

## INTRODUCTION TO JUDE

We will study seven points of Introduction to the Book of Jude.

(Jude 1) “Jude, a bond-servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to those who are the called, beloved in God the Father, and kept for Jesus Christ.”

### **AUTHOR:**

The Greek word for Jude (Ioudas) is same for Judah (Matt.1:2) and Judas (Matt.27:3).

This Jude said he was a brother of James. This James would have been well-known to the early church. Most scholars believe this brother is James who wrote the Book of James and pastor of Jerusalem Christian Church (Acts 15:13-22; Gal.1:19).

Therefore Jude was a younger half-brother of Jesus Christ (Matt.15:55-56; Mark 6:3). Like James, Jude became a believer after the resurrection of Jesus (John 7:5-10) [didn't believe]; (Acts 1:14) [believed]; (1 Cor.9:5) [Married].

He doesn't claim messianic apostleship like his brother James (Jude 17; Gal.1:19).

### **DATE:**

Many think Jude was written before the fall of Jerusalem (70AD) because this is a divine judgment letter. Therefore we think that he would have mentioned the 5<sup>th</sup> cycle (Deut.28).

Many agree with the early date of late 60's because of the Book of Jude's correlation to the Book of 2 Peter.

Others think that it is a later date because it is an apologetic letter defending the faith against apostasy and Gnosticism.

### **PURPOSE:**

Jude mentions that his original intention was to write about “our common salvation” (Jude 3a) [Soteriology]

But he felt the necessity to write to “contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints” (Jude 3b) [Apostolic doctrines of Church] [Ecclesiology].

Book of Jude was the earliest form of apologetics in church history. Apologetics is the ability to defend the doctrines of New Covenant by sound systematic theology. It is used inside the church and not outside the church. The gospel is used outside the church to the world (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9; John 10:28-30).

This is the importance of teaching the I.C.E method of church doctrines (Isagogic, Category and Exegesis) (1 Tim.3:2; 2 Tim.2:15; 1 Pet.3:15).

- The Book of Jude is largely unread until times of apostasy. Then it is dusted off and studied. It reminds the church to refute false doctrinal teachings which corrupt grace.

## STYLE:

Jude used a Hellenistic Jewish style. He used 13 Greek words not found anywhere else in NT (Grammar of NT Greek, vol.4, pg.139).

He quoted from non-biblical as well as biblical sources without referencing them. He quoted from the Book of Assumption of Moses (Jude 9) and the Book of Enoch (Jude 14-15).

Paul did a similar thing (Acts 17:28; 1 Cor.15:32-33; Titus 1:12). Paul quoted Jesus as saying things that are not recorded in the Gospels (Acts 20:35).

There is conceptual truth in the world because of the word of God shared by believers to the world.

Jude quotes the Apostles without referencing them (Jude 17-18; 2 Pet.3:2-3).

“Origen repeatedly quoted from Jude, in one place describing it as an Epistle of but few lines but full of powerful words of heavenly grace.” (I.S.B.E, vol.3, pg.1768)

## PLACE IN CANON:

It is the fourth shortest NT book. It was placed last in the General Epistles (Hebrews, James, 1, 2 Peter, 1, 2, 3 John, and Jude).

Jude was an encyclical letter. It was written to the universal church to deal with an apostasy and false teachings within the church.

He is concerned with the fact that the church is the divine agency of the Church Age dispensation and custodian of the Word of God and evangelism. He is concerned with the church **CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH**. Church Age Believers must be Heroes of the Faith and not Heretics of the Faith.

## SIMILIARITIES BETWEEN JUDE AND 2 PETER:

It is difficult to determine who is quoting who? Both Jude and Peter are fighting apostasy with apologetics.

Both are defending apostolic doctrines of the faith using similar biblical and non-biblical sources.

“As 19 of 25 verses of Jude are also in 2 Peter and because of dependence of subject matter, we conclude that 2 Peter depends on Jude.” (Grammar of NT Greek, pg.144)

Parallels: (Jude 1-2/ 2 Pet.1-2); (Jude 4/ 2 Pet.2:1); (Jude 6/ 2 Pet.2:4); (Jude 7/ 2 Pet.2:6); (Jude 8/ 2 Pet.2:10); (Jude 9/ 2 Pet.2:11); (Jude 11/ 2 Pet.2:15); (Jude 12/ 2 Pet.2:17); (Jude 16/ 2 Pet.2:18); (Jude 18/ 2 Pet.2:1. 3:3).

## OUTLINE of BOOK OF JUDE:

Salutation	(1-2)
Occasion	(3-4)
Heretics of Faith	(5-16)
Heroes of Faith	(17-23)
Benediction	(24-25)