

*reasons for  
hope\**  *\*Jesus*

# JUDE

# The Letter Jude Wrote

Structure of the book:

Assurance & Faith/Apostasy/Three apostates/Apostasy/Faith & Assurance

\*Assurance for the Christian vs 1-2

\*\*The Believer and the Faith vs 3

\*\*\*Apostates Described vs 4

\*\*\*\*Apostasy in OT History vs 5

—> \*\*\*\*\*Apostasy in the Supernatural Realm vs 9-10 <—

Three Old Testament Apostates vs 11

—> \*\*\*\*\*Apostasy in the Natural Realm vs 12-13 <—

\*\*\*\*Apostasy in OT Prophecy vs 14-16

\*\*\*Apostasy Described vs 17-19

\*\*The Believer and the Faith vs 20-23

\*Assurance for the Christian vs 24-25

# The Letter Jude Wrote



## Jude now writes about \*\*\*\*\*Apostasy in the Natural Realm vs 12-13

*Jude 1:12-13 These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots; {13} Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.*

## This parallels \*\*\*\*\*Apostasy in the Supernatural Realm vs 9-10

*Jude 1:9-10 Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee. {10} But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves.*

# The Letter Jude Wrote



## Ten Warnings

1. Subtle imitation (vs 5)
2. Satanic invasion (vs 6)
3. Sexual perversion (vs 7)
4. Social upheaval (vs 8-10)
5. Spiritual distortion (vs 11a)
6. Semitic persecution (vs 11b)
7. Self expression (vs 11c)
- 8. Strong delusion (vs 12-13)**
9. Secular humanism (vs 14-15)
10. Subversive criticism (vs 16)

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*Jude 1:12-13 These are **spots** in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: **clouds** they are without water, carried about of winds; **trees** whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots; {13} **Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.***

**Jude's examples in the natural realm can also be understood to represent these illustrations in the OT:**

1. Self-centered shepherds: Ezekiel 34:2 (following self; no fear of the Lord)
2. Prideful clouds without rain: Proverbs 25:14
3. Non-fruit producing trees: Mat 7:17-18 (no real fruit reveals no Spirit - twice dead)
4. Troubled waters: Isaiah 57:20 (twisted Scripture with no pure water of the Word)
5. Wandering stars: Genesis 6, Jude 1:6 (angels who rebelled, Rev 12:4, are already judged)

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# The Letter Jude Wrote



## Jude now writes about \*\*\*\*Apostasy in OT Prophecy vs 14-16

*Jude 1:14-16 And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, {15} To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him. {16} These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage.*

## This parallels \*\*\*\*Apostasy in OT History vs 5

*Jude 1:5 I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not.*

# The Letter Jude Wrote



*Jude 1:14 And **Enoch** also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,*

Jude tells that as far back as Enoch apostasy was prophesied

Enoch, “the seventh from Adam.” (specified because there was another Enoch, son of Cain in Gen 4:17). Adam, Seth, Enos, Cainan, Mahalaleel, Jared, Enoch

Enoch: Enoch walked with God “by Faith” (Heb 11:5) for 300 years (Gen 5:21-24)

Enoch’s Prophecy—Some say this is the oldest prophecy in the Bible. It is not. (Gen 3:15) It is also not the first prophecy that Enoch received from God.

Enoch’s son’s name was a prophecy: Methuselah. Means “when he dies it shall be sent.”

# The Letter Jude Wrote



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- 9. Secular humanism (vs 14-15)**
10. Subversive criticism (vs 16)

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*Jude 1:14-15 And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, {15} To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.*

## **Secular humanism (vs 14-15)**

The word ungodly is used four times—to describe those who oppose God and do things that oppose His will and ways.

And in verse 18, Jude refers to ungodly lust.

Ungodly actions come from ungodly thinking and ungodly thinking comes from rejecting or changing God's truths. And rejecting God's truths leads to a secular humanism worldview.

# The Letter Jude Wrote



*Jude 1:14-15 And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, {15} To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.*

The is a prophecy of the second coming of Jesus Christ: “Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousand of his saints”

- We know the Lord’s coming is sure. We have assurance (Rev 19:11-14); and nothing can change it. He is “able to subdue all things to Himself” (Phil 3:21).
- We know who will accompany the Lord: “ten thousands of his saints” with “all the saints” (Zech 14:5) “armies which were in Heaven” (Rev 19:14). Moses: “ten thousands of saints” (Deut 33:2).
- We know the purpose of His coming: “To execute judgment upon all” (Isa 66:15)

# The Letter Jude Wrote



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*“To execute judgment upon all”*

- Who will be this judge? (John 5:22)
- Who will be judged? (Ps 96:13).
  - ...all nations (Joel 3:12; Mt 25:32).
  - ...cities (Mt 11:22; 12:41).
  - ...every man, living or dead (2 Tim 4:1; 2 Thess 1:7-9).
  - ...fallen angels (v.6) et al. (Isa 24:21).
  - ...and demons (Mt 8:29).

# The Letter Jude Wrote

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- We know the result of the Lord's coming.

The Lord will judge the hearts of the “ungodly” (1 Sam 16:7).

They will be convicted of all their “ungodly deeds” (Mt 25:31-46),

that they have “ungodly committed” (Rev 20:11-15),

and the words they have spoken against Him (Matt 12:36).

Heavens and earth will be reserved unto fire... (2 Pet 3:7).

# The Letter Jude Wrote



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# The Letter Jude Wrote



*Jude 1:16 These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage*

## Subversive criticism (vs 16)

### 1) Murmurers

The noun “murmurers” is found nowhere else in the New Testament. The verb form is found in several passages:

- “Jews murmured at Him...Bread of Life (Jn 6:41).
- “Disciples murmured...walked no more... (Jn 6:61,66; Eph 2:2,3).

Murmuring is a sin. A professing Christian might murmur for a time or season, but being a murmurer (noun) is a sign of an apostate (Ps 106:24-26; 1 Cor 10:10).

# The Letter Jude Wrote



*Jude 1:16 These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage*

## **Subversive criticism (vs 16)**

### 2) Complainers

Again, this noun is found nowhere else in the New Testament.

- Pharisees “found fault” ...traditions... (Mk 7:2,6,8). Making the Word of God of no effect through tradition is a form of apostasy.
- Complaining may mark a professing Christian as one who has apostatized/fallen away for a time or season. But truly being a complainer (noun) is a sign of being an apostate (vv.8,10; cf. 2 Cor 11:14-15; 1 Cor 5:11-13)

# The Letter Jude Wrote



*Jude 1:16 These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage*

## **Subversive criticism (vs 16)**

### 2) Complainers

“ ...displeased the Lord in the Days of Moses” (Num 11:1);

“ ...displeased the Lord” (Mk 10:13-14);

Compare “those dissatisfied with their lot” (angels v.6) with “whatsoever state we’re in” (Phil 4:11).

# The Letter Jude Wrote



*Jude 1:16 These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage*

## **Subversive criticism (vs 16)**

### 3) Walking After Their Own Lusts

This is the same word as the Lord uses in the Parable of the Sower (Mk 4:18,19).

- “ ...scoffers, walking after their own lusts...” (2 Pet 3:3:5).

Trio in the Old Testament, mixed multitude. They were with Israel, but not of Israel:

- Murmurers (Num 14:2);
- Complainers (Num 11:1);
- “Fell a lusting” (Num 11:4).

# The Letter Jude Wrote



*Jude 1:16 These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage*

- “their mouth speaketh great swelling words”

This is the same expression found in 2 Peter 2:15-21(vs18)

It's the doctrine of demons (1 Tim 4:1)

It identifies the antichrist (2 Thess 2:3, 11; Rev 13:5,6).

- “having men's persons in admiration because of advantage”

Admiring and commending people for personal gain.

These murmurers and complainers were respecters of persons.

God is not: Deut 10:17, 2 Chr 19:7, Acts 10:34, Rom 2:11

We are not to be respecters of persons: James 2:1-10

# The Letter Jude Wrote



We've covered all ten of the warnings:

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Next, Jude describes the apostasy of the apostates.

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\*Assurance for the Christian vs 24-25

# The Letter Jude Wrote



## Jude now writes about **\*\*\*Apostasy Described vs 17-19**

*Jude 1:17-19 But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ; {18} How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts. {19} These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit.*

## This parallels **\*\*\*Apostates Described vs 4**

*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.*

# The Letter Jude Wrote



## \*\*\*Apostasy Described vs 17-19

*Jude 1:17-19 But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ; {18} How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts. {19} These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit.*

- The apostles of Jesus had given warnings that false teachers would come in the last time and for personal gain. 2 Pet 2:1-3, 1 John 4:1-3, 2 Tim 3:1-9
- Jesus warned of this: Matt 7:15-19

# The Letter Jude Wrote



*Jude 1:18-19 ...mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts. These be they who **separate** themselves, **sensual**, having **not the Spirit**.*

Separate = selfish.

Sensual = self-centered.

Spirit-less = self-sufficient.

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# The Letter Jude Wrote



## Jude now writes about **\*\*The Believer and the Faith vs 20-23**

*Jude 1:20-23 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, {21} Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. {22} And of some have compassion, making a difference: {23} And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.*

## This parallels **\*\*The Believer and the Faith vs 3**

*Jude 1:3 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.*

# The Letter Jude Wrote



*Jude 1:20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, Jude 1:21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.*

Jude is now beginning to close his letter as he opened it (vs 3). He encourages his readers to **build**, **pray**, **keep**, and **look**.

To keep oneself in the love of God (a command) one must **build** on the truth of God, **pray** so to be guided by the Spirit of God, **keep (remain)** in God's love, and **look** to Jesus.

**Building, Praying, Keeping, Looking:** Contrast this with v. 15-19: ungodly, separate, sensual, having not the Spirit.

# The Letter Jude Wrote



*Jude 1:20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, Jude 1:21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.*

## Mercy

The first mention of mercy in the New Testament are in words from Jesus:

*Mat 5:7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.*

The last mention in the New Testament: Keep looking for Jesus' mercy (vs 21).  
"Mercy" is not mentioned in the Book of Revelation.

The difference between Matt 5:7 and Jude 1:20? Under the Old Covenant, they were to be merciful to obtain mercy. Jesus has already given us His mercy unto eternal life — we need to be looking for it, living in it, and glorifying God by extending mercy to others.

Build your faith, pray, abide in God's love, look to Jesus, and be merciful to others.

# The Letter Jude Wrote

*Jude 1:20-23 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, {21} Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. {22} And of some have compassion, making a difference: {23} And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.*

## **\*\*The Believer and the Faith vs 20-23**

Jude was calling for discernment on the part of the Church and that they contend for the faith. He followed the earlier examples of:

- (1) Christ (Matt. 7:15; 16:6-12; 24:11; Rev. chapters 2 and 3);
- (2) Paul (Acts 20:29-30; 1 Tim. 4:1-3; 2 Tim. 3:1-5; 4:3-4);
- (3) Peter (2 Peter 2:1-2; 3:3-4); and
- (4) John (1 John 4:1-6; 2 John 1:6-11).

# The Letter Jude Wrote



## **\*\*The Believer and the Faith vs 20-23**

The letter Jude wrote is filled with historical illustrations from the Old Testament which include:

- (1) The Exodus (verse 5)
- (2) Satan's rebellion (verse 6)
- (3) Sodom and Gomorrah (verse 7)
- (4) Moses' death (verse 9)
- (5) Cain (verse 11)
- (6) Balaam (verse 11)
- (7) Korah (verse 11)
- (8) Enoch Verses 14-15)
- (9) Adam (verse 14).

# The Letter Jude Wrote



*Jude 1:22-23 And of some have compassion, making a difference: And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.*

Jude shows his genuine concern for others in this final exhortation.

The word “compassion” in Greek is the same word as “mercy” in the previous verse. We have received Jesus’ mercy and compassion and we are to give mercy and compassion to others by encouraging them to build their faith, pray, abide in God’s love, and look to Jesus. That will make a difference in their lives.

*“And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire”* — Some people are very close to perishing and creating a justified fear of what lies before them might help them to turn to Jesus. Our desire is to turn people to Jesus because of His great love, mercy, and grace. But sometimes a fear of eternal death will open the ears and minds of those close to the fire so they will be able to hear of Jesus’ saving grace and turn to Him in faith.

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# The Letter Jude Wrote



**Jude concludes his letter where he started— with \*Assurance for the Christian vs 24-25**

*Jude 1:24-25 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, {25} To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and for ever. Amen.*

**This parallels \* Assurance for the Christian vs 1-2**

*Jude 1:1-2 Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called: {2} Mercy unto you, and peace and love, be multiplied.*

# The Letter Jude Wrote



*Jude 1:24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,*

These two verses are called the Grand Benediction/ Doxology. They are a doxology of preservation.

## **The Grand Benediction/Doxology**

Jude closed with assurance for the believer

**“Now unto Him”** — Jesus

**“Who is able to keep you from falling** — Jude wrote to warn Christians about the dangers of apostates, false teachers, immorality and deception. But he ends with encouragement, reminding the reader that God is powerful and wise, and able to keep His own from falling (becoming an apostate). There is nothing to suggest that a true child of God can become an apostate.

# The Letter Jude Wrote



*Jude 1:24-25 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, {25} To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and for ever. Amen.*

In mountain climbing, a beginning hiker attaches himself to the expert. If he loses his footing, the expert climber will keep him from falling.

Likewise, we will not fall as we climb the mountain of life because we are connected to God. Even if we let go, He will not. He will keep us from falling.

Jude began the letter by addressing those who are *preserved in Jesus* (**Jude 1**).

In verse 21, he exhorted Christians to avoid dangerous men and to keep themselves *in the love of God*.

He concluded with the recognition that it is God who keeps us from falling.

Paul put the same idea in **Philippians 2:12-13**

# The Letter Jude Wrote



*Jude 1:24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,*

The key to living a Christian life: wisdom, understanding, and discernment (Prov 3:19-23);

Over 30 New Testament admonitions about our walk. (1 Thess 4:1).

Paul didn't say walk, he said run (Heb 12:1; Prov 4:10, 12; Isa 40:31; Ps 37:24).

Stumbles? He is able to keep us from falling (Ps 37:24)

**“and to present us faultless”** — He is willing to do for us that which we cannot do for ourselves.

[1] Present you in the presence of His glory = the highest pinnacle of truth in the epistle (Jn 17:24).

[2] ...without blemish (Gr. amomos ) Cf. Eph 5:26,27.

[3] ...we shall be like him, for... (1 Jn 3:2); a lamb without blemish and without spot (1 Pet 1:19).

[4] ...*exceeding joy*: contemplation of inheritance (1 Pet 1:6); anticipation of Christ's return (1 Pet 1:6,8; Rev 19:6,7).

[5] God our Saviour: 1 Tim 2:5.

[6] Believing in God is insufficient. Trusting in the cross is essential! (Jn 14:6; Acts 4:12).

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# The Letter Jude Wrote



*Jude 1:25 To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and for ever. Amen.*

“Glory, Majesty, Dominion, and Power” — The only other NT verse with all four is Hebrews 1:3.  
*Heb 1:3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high*

“**Glory**” — Divine radiance that shines (Lk 2:9); Blinds (Acts 22:11); Protected by smoke (Rev 15:8).

“**Majesty**” — Only here and in Heb 1:3 and 8:1; incomparable, ineffable regal presence of the Ruler of the Universe; suggests the omniscience of God upon the throne.

“**Dominion**” — The infinite extent of His rule throughout the universe (Heb 1:3, Col 2) This suggests omnipresence of His Majesty throughout the universe Ps 103

“**Power**” — Irresistible divine authority and might; omnipotence. This demonstrates the poverty of human language...cf. David (1 Chr 29:11-13). Having comprehended the glorious brightness, the unutterable regal Being of the One who sits on the throne, the limitless extent of His rule, and the unlimited strength of His might... Jude can write no more...

“**now and for ever**” — Assurance of security in Christ.

“**Amen**” - So be it!

# The Letter Jude Wrote



*Jude 1:24-25 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, {25} To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and for ever. Amen.*

It is God who keeps us. He is faithful to us. And when we are faithful to God, with devoted hearts and renewed minds, we are useful for God's service. The Holy Spirit is then able to work in and through us.

Because it is God who keeps us, and it is not dependent on our good works, we will be presented faultless before Him and our joy will be full.

# The Letter Jude Wrote



*Jude 1:24-25 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, {25} To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and for ever. Amen.*

Jude ends by praising God:

*“To the only wise God, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever.”*

*We do not, and cannot, give these things to God. He is and has these things. All we can do is praise Him.*

*Jude was acknowledging and declaring truths about God. When we declare the same, we glorify God. We aren't giving God more **majesty** or **power** than He had before; we are just recognizing and declaring it.*

# The Letter Jude Wrote



*Jude 1:25 To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and for ever. Amen.*

***Both now and forever:*** *This could also be translated “unto all the ages.” This is as complete a statement of eternity as can be made in human language. Our victory, our triumph in God, is forever.*

*There is serious deception in the world and often among those called Christians. There are enemies of the gospel who have infiltrated the church. Yet despite the greatness of the threat, God is greater still. He wins, and if we will only stay with Him, we are guaranteed victory also.*

*Jude is a book full of warning, but it closes with supreme confidence in God. Dangerous times should make us trust in a mighty God.*

# The Letter Jude Wrote

Jude has told us a lot about apostasy and apostates.

But he has also told us a lot about who God is:

Loving—verses 1-3, 21

Gracious—verse 4

Lord—verse 4

Judging—verses 5, 6, 14, 15

Glorious—verses 24-25

Wise—verse 25

Your take-away from Jude? What was impressed upon your mind and heart?





KNOW  
JESUS  
AND  
LOVE HIM