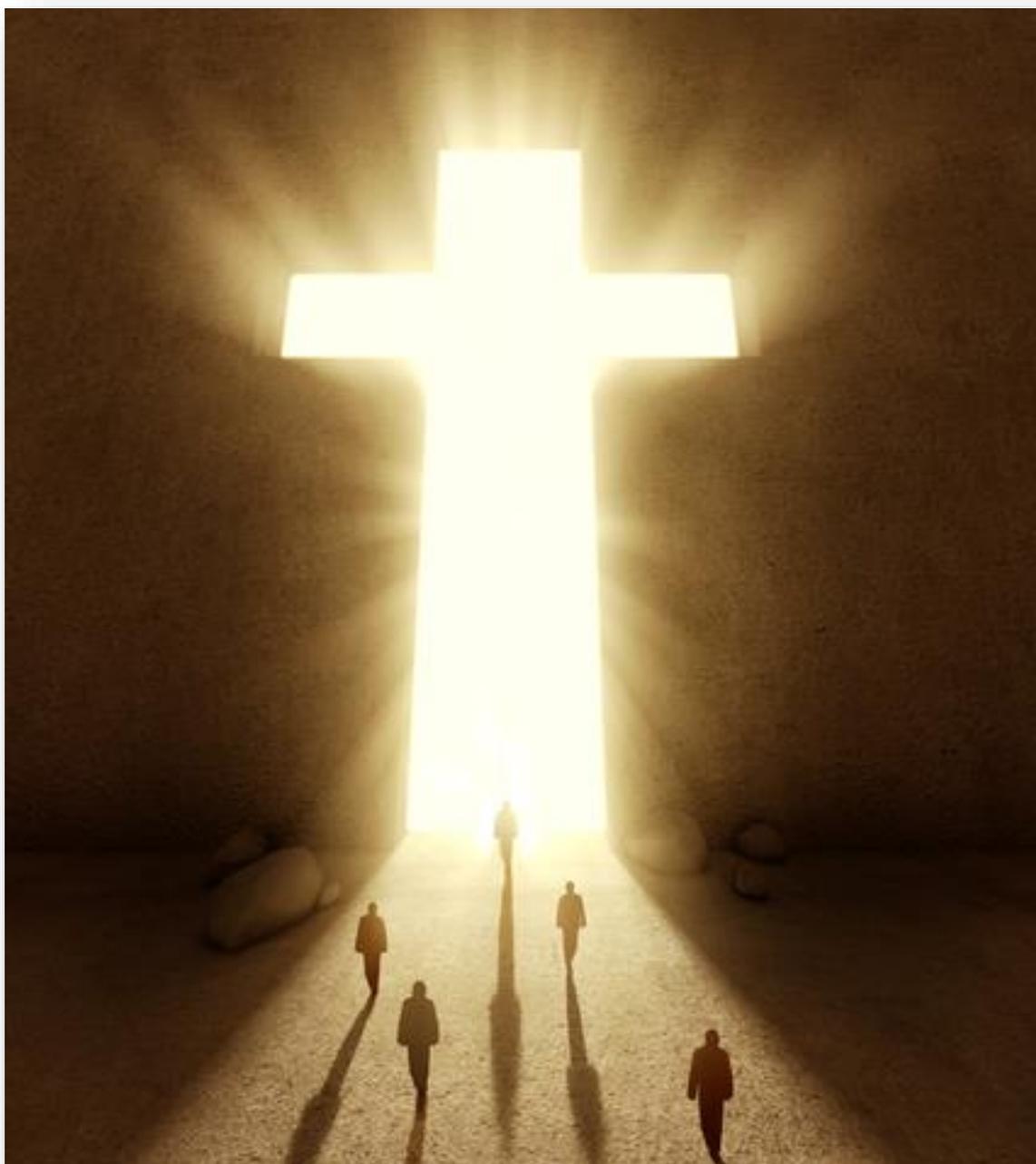


# Book of Jude

## Synopsis



## Introduction

Book No	65
Name	Jude
Written By	Jude
Testament	New
Category	Epistles
Date Written	Approx. 65 A.D
Place Written	NA
Audience	Jewish Christians
Purpose	To remind the church of the need for constant vigilance—to keep strong in the faith and to oppose heresy
History Covered	NA
Chapters	1
Verses	25
Key Verse	Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, 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. (1:3)
Key People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Jude</li> <li>❖ James</li> <li>❖ JESUS</li> </ul>
Key Places	NA

## Purpose of the Book

God's Word and the gift of eternal life have infinite value and have been entrusted to Christ's faithful followers. There are many people who live in opposition to God and his followers. They twist God's truth, seeking to deceive and destroy the unwary. But God's truth must go forth, carried and defended by those who have committed their lives to God's Son. It is an important task, an awesome responsibility, and a profound privilege to have this commission.

This was Jude's message to Christians everywhere. Opposition would come and godless teachers would arise, but Christians should "defend the truth of the Good News" (1:3) by rejecting all falsehood and immorality (1:4-19), remembering God's mighty acts of rescue and punishment (1:5-11, 14-16) and the warnings of the apostles (1:17-19). His readers are to build up their own faith through prayer (1:20), keeping close to Christ (1:21), helping others (1:22-23), and hating sin (1:23). Then Jude concludes with a glorious benediction of praise to God (1:24-25).

How much do you value God's Word, the fellowship of the church, and obedience to Jesus Christ? There are many false teachers waiting to destroy your Christ-centered life, the credibility of God's Word, and the unity of the body of Christ.

Today, perpetrators of unbiblical ethical standards, who may even claim to have the Spirit, threaten the godly commitment of Christians. However, God's power is able to keep us from falling. But *our* responsibility is to build ourselves up in the truth through praying in the Holy Spirit and to anticipate our final salvation. The Scriptures are our resource. At the same time, we are to be alert and vocal in warning those who are being swayed by false, humanistic philosophies prevalent today.

Read Jude and determine to stand firm in your faith and defend God's truth at all costs. Nothing is more valuable.

## Overview

- ❖ 65<sup>th</sup> book of the BIBLE, 26<sup>th</sup> in the New Testament, 21<sup>st</sup> of the 21 epistles and 7<sup>th</sup> of the 7 epistles written by various authors
- ❖ Jude:
  - Was one of the Lord's brothers.
  - Was called Judas in Matthew 13:55 and Mark 6:3

- ❖ The only other Biblical reference to him is in 1 Corinthians 9:5 where it is stated that “the brothers of the Lord” took their wives along on their missionary journeys.
- ❖ It may be that the Judas of Acts 15:22, 32 may be another reference to him.
- ❖ Judas and James are the only two of the Lord’s brothers to write books in the New Testament.
- ❖ Jude does not direct his epistle to:
  - A stated circle of readers.
  - A stated geographical region.
- ❖ At the beginning of the epistle, Jude focuses on the common salvation that Christians have, and then challenges them to contend for the faith.
- ❖ False teachers had crept into the church, turning God’s grace into a license to do as they pleased.
- ❖ Jude reminds such men of god’s past dealings with:
  - Unbelieving Israel.
  - Disobedient angels.
  - Wicked Sodom and Gomorrah
- ❖ It appears that the purpose of the epistle of Jude was to:
- ❖ Condemn the practices of the ungodly libertines who were infesting and corrupting Christians.
- ❖ To counsel the readers of the letter to:
  - Stand firm.
  - Grow in their faith.
  - Contend for the faith.
- ❖ Jude alone refers to the dispute between Michael and the devil about the body of Moses. 9
- ❖ Jude’s benediction is one of the most beautiful in the Bible.

### Hebrew Names of GOD used in Jude

- ❖ DESPOTES

### Revelation of JESUS CHRIST

The present activity of the living Christ is assumed. Jude is His servant and He preserves His own (v. 1), though false teachers deny Him (v. 4). Believers await the future blessing of “the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life” (v. 21).

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## Work of THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit causes biblical teaching to come alive, so that the Christian community is built up in its “most holy faith,” that is, in the apostolic teaching (see v. 20 and note on vv. 3, 4). This is accomplished through “praying in the Holy Spirit” (v. 20). Accordingly, the Spirit is important as the One through whom God preserves His own from worldly error (see vv. 1, 24). In contrast, the false teachers are devoid of the Spirit (v. 19), despite whatever claims they may make.

## Mega Themes of Jude

### FALSE TEACHERS

Jude warns against false teachers and leaders who reject the lordship of Christ, undermine the faith of others, and lead them astray. These leaders and any who follow them will be punished.

We must staunchly defend Christian truth. Make sure that you avoid leaders and teachers who distort the Bible to suit their own purposes. Genuine servants of God will faithfully portray Christ in their words and conduct.

### APOSTASY

Jude also warns against apostasy—turning away from Christ. We are to remember that God punishes rebellion against him. We must be careful not to drift away from a faithful commitment to Christ.

Those who do not seek to know the truth in God’s Word are susceptible to apostasy. Christians must guard against any false teachings that would distract them from the truth preached by the apostles and written in God’s Word.

## Life Lessons in Jude

Truth	Lesson
<p><b>Growing in Godliness</b></p> <p>There have always been those who attempt to divert God’s people from their main purpose. Whether angels or men, God knows how to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Contend strongly for biblical faith. Accept no form of alteration.</li> <li>❖ Reject anyone who teaches that grace is “God’s permission to sin.” Understand that such teaching is godlessness.</li> </ul>

<p>deal with the rebellious, but believers are warned not to participate with any such persons.</p> <p>The wicked appeals to the lusts of the eye, lusts of the flesh, and to inordinate pride. They will pretend to love God, appear to do good works, but on close examination they are as fruitless as the fig tree that Jesus cursed. The wise will be able to identify those whose object is to be god, rather than to serve God. It will take a deeply spiritual heart to know how to reach any who are deep into evil without being contaminated—hating the sin but still loving the sinner.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Beware of teachers whose behavior or teaching includes such things as:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) licentious behavior</li> <li>(2) disrespect or rejection of authority</li> <li>(3) greed or love of money</li> <li>(4) empty promises</li> <li>(5) straying from biblical truth</li> <li>(6) grumbling and complaining</li> <li>(7) critical, divisive, and destructive behavior</li> <li>(8) motivation by personal gain</li> <li>(9) self-promotion</li> <li>(10) flattery of others when it is to his advantage</li> </ol> </li> <li>❖ Pray continuously in the Spirit for self edification and the building up of your faith.</li> <li>❖ Persist in loving attitudes and behavior through the Holy Spirit.</li> <li>❖ Use wisdom and discernment when dealing with those who are in error or in sin.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Cultivating Dynamic Devotion</b></p> <p>We fully acknowledge that only by the working and grace of God is anyone able to come joyfully into His presence in blameless worship. He is the lawful Ruler of every life.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Trust in God’s ability to bring you blameless into His presence.</li> </ul>

<p>Our God is King of the Universe. How blessed we are to serve Him!</p>	
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### Praise Points in Jude

- ❖ His grace in calling, loving, and caring for you (1:1)
- ❖ The promise of our lord JESUS return (1:14)
- ❖ His holy spirit, who helps us to pray (1:20)
- ❖ His promise to keep us from stumbling and to bring us into his glorious presence (1:24).

### Worship Insights in Jude

All worship, including prayer, is enabled by the Holy Spirit. Jude reminds us of this by urging his readers to “pray as you are directed by the Holy Spirit” (1:20). It is important to understand that Jude was not criticizing them for praying in an inferior way, as if they had been somehow praying “out of the Spirit.” Actually, he was encouraging more fervent prayer by reminding them of the trustworthy vehicle of all Christian prayers—divine power “in the Spirit.”

Every time we assemble for worship, it is in complete dependence on the Spirit (Philippians 3:2-3). All aspects of worship proceed from hearts renewed and energized by the Holy Spirit, who indwells every Christian (Romans 8:9). The Holy Spirit makes each of us a part of the body of Christ, the church (1 Corinthians 12:12-13); enables us to understand spiritual truth (1 Corinthians 2:6-16); assures us that we belong to God (Romans 8:15-16); and prays for us in our struggles (Romans 8:26-27).

The Holy Spirit gives us access to the Father (Ephesians 2:18); builds up the church as his dwelling (Ephesians 2:22); and gives gifts to the church that enable every aspect of congregational life, including worship (Ephesians 4:11-13). The Holy Spirit’s presence should inspire great confidence as we come together to praise God!

- ❖ Worship can only be cultivated among believers loyal to the truth of the Good News (1:3).
- ❖ Worship must reflect an attitude of humility before our holy and just God (1:5-7, 15).
- ❖ Worship is the natural expression of a heart growing in faith and love for God (1:20-21).

- ❖ Joyous worship will be continued in heaven as we come into his glorious presence (1:24).
- ❖ Genuine worship focuses on God himself (1:25).

### An Outline of Jude

- I. A Strong Warning Against Nominal Christianity: [Jud\\_1:1-25](#)
  - A. The Purpose of This Letter: [Jud\\_1:1-3](#)
  - B. Don't Be a Destroyer: [Jud\\_1:4-19](#)
  - C. Be a Builder: [Jud\\_1:20-25](#)