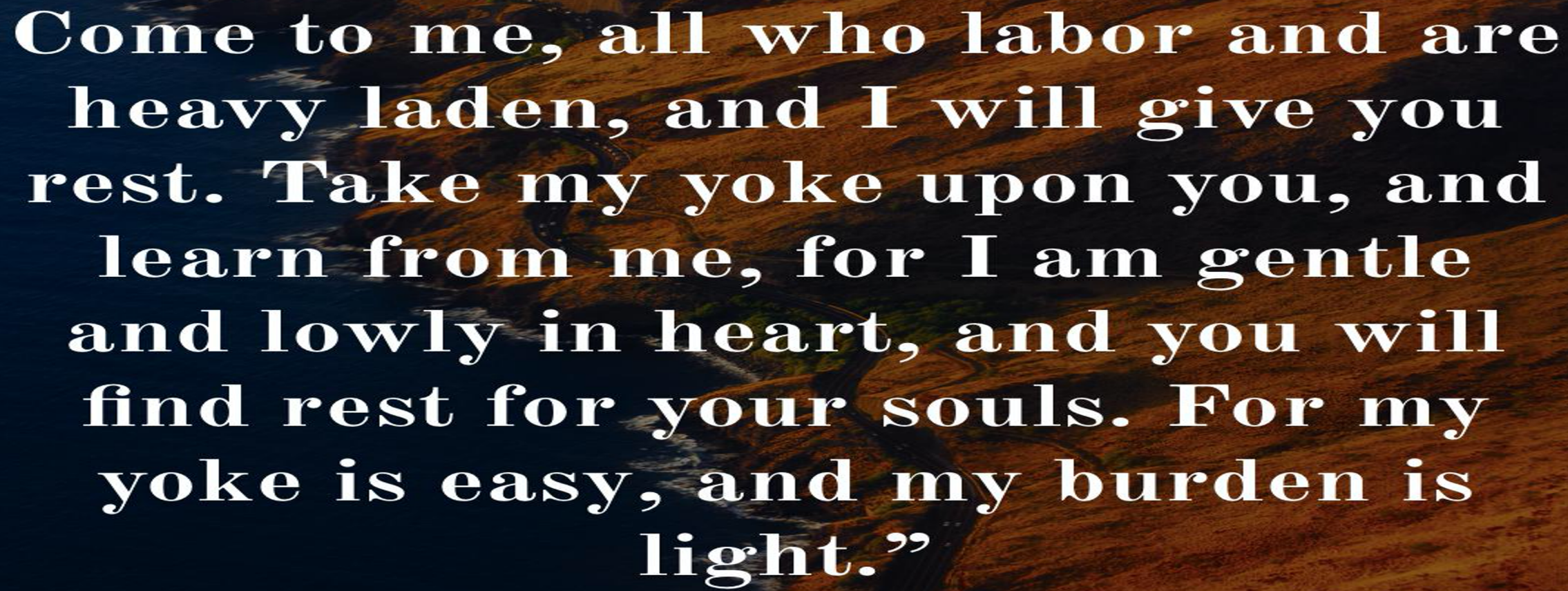
Ephesians 6:10-17



Isa 55:1 Ho! Everyone who thirsts, Come to the waters;
And you who have no money, Come, buy and eat. Yes,
come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Isa 55:2 Why do you spend money for what is not bread,
And your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen
carefully to Me, and eat what is good, And let your soul
delight itself in abundance.

Isa 55:3 Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and
your soul shall live; And I will make an everlasting
covenant with you— The sure mercies of David.

An aerial photograph of a winding asphalt road that curves through a dry, hilly landscape. The hills are covered in sparse, brownish vegetation, suggesting an arid or semi-arid environment. The road starts from the bottom center and winds upwards and to the left, disappearing into the distance. The overall tone of the image is warm and earthy, with a blue border on the right side.

**Come to me, all who labor and are
heavy laden, and I will give you
rest. Take my yoke upon you, and
learn from me, for I am gentle
and lowly in heart, and you will
find rest for your souls. For my
yoke is easy, and my burden is
light.”**

~ Matthew 11:28-30 ESV