



The Grace of Our Lord

October 11, 2026

4 For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Jude 4 (read Jude 1-4)

The tiny book of Jude does not hold back. Jude pursues his mission to free these disciples from the grips of these “intruders” directly, urgently, and aggressively. He identifies them as outsiders by the ways that their behavior betrays their lack of faith - by their low view of grace as a license to continue sinning and by their obvious failure to make Jesus the Lord of their life. It is clear who sits on the throne in their hearts. They are their own kings.

In their obsession with autonomy and dedication to immoral pleasure, they stand in as ready representations for the great pitfalls that have so often weakened and ensnared the modern American Church. Our view of grace is easily compromised by a world of sin that is easily available to us. And our commitment to follow Christ as Lord must contend against an endless call to rugged individualism and self deification that is so adored in our culture.

Yet, Jude does call us to contend. He calls us to remember that we are “called, beloved, and kept” by our God. That He has a purpose for us, has undying affection for us, and watches over us. That He is the ultimate source of the “mercy, peace, and love” that Jude prays will flood into our lives. His grace is no small currency to get us through the pearly gates, it is a transforming and emancipating power. He is worthy of the throne in our hearts.

Are you ready to make Him Lord of your life?

What did you hear in this morning’s message that stood out to you? What was interesting, important, or confusing?

What does it mean to you to be a “slave” of Jesus, as Jude identifies himself?

What does it mean to be “kept for Jesus”?

What is “cheap grace”? How have you allowed it to be a part of your life?

What does it mean to say that Jesus is the Lord of your life? Why is that hard?

What fellow disciples does God use to bring “mercy, peace, and love” in abundance into your life?

The section about denying Jesus as Lord should lead us to reflect on our own baptism, where we claimed Him as Lord. What does your baptism mean to you today? How has that concept changed over time in your heart and mind?

Some Background

We learn in verse 1 that Jude is the brother of James - the leader of the church in Jerusalem in the first century and the author of the Book of James. Therefore, he is also the brother of Jesus Christ Himself (listed alongside James as “Judas” in Mark 6:3 and Matthew 13:55). He was a well-known disciple by the time he wrote this letter.

He is likely writing to a specific group of disciples in a specific region of the world who are dealing with a specific issue. Yet, he diverges from tradition by excluding any proper names (of people or places) and identifies his intended audience as only “those who are called, beloved in God the Father, and kept for Jesus Christ.”