

Survival Manual

I. Slide#1 Announce:

- A. Slide#2 Children at Risk: next Sun, 6pm, Motion Picture, *Trade of Innocence*.
- B. We're *no longer collecting items* for moms & children from Central America. TY for your donations.
- C. CC Pastors Conf: Honor the past. *Forward Motion* theme. Unity (Brian Brod & Greg L led). Clarity. Loving the hurting. The reminder we're **pastors** not *politicians*.

II. Slide#3 Intro:

- A. Jude, what a book. It's often overlooked because *Jude's Postcard* is sandwiched in between John's *trilogy of love* (1,2,3 Jn) & his *fast paced, mysterious, & exciting book* of the Revelation.
 1. But what an awesome **cream filling** sandwiched between these 2 Oreo cookies.
- B. Jude echo's Peter's warning in 2 Pet.2 [**Peter** prophesied that these false teachers would come; **Jude** says that they are now here and at work]
- C. Jude wrote in a **dynamic style**, using many figures of speech. (*shepherds, clouds, trees, waves, stars*)
- D. Jude frequently wrote in **triads** (poss.18) *called, sanctified, preserved* (1). *mercy, peace, love* (2).
- E. In the **military**, your daily routine is an endless cycle of **drilling & training** for battles that most hope will never happen. **Yet**, if an enemy threatens the nations freedom, the well-trained soldier is ready to fight & even die, so future generations can live in peace.
 1. What's true for the **military** is true for the **church**.
 - a) We pray that enemies will never infiltrate our ranks with destructive doctrines. **But** if they do, we must be ready to **fight for our beliefs**. [this week many of us were challenged on whether we would put our *politics* before our *christian calling*. A lot of hurtful words shared by emails, by back bitters, & so called friends]
 2. Slide#4 Jude like a good **field commander** realizes the importance of *stirring our fighting spirit*. He gives us a hard look at our enemy - a look that will motivate any Christian to get involved in the battle.¹ [do things we thought not possible - *goldfish pic*]
- F. We are going to get a *pumping pre-battle speech* by **General Jude**.
 1. How are Christians to react to this danger? General Jude says, **Contend earnestly for the faith**. We are to **defend** God's truth **and** the body of doctrine the NT calls "the faith." We are to be **soldiers** who *hold the fort* at any cost.
 2. Jude **rally's** the troops (3) & **then prepares them** for battle **by warning them** of the enemy (4-16). **And then next week, sends them out fully equipped** (17-25).
 - a) To which I want to end on b4 I go to Tanzania. **The next Sun a 100% worship service.**
- G. Slide#5 Title: *Survival Manual*

¹ Charles Swindoll, Jude.

H. **Application for us today:** The book is a solemn warning to Christians everywhere, since all are subject to the same **doctrinal and practical errors**.

1. **All believers need to avoid the pitfalls of: denying Christ's lordship, following the fleshly desires, rejecting authority, being divisive, and living for self.**

I. **Outline:** **The Call to Contend** (1-4), **The Traitors Tactics** (5-16).

III. Slide#6 **THE CALL TO CONTEND (1-4)**

A. **Slide#7 Who is this Jude?** - Hey Jude [Paul composed in his car on the way over to see Cynthia & Julian Lennon when John divorced her over his affair w/Yoko Ono. McCartney said, "I started with the idea 'Hey Jules,' which was Julian, don't make it bad, take a sad song and make it better. Hey, try and deal with this terrible thing. I knew it was not going to be easy for him. I always feel sorry for kids in divorces. Julian Lennon discovered the song had been written for him almost 20 yrs later]

B. **Slide#8** (1) **Jude** the ½ brother of Jesus, as was **James** (Mrk6:3; Acts1:13,14 sharing in the prayer mtg b4 Pente)

1. **Jude doesn't boast of his human relationship to Christ.** (I would)

2. He prefers to call himself a **bond-slave of Jesus Christ and a brother of James.**

C. **Slide#9a Preserved** - remember mom or grandma making **preserves**? Or maybe you do.

1. **Why were they called preserves?** Because they were preserved against **spoiling**.

2. Fruits in the raw or untreated soon **deteriorate, decay, & perish**. **But preserved fruits lasted indefinitely** because they were impregnated with **sugar**. **Sugar was the secret.**

a) One cookbook recommended, **1 cup of sugar to 1 cup of fruit.** :)

b) If we're **preserved in Jesus Christ...is there anything sweeter** than that?²

(1) We as Christians are called than to be sweet at all times if we're preserved **in Christ**. - **Impregnated with Christ, filled with Him.**

3. The word preserved is **tereo** in the orig. **It means to guard** against loss or spoiling.

a) The Christian is **watched over** by the Lord & He **guards & protects** us.

4. It's interesting **Peter** uses the same word **tereo** for the word reserved in 1Pet.1:4 **we have an inheritance incorruptible...reserved** in heaven.

a) So, we are **preserved** in Christ Jesus, & our inheritance is **reserved** in heaven for us. What security! - **We are preserved; our salvation is reserved; & both words mean to guard against loss or spoiling.**

b) **All this should make us sweet like the One** in whom we are preserved.

D. **Slide#9b** (3,4) He started out to write them about **Salvation**, but felt impressed to **warn them instead** of some **enemy infiltrators** that crept into their camp.

1. **Like** little cockroaches that crawl in at night, unnoticed.

² Adapted from: Bread For Each Day, M.R.DeHaan, M.D., Are you God's Preserve? March 27th.

2. These wicked men were like *a few drops of poison* in the *water system* of the believers.
 - a) Only one drop of *cheap grace*...what could that hurt?
 - b) Only one drop of *denial*...*like* the incarnation of Christ.
- E. **Slide#9c Common salvation** - this is the *WHOEVER*.³ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that *WHOEVER* believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.
1. **It's the** [anˈTIPədēz] *antipodes of a secret society* [if live in No.Hemi, say towards Aus/NZ, **direct opposite**]
 2. **It's so open & inviting.** Its welcome so wide/vast.
 3. It is applicable & appropriate for all. The gospel is **not like a river** which branches out into different streams, one for the rich, another for the intellectual, & others for the poor & illiterate & the nobodies.
 - a) No, all of us are one in our common need as sinners, so there is one *common salvation* which avails us all. One that is not only for Kings/Lords & Presidents/Prime Ministers, but also for the *forgotten on death-row & for the broken earthenware* of skid row.
- F. **Slide#9d (3) Jude rallies the troops to Contend for the faith** -
1. **Contend** - struggle for, exercise great effort & exertion for something. [LKGNT]
 - a) From the Gk work *epagonizomai* (agonize). Used in athletic contests. The picture of 2 wrestlers grappling, sweating, muscles straining, to the point of them bursting as they *agonize* against each other for the prize.
 - b) Don't let anyone *pin your faith* to the ground w/o a struggle.
 2. **For the faith** - the complete body of Christian truth concerning God, the Bible, Jesus, sin, redemption, heaven, & so on. [LKGNT]
 - a) It's also a faith delivered once and for all. (3b)
 - b) **We can't change one word.** They are absolutes. A solid nucleus of truth that can't be *amended, erased, or molded* to suit each new generation's lifestyles.
 3. It's possible to **contend for the faith** w/o being **contentious**.
- G. (4) Ever notice that after an exhilarating & refreshing rain, *snails & slugs* come out of hiding. They *slime* their way along, *chewing & devouring* all that is in their path?
1. **So with the fresh blowing of revival** in a church by the H.S. – Immediately comes the *spiritual pretenders*, who have made a base profession of grace, to **wisk** the newborns away.⁴
- H. **Slide#9e (4b) Turn the grace of God into lewdness** - means they told people that **grace** permitted them to *live as they pleased*.

³ Adapted from J. Sidlow Baxter, *Awake, My Heart*, pg. 121.

⁴ Adapted from Spurgeon quote.

1. **Turn** - means to **transpose**. They transposed grace **from** a **major key** to a **minor key** - **from** freedom to **obey Christ** to freedom to **sin**.

IV. Slide#10 **THE TRAITORS TACTICS (5-16)**

- A. Jude gives us **4 reasons** not to follow them: *Because of their End/Mouth/Emptiness/Lifestyle*.
- B. Slide#11 **BECAUSE OF THEIR END (5-7)**
 1. **1st reason** not to follow them was **because** they were on the same path of judgment the: *Unbelieving Israelites; the Fallen Angels; & the Cities of the plain they were on*.
 2. How foolish to **follow them down the same path** *that you know* is *booby trapped*, has *land mines*, & *a ticking bomb* at the end...with your name on it.
 3. (6) These angels who defied God were judged and imprisoned in *tartarus*, a special part of hell.
- C. Slide#12 **BECAUSE OF THEIR MOUTH (8-10)**
 1. **2nd reason** not to follow them was **because** they bad mouthed all in authority over them
- D. (8) They didn't hold to **Truth**, **but** to their own **dreams** or opinions.
- E. (9) This is to Illustrates the **magnitude** of their blasphememes.
 1. Slide#13 This is believed to be taken from the book, *The Assumption of Moses* (also called the Testament of Moses).
 2. It is a Jewish apocryphal (doubtful authenticity) **pseudepigraphical** (*pseude/false + epigraphē/name*) **work**. We have a single 6th-century incomplete manuscript in **Latin** that was discovered in Milan in the mid-19th century and published in 1861. Most scholars date the work to the **early 1st century**.
 - a) The account basically reads, *The Archangel Michael was sent to bury Moses body, when Lucifer intercepted him to claim the body, Michael showed no disrespect to Lucifer but left the matter to the judge of all creatures, saying, "The Lord rebuke you"*.
 - (1) Maybe referring to the example of that in **Zech.3:1-5**.
 - (2) Josephus said, **God hid the body of Moses** least it be made an idol, *Nehushtan*.
 3. **The point** – Michael, *top-gun-Angel*, carefully weighed his words, even against the wickedest of angels.
 - a) How presumptuous are these apostates to rail against *righteous* angels (8b).
 - b) **Application**: Why some are free today to say, *I rebuke you Satan, I'll never know*.
- F. (10) If they didn't understand something (like the incarnation) they would criticize it.
 1. What they **do know** from their **fleshly minds**...ends up **corrupting** them.
 2. Slide#14(Vatzlaf)Vaclav Havel, *playwright, essayist, poet, philosopher, dissident & 1st pres* of the **Czech Republic** said, *"The tragedy of modern man is not that he knows less*

and less about the meaning of his own life, **but that it bothers him less and less.**"⁵

G. **Slide#15 BECAUSE OF THEIR EMPTINESS** (11-13)

- H. (11) **3rd reason not to follow them was because** they followed in the footsteps of these 3 amigos: **Slide#16 self-competent Cain; buy-me Balaam; rebellious Korah.**
1. **Like self-competent Cain** they offered *the first of their works* instead of **trusting in the blood of the Lamb. Gen.4**
 - a) **So**, the way of Cain is the way of man-made religion, rejecting the revelation of God and the blood of the Savior.
 2. **Like buy-me Balaam** they sell their prophecies for profit. **Num.22-25**
 - a) The *error of Balaam* involved leading others into sin for personal gain.
 - b) Balaam knew the truth **but** deliberately led Israel into sin that he might make money.
 3. **Like rebellious Korah** they **defy the authority** of God's chosen vessels of truth. **Num.16**
 - a) Korah and his followers rejected the divine authority given to Moses **and** tried to assume power for themselves. **False teachers promote themselves and override the authority of God's servants.**
- I. (12,13) **The danger of their religion.**
1. **MSG - *These people are warts on your love feasts as you worship and eat together. They're giving you a black eye - carousing shamelessly, grabbing anything that isn't nailed down. They're - Puffs of smoke pushed by gusts of wind; late autumn trees stripped clean of leaf and fruit, Doubly dead, pulled up by the roots; wild ocean waves leaving nothing on the beach but the foam of their shame; Lost stars in outer space on their way to the black hole.***
 2. **Spots - or stains, or Hidden Reefs.** They're like that **1 bad sunflower seed.**
 - a) **They** have no fear/respect. **They** fatten themselves. **They're** doubly dead, ripped up, fruitless trees, ready for the fire. **They're** foaming at the mouth. **They're** like shooting stars that shine briefly, then vanish into the darkness, for ever.
 3. **False teachers** promise much, **but** produce little, **rainless clouds when it is so needed.**
 - a) What we called some cars while cruising Whittier Blvd, ***"All show & no go."***
Pretty on the outside, nothing under the hood where it mattered.
 4. (13) **Wow, reserved** seats in Hell.

J. **Slide#17 BECAUSE OF THEIR LIFESTYLE** (14-16)

- K. **4th reason not to follow them?** - Here's where General Jude shreds their *shoddy sheep shroud*, exposing their filthy garments.
- L. (14,15) **Enoch** fastens these false teachers to the wall by a wooden stake.

⁵ Vaclav Havel, in a letter found by Robert Royal; quoted by Martin Marty in Context (June 1, 1990). Christianity Today, Vol. 34, #13.

1. They're called **ungodly**, 4'x. [note last one: *ungodly sinners*, or *sinful sinners*]

M. **Enoch** – The 7th from Adam (count em in Gen.5)

1. Here Jude quotes **the apocryphal book of Enoch**, in Enoch 1:9 (preserved today in the dead sea scrolls/cave 4)

a) This doesn't mean however the book of Enoch was regarded as *inspired* or *equal* to **Scripture**. Even pagan works can contain items of truth.

b) Just as Paul quoted from the poets *Aratus, Epimenides, & Cleanthes* to his intellectual Athenian audience at Mars Hill (Acts 17:28).

2. But jump back to what this **Antediluvian**_(pre-flood) **patriarch** is prophesying about.

a) It is of **Jesus 2nd coming**...1000's of years *before* His **1st coming**.

N. **Slide#18** (15) **To convict all** - A cartoon in *Leadership Magazine* showed a picture after a church service: *"Powerful sermon, Pastor. Thoughtful, well researched. I can always see myself in them. And I want you to knock it off."*