

## JUDE

Small, But Powerful Series # 4 & 5 & 6 & 7

### Background

- Author: Jude  
Matthew 13:55; Acts 1:14; 1 Corinthians 9:5
- Date: Approximately AD 65
- Recipients: Primarily Jewish Christians
- Purpose: To warn believers to be vigilant about false teachers, and to remain strong in the faith

### Content of Jude & Application

1. Greeting (1-2)  
Application: Take time to rejoice in God's call, love and keeping power.
2. Purpose of Letter (3-4)
  - A. Appeal: Contend for the faith
  - B. Warning: False teachers have crept into the church
    - 1) They are ungodly.  
Unrighteous, lawless, disobedient, lacking respect for God
    - 2) They use the grace of God as an excuse for sexual immorality.  
Application: God's grace provides for forgiveness of sin, but not an excuse for sin.
    - 3) They deny the nature and authority of Jesus Christ.
3. Description and Condemnation of Corrupt Teachers (5-19)
  - A. 3 Old Testament examples of God's judgment on rebellion (5-7)

- 1) Israel rebelled through lack of belief – Numbers 14
  - 2) Angels rebelled by leaving their assigned positions – 1 Enoch, Genesis 6:1-4, 2 Peter 2:4
  - 3) Men of Sodom rebelled through sexual immorality – Genesis 18-19
- B. The false teachers will be judged for doing the same things (8-10)
- 1) They are sexually immoral
  - 2) They reject authority
  - 3) They slander celestial beings
- C. 3 more Old Testament examples of rebels who were judged (11-13)
- 1) Cain (Genesis 4) – Just as Cain did not care for his brother, the false teachers did not care about their followers.
  - 2) Balaam (Numbers 22-25 & 31:16) – Just as Balaam led God's people into immorality and idolatry because of greed, the false teachers were motivated by financial gain.
  - 3) Korah (Numbers 16) – Just as Korah rebelled against God's divinely appointed leaders, wanting power for himself, the false teachers opposed the apostles and church leaders.
- D. Pictures of these leaders and their influence
- 1) Hidden reefs – unrecognized danger
  - 2) Selfish shepherds – not concerned for others – Ezekiel 34:8
  - 3) Waterless clouds – look good, but worthless – Proverbs 25:14
  - 4) Fruitless trees – promise fruit, but give none
  - 5) Wild waves – make a lot of noise, while stirring up a mess – Isaiah 57:20
  - 6) Wandering stars – offering no guidance or light
- We must be on our guard against false teaching.
- E. An ancient warning from Enoch (14-16)  
Deuteronomy 33:2; Zechariah 14:5; Isaiah 66:15-16
- F. Recent warnings from Jesus and the apostles (17-19)  
Jesus (Mark 13:21-23); Peter (2 Peter 2:1-3:7); John (1 John 2:22; 4:1-3; 2 John); Paul (2 Timothy 3:1-5)
4. Closing Charge: Be strong in your faith (20-23)
- A. Build yourself up in the \_\_\_\_\_
  - B. \_\_\_\_\_ in the Holy Spirit – Romans 8:26-27; Ephesians 6:18
  - C. Keep yourself in God's \_\_\_\_\_
  - D. Live in the \_\_\_\_\_ of eternal life – 2 Peter 3:11-12, 14
  - E. \_\_\_\_\_ those who have fallen prey to false teaching
    - Be careful to not be drawn in \_\_\_\_\_.
    - Have a healthy \_\_\_\_\_ for spiritual warfare.
5. Doxology (24-25)  
Don't be afraid ... but be assured ...
- God will keep us from \_\_\_\_\_.
  - God will keep us \_\_\_\_\_.