

## ~JUDE, THE LETTER OF (384)

- .. Unique Information
- .. Place And Time Of Writing
- .. Authenticity
- .. Highlights Of Jude

- An inspired letter of the **Christian Greek Scriptures** written by Jude, a brother of James and therefore evidently also a half brother of Jesus Christ. Addressed to the called ones who are loved in relationship with God the Father and preserved for Jesus Christ, this general letter was evidently to be circulated to all Christians.
- **Jude**, a slave of Jesus Christ, but a brother of James, to the called ones who are loved in relationship with God the Father and preserved for Jesus Christ. (**Jude 1:1**)

### See Also JUDE

- At the time **Jude** wrote his letter a threatening situation had developed. Immoral, animalistic men had slipped in among Christians and were turning the undeserved kindness of God into an excuse for loose conduct.
- For this reason **Jude** did not, as he had originally intended, write about the salvation that Christians called to God's heavenly Kingdom hold in common.
- Instead, directed by God's spirit, he provided exhortation to help fellow believers to cope successfully with corruptive influences inside the congregation.
- **Jude** admonished them to put up a hard fight for the faith by resisting immoral persons, by maintaining pure worship and fine conduct, and by praying with Holy Spirit.
- Beloved ones, though I was making every effort to write you about the salvation we hold in common, I found it necessary to write you to exhort you to put up a hard fight for the faith that was once for all time delivered to the holy ones. (**Jude 1:3**)
- My reason is that certain men have slipped in who have long ago been appointed by the Scriptures to this judgment, ungodly men,

turning the undeserved kindness of our God into an excuse for loose conduct and proving false to our only Owner and Lord, Jesus Christ. (**Jude 1:4**)

- These are the ones that make separations, animalistic men, not having spirituality. (**Jude 1:19**)
- But you, beloved ones, by building up yourselves on your most holy faith, and praying with Holy Spirit. (**Jude 1:20**)
- Keep yourselves in God's love, while you are waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ with everlasting life in view. (**Jude 1:21**)
- Also, continue showing mercy to some that have doubts. (**Jude 1:22**)
- Save them by snatching them out of the fire. But continue showing mercy to others, doing so with fear, while you hate even the inner garment that has been stained by the flesh. (**Jude 1:23**)
- Drawing upon such examples as the angels that sinned, the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah, Cain, Balaam, and Korah, **Jude** forcefully proved that Yehowah's judgment will be executed upon ungodly persons just as certainly as it was upon the unfaithful angels and wicked men of former times. He also exposed the baseness of those who were trying to defile Christians.
- I desire to remind you, despite your knowing all things once for all time, that Yehowah, although he saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterwards destroyed those not showing faith. (**Jude 1:5**)
- And the angels that did not keep their original position but forsook their own proper dwelling place he has reserved with eternal bonds under dense darkness for the judgment of the great day. (**Jude 1:6**)
- So too Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities about them, after they in the same manner as the foregoing ones had committed fornication excessively and gone out after flesh for unnatural use, are placed before us as a warning example by undergoing the judicial punishment of everlasting fire. (**Jude 1:7**)

- In like manner, notwithstanding, these men, too, indulging in dreams, are defiling the flesh and disregarding lordship and speaking abusively of glorious ones. (**Jude 1:8**)
- But when Michael the archangel had a difference with the Devil and was disputing about Moses body, he did not dare to bring a judgment against him in abusive terms, but said; May Yehowah rebuke you. (**Jude 1:9**)
- Yet these men are speaking abusively of all the things they really do not know, but all the things that they do understand naturally like the unreasoning animals, in these things they go on corrupting themselves. (**Jude 1:10**)
- Too bad for them, because they have gone in the path of Cain, and have rushed into the erroneous course of Balaam for reward, and have perished in the rebellious talk of Korah! (**Jude 1:11**)
- These are the rocks hidden below water in your love feasts while they feast with you, shepherds that feed themselves without fear, waterless clouds carried this way and that by winds, trees in late autumn, but fruitless, having died twice, having been uprooted. (**Jude 1:12**)
- Wild waves of the sea that foam up their own causes for shame, stars with no set course, for which the blackness of darkness stands reserved forever. (**Jude 1:13**)
- Yes, the seventh one in line from Adam, Enoch, prophesied also regarding them, when he said; Look! Yehowah came with his holy myriads. (**Jude 1:14**)
- To execute judgment against all, and to convict all the ungodly concerning all their ungodly deeds that they did in an ungodly way, and concerning all the shocking things that ungodly sinners spoke against him. (**Jude 1:15**)
- These men are murmurers, complainers about their lot in life, proceeding according to their own desires, and their mouths speak swelling things, while they are admiring personalities for the sake of their own benefit. (**Jude 1:16**)
- These are the ones that make separations, animalistic men, not having spirituality. (**Jude 1:19**)

## · Unique Information

- Though short, **Jude's** letter contains some information not found elsewhere in the Bible. It alone mentions the archangel Michael's dispute with the Devil over Moses body and the prophecy uttered centuries earlier by Enoch.
- But when Michael the archangel had a difference with the Devil and was disputing about Moses body, he did not dare to bring a judgment against him in abusive terms, but said; May Yehowah rebuke you. (**Jude 1:9**)
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- Whether **Jude** received this information through direct revelation or by reliable transmission, either oral or written, is not known. If the latter was the case, this may explain the presence of a similar reference to Enoch's prophesying in the apocryphal book of Enoch, thought to have been written probably sometime during the **Second and First Centuries B.C.E.**
- A common source could have furnished the basis for the statement in the inspired letter as well as in the apocryphal book.

## · Place And Time Of Writing

- Likely **Jude** wrote his letter from Palestine, as there is no record of his ever having left this land. It is possible to arrive at an approximate date for the letter on the basis of internal evidence.
- The fact that Jude mentions neither Cestius Gallus coming against Jerusalem, **66 C.E.**, nor the fall of that city to the Romans under Titus, **70 C.E.**, suggests that he wrote before the year **66 C.E.** Had even a part of Jesus prophecy regarding Jerusalem's destruction been fulfilled

- Because the days will come upon you when your enemies will build around you a fortification with pointed stakes and will encircle you and distress you from every side. (**Luke 19:43**)
- And they will dash you and your children within you to the ground, and they will not leave a stone upon a stone in you, because you did not discern the time of your being inspected. (**Luke 19:44**)
- **Jude** doubtless would have included this execution of divine judgment as another warning example. Since **Jude** seemingly quoted from Peter's second letter about ridiculers appearing in the last time.
- For you know this first, that in the last days there will come ridiculers with their ridicule, proceeding according to their own desires (**2 Peter 3:3**)
- With;
- How they used to say to you; In the last time there will be ridiculers, proceeding according to their own desires for ungodly things. (**Jude 1:18**)
- It may be inferred that he wrote his letter later, in about **65 C.E.**

## ·· Authenticity

- The Bible book of **Jude** was accepted as canonical by early Scripture catalogers. Among these from the **Second** through the **Fourth Centuries C.E.** were Clement of Alexandria, Tertullian, Origen, Eusebius, Cyril of Jerusalem, Athanasius, Epiphanius, Gregory of Nazianzus, Philastrius, Jerome, and Augustine. The letter is also included in the Muratorian Fragment, circa **170 C.E.**

## ·· Highlights Of Jude

- Concise, powerful warning against wicked ones who would infiltrate the congregation
- Probably written about **65 C.E.**, more than 30 years after the death and resurrection of Christ.
- A situation calling for Christian endurance.

- **Jude**, a slave of Jesus Christ, but a brother of James, to the called ones who are loved in relationship with God the Father and preserved for Jesus Christ. (**Jude 1:1**)
- May mercy and peace and love be increased to you. (**Jude 1:2**)
- Beloved ones, though I was making every effort to write you about the salvation we hold in common, I found it necessary to write you to exhort you to put up a hard fight for the faith that was once for all time delivered to the holy ones. (**Jude 1:3**)
- My reason is that certain men have slipped in who have long ago been appointed by the Scriptures to this judgment, ungodly men, turning the undeserved kindness of our God into an excuse for loose conduct and proving false to our only Owner and Lord, Jesus Christ. (**Jude 1:4**)
- Ungodly men have slipped into congregation and are using God's undeserved kindness as an excuse for loose conduct.
- Christians must put up a hard fight for the faith.
- Attitudes, conduct, and people to guard against.
- I desire to remind you, despite your knowing all things once for all time, that Yehowah, although he saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterwards destroyed those not showing faith. (**Jude 1:5**)
- And the angels that did not keep their original position but forsook their own proper dwelling place he has reserved with eternal bonds under dense darkness for the judgment of the great day. (**Jude 1:6**)
- So too Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities about them, after they in the same manner as the foregoing ones had committed fornication excessively and gone out after flesh for unnatural use, are placed before us as a warning example by undergoing the judicial punishment of everlasting fire. (**Jude 1:7**)
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- These men are murmurers, complainers about their lot in life, proceeding according to their own desires, and their mouths speak swelling things, while they are admiring personalities for the sake of their own benefit. ([Jude 1:16](#))
- Not to be forgotten is the fact that Israelites saved from Egypt who later lacked faith were destroyed.
- Angels that forsook their proper position were punished.

- **Grossly immoral Sodom and Gomorrah suffered the judgment of everlasting fire.**
- **Despite these examples, some endeavor to bring similar practices into the congregation.**
- **Michael was not abusive, even when speaking with the Devil, but these men speak abusively of glorious ones.**
- **They are following the bad examples of Cain, Balaam, and Korah.**
- **They pose a threat comparable to rocks hidden below water, like waterless clouds and dead, uprooted trees, they produce nothing beneficial.**
- **Enoch prophesied God's judgment against such ungodly sinners.**
- **These men are murmurers, complainers, self-centered, as well as deceptive flatterers.**
- **How Christians can resist this bad influence.**
- **As for you, beloved ones, call to mind the sayings that have been previously spoken by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Jude 1:17)**
- **How they used to say to you; In the last time there will be ridiculers, proceeding according to their own desires for ungodly things.**
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- **Keep yourselves in God's love, while you are waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ with everlasting life in view. (Jude 1:21)**



- **Also, continue showing mercy to some that have doubts. (Jude 1:22)**
- **Save them by snatching them out of the fire. But continue showing mercy to others, doing so with fear, while you hate even the inner garment that has been stained by the flesh. (Jude 1:23)**
- **Now to the one who is able to guard you from stumbling and to set you unblemished in the sight of his glory with great joy. (Jude 1:24)**
- **To the only God our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, might and authority for all past eternity and now and into all eternity. Amen. (Jude 1:25)**
- **Remember, the apostles foretold the presence of such men in the last time.**
- **Christians should stand out as different from them, building themselves up on the foundation of faith, praying with Holy Spirit, keeping themselves in God's love, waiting for Jesus mercy to be expressed.**
- **They should also help others, showing mercy to doubters, saving them by snatching them out of the fire.**