**JUDE (ESV 2016)**

​ **1** Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James, to those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ: **2** May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

**3** Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints. **4** For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

**5** Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe. **6** And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day— **7** just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.

**8** Yet in like manner these people also, relying on their dreams, defile the flesh, reject authority, and blaspheme the glorious ones. **9** But when the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, was disputing about the body of Moses, he did not presume to pronounce a blasphemous judgment, but said, “The Lord rebuke you.” **10** But these people blaspheme all that they do not understand, and they are destroyed by all that they, like unreasoning animals, understand instinctively. **11** Woe to them! For they walked in the way of Cain and abandoned themselves for the sake of gain to Balaam's error and perished in Korah's rebellion. **12** These are hidden reefs at your love feasts, as they feast with you without fear, shepherds feeding themselves; waterless clouds, swept along by winds; fruitless trees in late autumn, twice dead, uprooted; **13** wild waves of the sea, casting up the foam of their own shame; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved forever.

**14** It was also about these that Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied, saying, “Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of his holy ones, **15** to execute judgment on all and to convict all the ungodly of all their deeds of ungodliness that they have committed in such an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things that ungodly sinners have spoken against him.” **16** These are grumblers, malcontents, following their own sinful desires; they are loud-mouthed boasters, showing favoritism to gain advantage.

**17** But you must remember, beloved, the predictions of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. **18** They said to you, “In the last time there will be scoffers, following their own ungodly passions.” **19** It is these who cause divisions, worldly people, devoid of the Spirit. **20** But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, **21** keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. **22** And have mercy on those who doubt; **23** save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

**24** Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, **25** to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

**ΙΟΥΔΑ**

​​ **1** Ἰούδας Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ δοῦλος, ἀδελφὸς δὲ Ἰακώβου, τοῖς ἐν θεῷ πατρὶ ἠγαπημένοις καὶ Ἰησοῦ Χριστῷ τετηρημένοις κλητοῖς· **2** ἔλεος ὑμῖν καὶ εἰρήνη καὶ ἀγάπη πληθυνθείη.

**3** Ἀγαπητοί, πᾶσαν σπουδὴν ποιούμενος γράφειν ὑμῖν περὶ τῆς κοινῆς ἡμῶν σωτηρίας ἀνάγκην ἔσχον γράψαι ὑμῖν παρακαλῶν ἐπαγωνίζεσθαι τῇ ἅπαξ παραδοθείσῃ τοῖς ἁγίοις πίστει. **4** παρεισέδυσαν γάρ τινες ἄνθρωποι, οἱ πάλαι προγεγραμμένοι εἰς τοῦτο τὸ κρίμα, ἀσεβεῖς, τὴν τοῦ θεοῦ ἡμῶν χάριτα μετατιθέντες εἰς ἀσέλγειαν καὶ τὸν μόνον δεσπότην καὶ κύριον ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦν Χριστὸν ἀρνούμενοι.

**5** Ὑπομνῆσαι δὲ ὑμᾶς βούλομαι, εἰδότας ὑμᾶς ἅπαξ πάντα, ὅτι Ἰησοῦς λαὸν ἐκ γῆς Αἰγύπτου σώσας τὸ δεύτερον τοὺς μὴ πιστεύσαντας ἀπώλεσεν, **6** ἀγγέλους τε τοὺς μὴ τηρήσαντας τὴν ἑαυτῶν ἀρχὴν ἀλλὰ ἀπολιπόντας τὸ ἴδιον οἰκητήριον εἰς κρίσιν μεγάλης ἡμέρας δεσμοῖς ἀϊδίοις ὑπὸ ζόφον τετήρηκεν· **7** ὡς Σόδομα καὶ Γόμορρα καὶ αἱ περὶ αὐτὰς πόλεις, τὸν ὅμοιον τρόπον τούτοις ἐκπορνεύσασαι καὶ ἀπελθοῦσαι ὀπίσω σαρκὸς ἑτέρας, πρόκεινται δεῖγμα πυρὸς αἰωνίου δίκην ὑπέχουσαι.

**8** Ὁμοίως μέντοι καὶ οὗτοι ἐνυπνιαζόμενοι σάρκα μὲν μιαίνουσιν, κυριότητα δὲ ἀθετοῦσιν, δόξας δὲ βλασφημοῦσιν. **9** ὁ δὲ Μιχαὴλ ὁ ἀρχάγγελος, ὅτε τῷ διαβόλῳ διακρινόμενος διελέγετο περὶ τοῦ Μωϋσέως σώματος, οὐκ ἐτόλμησεν κρίσιν ἐπενεγκεῖν βλασφημίας, ἀλλὰ εἶπεν· Ἐπιτιμήσαι σοι κύριος. **10** οὗτοι δὲ ὅσα μὲν οὐκ οἴδασιν βλασφημοῦσιν, ὅσα δὲ φυσικῶς ὡς τὰ ἄλογα ζῷα ἐπίστανται, ἐν τούτοις φθείρονται. **11** οὐαὶ αὐτοῖς, ὅτι τῇ ὁδῷ τοῦ Κάϊν ἐπορεύθησαν, καὶ τῇ πλάνῃ τοῦ Βαλαὰμ μισθοῦ ἐξεχύθησαν, καὶ τῇ ἀντιλογίᾳ τοῦ Κόρε ἀπώλοντο. **12** οὗτοί εἰσιν οἱ ἐν ταῖς ἀγάπαις ὑμῶν σπιλάδες συνευωχούμενοι, ἀφόβως ἑαυτοὺς ποιμαίνοντες, νεφέλαι ἄνυδροι ὑπὸ ἀνέμων παραφερόμεναι, δένδρα φθινοπωρινὰ ἄκαρπα δὶς ἀποθανόντα ἐκριζωθέντα, **13** κύματα ἄγρια θαλάσσης ἐπαφρίζοντα τὰς ἑαυτῶν αἰσχύνας, ἀστέρες πλανῆται οἷς ὁ ζόφος τοῦ σκότους εἰς αἰῶνα τετήρηται.

**14** Προεφήτευσεν δὲ καὶ τούτοις ἕβδομος ἀπὸ Ἀδὰμ Ἑνὼχ λέγων· Ἰδοὺ ἦλθεν κύριος ἐν ἁγίαις μυριάσιν αὐτοῦ, **15** ποιῆσαι κρίσιν κατὰ πάντων καὶ ἐλέγξαι πάντας τοὺς ἀσεβεῖς περὶ πάντων τῶν ἔργων ἀσεβείας αὐτῶν ὧν ἠσέβησαν καὶ περὶ πάντων τῶν σκληρῶν ὧν ἐλάλησαν κατ’ αὐτοῦ ἁμαρτωλοὶ ἀσεβεῖς. **1** **6** οὗτοί εἰσιν γογγυσταί, μεμψίμοιροι, κατὰ τὰς ἐπιθυμίας αὐτῶν πορευόμενοι, καὶ τὸ στόμα αὐτῶν λαλεῖ ὑπέρογκα, θαυμάζοντες πρόσωπα ὠφελείας χάριν.

**17** Ὑμεῖς δέ, ἀγαπητοί, μνήσθητε τῶν ῥημάτων τῶν προειρημένων ὑπὸ τῶν ἀποστόλων τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ· **18** ὅτι ἔλεγον ὑμῖν· Ἐπ’ ἐσχάτου χρόνου ἔσονται ἐμπαῖκται κατὰ τὰς ἑαυτῶν ἐπιθυμίας πορευόμενοι τῶν ἀσεβειῶν. **19** οὗτοί εἰσιν οἱ ἀποδιορίζοντες, ψυχικοί, πνεῦμα μὴ ἔχοντες. **20** ὑμεῖς δέ, ἀγαπητοί, ἐποικοδομοῦντες ἑαυτοὺς τῇ ἁγιωτάτῃ ὑμῶν πίστει, ἐν πνεύματι ἁγίῳ προσευχόμενοι, **21** ἑαυτοὺς ἐν ἀγάπῃ θεοῦ τηρήσατε προσδεχόμενοι τὸ ἔλεος τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον. **22** καὶ οὓς μὲν ἐλεᾶτε διακρινομένους, **23** οὓς δὲ σῴζετε ἐκ πυρὸς ἁρπάζοντες, οὓς δὲ ἐλεᾶτε ἐν φόβῳ, μισοῦντες καὶ τὸν ἀπὸ τῆς σαρκὸς ἐσπιλωμένον χιτῶνα.

**24** Τῷ δὲ δυναμένῳ φυλάξαι ὑμᾶς ἀπταίστους καὶ στῆσαι κατενώπιον τῆς δόξης αὐτοῦ ἀμώμους ἐν ἀγαλλιάσει **25** μόνῳ θεῷ σωτῆρι ἡμῶν διὰ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν δόξα μεγαλωσύνη κράτος καὶ ἐξουσία πρὸ παντὸς τοῦ αἰῶνος καὶ νῦν καὶ εἰς πάντας τοὺς αἰῶνας· ἀμήν.

**Textual Variants in Jude**

**1 Instead of “beloved in God” (*égapémenois*), later manuscripts read, “sanctified by God” (*égiasmenois*).**

**2 Some later copyists inserted “God” after “only Lord (*despotés*)” to make a distinction with “Lord (*kyrios*) Jesus Christ”.**

**5 Ancient copyists may have confused an abbreviation of “Lord” (*KC*) with an abbreviation of “Jesus” (*IC*). (Exo. 12.51 says, “the LORD brought the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt”.)**

**19 Instead of “It is these who cause divisions”, later copyists wrote, “These be they who separate themselves”.**

**22-23 Some ancient manuscripts describe three classes of sinners, whilst others describe two classes by removing the second “others”.**

**22 Instead of “show mercy (*eleate*)”, some ancient manuscripts read, “convince (*elegxete*)”.**

**25 Some later copyists inserted “wise” after “only”, as in Romans 16:27.**

**25 Some later copyists removed “before all time” from before “both now and ever”.**

**Background to Jude**

**In AD 33, Jesus foretold that false prophets would arise and seek to deceive believers.**

**By AD 60, the apostles John, Peter, and Paul wrote epistles to churches, warning that false teachers would seek to infiltrate their gatherings.**

**By AD 70, Jude now wrote to warn that such deceivers have come, explaining how to recognize them and to protect themselves.**

**In the 2nd century CE, some Christian leaders disputed Jude’s epistle because:**

* **Jude was not an apostle**
* **Jude seemed dependent on 2 Peter**
* **Jude quotes from apocryphal writings (See commentaries)**
* **The epistle is brief**

**By the end of the century, all churches had accepted Jude into their ‘canon’.**

**2 Peter Jude**

**1:5 3**

**1:12 5**

**2:1 4**

**2:4 6**

**2:6 7**

**2:10–11 8–9**

**2:12 10**

**2:13–17 11–13**

**3:2-3 17-18**

**3:14 24**

**3:18 25**

**Christian Doctrines in Jude**

1. **God 1, 25**

**2.** **The lordship of Jesus Christ 4, 21, 25**

**3.** **The Holy Spirit 19, 20**

**4.** **Apostolic authority 3, 17**

**5.** **Predictive prophecy 14, 17**

**6.** **Everlasting salvation 1, 3, 21, 24**

**7.** **Divine judgement 4, 5, 6, 7**

**8.** **Angels and devils 8, 9, 10**

**Teaching Outline of Jude**

**I. GREETING 1-2**

**A. Jude’s status 1**

**B. Christians called, beloved and kept**

**C. Multiplied mercy, peace and love 2**

**II. DANGERS FROM NEW DOCTRINES 3-4**

**A. Lose salvation by faith 3**

**B. Pervert the grace of God 4**

**C. Deny our Lord Jesus Christ**

**III. DANGERS FROM THE PAST 5-7**

**A. Faithless Israelites 5**

**B. Fallen angels 6**

**C. Filthy pagans 7**

**IV. DANGERS FROM DREAMERS 8-13**

**A. Reject authority 8-9**

**B. Blaspheme glory 10-11**

**C. Take without giving 12-13**

**V. DANGERS FROM THE GODLESS 14-16**

**A. Foretold long ago 14**

**B. Condemned in advance 15**

**C. Known by their fruit 16**

**VI. RESPOND WITH TRUTH 17-23**

**A. Recall apostolic warning 17-19**

**B. Strengthen yourselves 20-21**

**C. Rescue the weak 22-23**

**VII. RESPOND WITH WORSHIP 24-25**

**A. Awaiting future glory 24**

**B. Confessing our God and Lord 25**

**C. Affirming their divine authority**

**Grammar Notes on Jude**

**1 Literally, “to the {in God-Father beloved and (in) Jesus-Messiah kept} called”.**

**1 “beloved” and “kept” are perfect, passive participles, implying lasting results of an earlier action, namely their call from God to believe in Jesus.**

**1 “In” is unusual with passive verbs, but appropriate in such a compact sentence.**

**4 Literally, “the only Master and Lord”. which indicates that Master and Lord are the same person.**‘In 1798 … Sharp pointed out that in the construction article-noun-καί-noun (where καί [kai] = “and”), when two nouns are singular, personal, and common (i.e., not proper names), they always had the same referent’ (NET Bible).

**VOCABULARY**

**4 “certain people” = *anthropoi*, which can include both men and women, ethnic Jews and Gentiles.**

**6 “angels” in this context refers to the “sons of God/gods” in Genesis 6, called “watchers” in the *Book of Enoch*, which Jude cites.**

**7 “unnatural desire”, literally, “strange flesh”, which apocryphal literature relates to desire towards angels.**

**8 “relying on their dreams” is a verb that usually pertains to having visions of a spiritual kind.**

**23 “garment”, Greek *chiton*, ‘a garment worn next to the skin, and by both sexes’ (BAGD).**

**COMMENTARY ON JUDE**

**​1 James and Jude (=Judas), brothers of Jesus, were associated with Jesus’ appointed apostles. (See Acts 15.) There were also two apostles named Judas.**

**1 “Servant”. The servant of an important lord had a higher rank than did most freemen.**

**1 Jude is fond of trilogies, sets of three ideas:**

1. **Called to eternal life (21)**
2. **Loved by God the Father**
3. **Kept by Jesus Christ (24)**

**2 Mercy, peace and love. (See the Teaching Outline for other trilogies.)**

**3 The saints (holy ones) = Jesus’ apostles. Even Jude appeals to apostolic authority (17), not to his own.**

**4 "Marked out" = Greek perfect tense "written beforehand." Where?   
  
Dead Sea scroll 1QS iv.9-14 foretold** “a multitude of plagues by the hand of all the destroying angels, everlasting damnation by the avenging wrath of he fury of God, eternal torment and endless disgrace together with shameful extinction in the fire of the dark regions. The times of heir generations shall be spent in sorrowful mourning and in bitter misery and in calamities of darkness until they are destroyed without remnant or survivor.” Vermes (2004), p 102.

**5 Three examples of wicked beings whom God has judged:**

1. **Faithless Israelites after their exodus from Egypt**
2. **Fallen angels**
3. **Sodom and Gomorrah**

**5 The oldest manuscripts read, “Jesus” whereas others read, “the Lord”.**Exodus 12:51 says, “The LORD brought the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt.” Since early Christians believed that Jesus was the LORD in human flesh, they could speak of Jesus as the Lord over ancient Israel.

**6 Angels. According to the *Book of Enoch* and other ancient Jewish literature, these angels were the “sons of God/gods” in Genesis 6, who fathered the Nephilim with human women.**

**9 Michael, the devil and the body of Moses. The origin of this Jewish myth has been lost.**

**11 Three Bible stories that illustrate immoral teachers:**

1. **Cain, Genesis 4, disbelief**
2. **Balaam, Numbers 22, avarice**
3. **Korah, Numbers 16, rebellion**

**14-15 Jude quotes from the *Book of Enoch* 1:9. Christians used to read this book, but they never accepted it as Scripture.**

**17 Peter: “scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires” (2 Pet. 3:3).**

**Paul: “in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive … having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power” (2 Tim. 3:1-5).**

**20-23 Ten ways in which to counter false teachers:**

**1. Build yourselves up in your Christian faith**

**2. Pray with help from God’s Holy Spirit**

**3. Enjoy God’s love for you**

**4. Await Jesus’ merciful return**

**5. Hope for everlasting life**

**6. Rescue the wavering**

**7. Evangelize the lost**

**8. Show mercy on others**

**9. Fear God (consequences of disobedience)**

**10. Avoid filthy practices**

**24-25 Doxology: Christian worship**

**11. Let Christ keep you (1)**

**12. Honor God our Saviour**

**13. Trust in our Lord Jesus Christ**

**14. Submit to their supreme authority**

**ASSIGNMENTS**

**Home Work**

Read through Jude once a day this week, in different translations (See biblehub.com)

Jot down notes and queries that you want to discuss in our bible-study group.

**Projects**

If you complete a project, then we shall post it on line for others to download. You may collaborate with others.

A. Draft up a two-column list of parallel verses from 2 Peter and Jude.

B. Compile a list of parallel verse references and texts from the First Testament, from the New Testament, and from non-biblical sources that are quoted in Jude.

C. Work out a set of lesson plans from Jude, which you might teach to others.

D. Write up a biblical theology of doctrines found in the Epistle of Jude.

**Pastoral Work**

Meet with your coach, or with those whom you coach, and talk together about ways in which to teach seekers and believers from the Epistle of Jude.

Then agree together on a plan to do so.