

## JUDE

The writer is Jude (or Judas) who is considered to be the youngest brother of Jesus (Matthew 13:55). The book of Jude parallels 2 Peter and James with an emphasis on works as evidence of a faithful or evil heart.

Scriptures that are written in 2 Peter 2 and sections of Jude are exactly alike. Although only twenty-five verses long, fifteen verses from Jude are similar or equivalent to verses included in 2 Peter 2. While 2 Peter was probably intended for an audience consisting primarily of Gentiles, the audience of Jude would have been primarily Jewish.

Jude was written in response to a surge of false teachers speculating and imagining their personal philosophies. These contrived lessons were to be identified as heresies (a belief contrary to Scriptural Christian doctrine). A number of New Testament books were primarily focused on combatting false teachers (John, Ephesians, Colossians, 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, 1 & 2 John).

<b>Behavior of Heretics/False Teachers</b>	
Jude 1:4	Promoted immoral, licentious lifestyles
Jude 1:8	Discussed & disparaged "angels" in their philosophy
Jude 1:12	Participated in church meetings/love feasts
Jude 1:15	Diminished the Lord while elevating themselves
Jude 1:16a	Grumblers; Accusers
Jude 1:16b	Immoral; Seducers
Jude 1:18	Mockers

## Outline of Jude

<b>Verses</b>	<b>Chiasmic Structure</b>
1-2	1a Assurance for Christians
3	1b Believers in the Faith
4	1c Apostates Described
5-8	1d Apostasy & Old Testament History
9-10	1e Apostasy in the Supernatural
11	→ Deterioration of Apostates
12-13	2e Apostasy in Natural
14-16	2d Apostasy & Old Testament Prophecy
17-19	2c Apostasy Described
20-23	2b Believers in the Faith
24-25	2a Assurance to Christians

<b>The Five Shortest Books in the Bible</b>		
1.	3 John	219 Words
2.	2 John	245 Words

3.	Philemon	335 Words
4.	Obadiah	440 Words
5.	Jude	461 Words

## 9 Jude 1

### Read Jude 1:1-2 ... Introduction

1:1 Jude calls himself a bondservant to Jesus; this is a freely chosen position of servitude for life (Matthew 13:55, Mark 6:3). The functions of the Trinity regarding the Christian's salvation mentioned with: 1.the calling (Spirit) 2.being loved (God the father) 3.being kept (Jesus)

- The phrase "a bond-servant of Jesus Christ" is repeated by Paul, Peter, James and Jude as a position of humility. Although they appear translated the same in English, Paul and Peter place the noun ("slave") first, followed by the genitive descriptive phrase. However, the word order in Jude and James (the brothers of Jesus) sequences the descriptive genitive phrase first with "slave afterwards").
  - The genitive refers to the ownership of something (i.e., "of Jesus Christ")

Genitive Phrase Before & After the Owner	
AFTER	
Jude (Jude 1:1)	Ioudas Iēsou Christou doulos Ἰούδας Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ δοῦλος Jude of Jesus Christ servant
James (James 1:1)	Iakōbos theou kai Kyriou Iēsou Christou doulos Ἰάκωβος θεοῦ καὶ Κυρίου Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ δοῦλος James of God and of (the) Lord Jesus Christ a servant
BEFORE	
Paul (Romans 1:1)	Paulos doulos Christou Iēsou Παῦλος δοῦλος Χριστοῦ Ἰησοῦ Paul a servant of Christ Jesus
Peter (2 Peter 1:1)	Symeōn Petros doulos kai apostolos Iēsou Christou Συμεὼν Πέτρος δοῦλος καὶ ἀπόστολος Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ Simon Peter a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ

- The book of Jude was written to "the called" (klētois κλητοῖς) as those predestined by God (Romans 1:7; 8:28; 1 Corinthians 1:2, 24) even before the beginning of time. (Ephesians 1:4, 11)
    - In His grace, God takes the initiative.
  - Jude emphasized repeatedly that the recipients were beloved (ēgapēmenois ἠγαπημένοις). (Jude 1:3, 17, 20)
  - Believers are also "kept" (tetērēmenois τητηρημένοις) which means "guarded" or "preserved" as salvation is secured by God (1 Peter 1:4-5; 1 John 5:18)
- 1:2 Believers have a tri-fold blessed experience of mercy (because of Jesus' sacrifice – 2 Timothy 4:1; Romans 2:16, 8:34), peace (with the filling of the Spirit), and love (which is the reason God chose to save us)

- The Greek term for “peace” (eirēnē εἰρήνη) originates with the concept of reparation, restoration and putting back together (i.e., mending a broken bone).

### **Read Jude 1:3-4 ... Believers Should Contend for the Faith**

1:3 In those days, there were false teachers promoting knowledge over relationship and application. (Matthew 7:15-23) Jude encouraged believers to defend the faith.

- The Greek term for “common” (koinēs κοινῆς) means a fellowship, sharing and communion.
- Jude was going to write with the purpose of discussing their shared salvation, but the Spirit led him to change the focus of his message
- The Greek term “to contend earnestly” (epagōnizesthai ἐπαγωνίζεσθαι) is etymologically associated with “agony” and means “rigorous.”
- The term “faith” (pistei πίστει) in this verse emphasizes the doctrines that have been defined by God’s Word. (1 Timothy 6:20; 2 Timothy 1:4)
- As attested by his Wheaton College year book, this is Billy Graham’s favorite verse.

1:4 Heresy and false teaching often come from inside of the church as individuals develop personal doctrines beyond God’s Word. (2 Peter 2:1, 3)

- Believers should test all teaching with the Word of God (Acts 17:11; Matthew 13:24-30; Galatians 2:4)
- Certain individuals have been chosen for destruction. (2 Peter 2:3; Matthew 27:9-10; Proverbs 16:4; Romans 9:11)
- False teachers proclaimed a freedom to sin instead of a freedom from sin. (Matthew 7:15-23; 2 Corinthians 11:13-15; Galatians 2:4; Ephesians 4:14; Colossians 2:8-23; 2 Timothy 3:1; 2 Peter 2)
  - God’s grace is not a license to sin. (Romans 6:1-23; 14:16; 1 Peter 2:16; 2 Peter 2:19)
  - Believers are called to repentance and to the Lord Jesus as Master. (Luke 6:46; 1 Timothy 5:8; 2 Timothy 3:5; Titus 1:16)
  - The Greek term for “master” (despotēs δεσπότης) is the root word for “Despot.”

### **Read Jude 1:5-7 ... God’s Judgment on His Creation Who Did Not Comply**

1:5 The truth of God is worth repeating as believers are reminded of God’s faithfulness and holiness.

- Repetition makes concepts intuitive and daily, on-going behavior consistent.
- Repetition is the most basic technique for learning. (2 Peter 1:12)
- The Lord brought Israel out of Egyptian captivity, but they complained against the Lord and chose not to enter the Promised Land. (Exodus 13-14)

1:6 Angels trespassed the natural boundaries established by God and procreated with human women resulting in Nephilim (נְפִלִים). “1 Enoch” records that the Nephilim worshipped demons and practiced black magic.

- Angels that trespassed the natural boundaries established by God are being held in Tartarus (tartarōsas τάρταρώσας) for judgment. (2 Peter 2:4)
  - Greek mythology chronicles Tartarus as a holding place of the Titans who are similar to the Nephilim (half divine / half human giants).

- In the Old Testament, every time “sons of God / of God the sons” (hā’ēlōhîm bənê – בְּנֵי־אֱלֹהִים) is written as plural, it is a reference to angels. (When “son of God” is used as singular, it can be a reference to a man).
- 1:7 The inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah attempted to have sex with the two angelic messengers who were guests at Lot’s residence. (Genesis 19:4-5)
- God judged Sodom and Gomorrah with brimstone and fire (Genesis 19:24-25; 2 Peter 2:6)

<b>God Judges Disobedience (Three Examples from the Old Testament)</b>		
Jude 1:5	Exodus from Egypt then Death	Numbers 13-14
Jude 1:6	Angels Held for Judgment	Genesis 6:1-4
Jude 1:7	Sodom & Gomorrah	Genesis 19:24-28
<b>All Three Examples Include:</b>		
Disobedience to God		
Sexual Misconduct		
Angels		

**Read Jude 1:8-10 ... Errant & Prideful False Teachers Contend With The Spiritual World**

- 1:8 In the Old Testament, false prophets were called “dreamers.” (Deuteronomy 13:1-5; Jeremiah 23:25-32).
- The underlying motive of the false teachers was sexual gratification which defiles the body. (1 Corinthians 6:18; Titus 1:15)
  - The false teachers “reject authority;” the term for “authority” (kyriotēta κυριότητα) is used for “angelic dominion” in the New Testament. (Colossians 1:16; Ephesians 1:21; 2 Peter 2:10).
  - The teachers disrespected and misused the spiritual world according to their worldly cravings and desires.
- 1:9 The term “Archangel” (archangelos ἀρχάγγελος) is only used twice in the New Testament and means to be the principle, first, or chief angel. (1 Thessalonians 4:16)
- The name “Michael” means “who is like God?” and Jude is writing about the pride of false teachers elevating themselves in pride. Michael is the only archangel named in Scripture although “1 Enoch” lists seven archangels (similar to the seven angels of Revelation (8:2; 15:1; 16:1)
  - There are hierarchies of angels (Romans 8:38-39; Ephesians 4:21; Colossians 1:16), and there are angles over nations (Daniel 10:13,21; 12:1).
  - Jude quotes the words of Zechariah 3:2 with “the Lord rebuke you.” Although Michael (Daniel 12:1) disputed with the devil for the body of Moses, God does not even allow Satan to speak (Zechariah 3:1).
  - Instead of elevating human authority, God was to judge the spiritual world (2 Peter 2:11). According to Jewish tradition, after the death of Moses on Mt. Nebo (Deuteronomy 34:6), Satan attempted to claim the body of Moses because he killed an Egyptian (Exodus 2:12).
- 1:10 The contrast is that even the archangel had respect for the fallen angels while the false teachers had no respect for spiritual matters or spiritual beings.

- Whether eating, drinking or sexual urges, the false teachers simply followed their natural instincts without self-control or reasoning.
- The Gnostics prided themselves on special religious knowledge, but their lack of understanding (because they lacked the Spirit) was their downfall.

**Read Jude 1:11-13 ... Past & Present False Teachers**

The Decline of the Sinner Accelerates			
(Jude 1:11)			
Traveled	Wandered	The way of Cain	Erroneous Action
Abandoned	Hurried Rejection	The error of Balaam	Evil Leadership for Profit
Perished	Destruction	Korah's rebellion	Ruin by Pride

1:11 Jude lists three more Old Testament examples to show the wickedness of the false teachers.

- “*The way of Cain*” was an envious and murderous attitude towards the brother. In the Jerusalem Targum (Rabbinical interpretation of the Hebrew Jewish Scriptures in Aramaic), Cain exemplified self-centered skepticism and materialistic (Genesis 4:1-15)
  - As a judgment, Cain was cursed “*from the ground*” and exiled to wander the earth. (Genesis 4:11-12)
- Balaam profited from the wages of unrighteousness through offering religion for hire (Revelations 2:14; Numbers 22-24; Deuteronomy 23:4-5; Joshua 13:22)
  - Balaam was a religious man with materialistic motives and worldly desires who sold his understanding of God for material gain.
  - Balaam (“the destroyer”) is grouped with the false prophets in 2 Peter 2:15. Scripture refers to Balaam by the Hebrew word “kosem” (meaning diviner/sorcerer) who was a gentile, the son of Beor (“to consume, burn”). (Numbers 22:5).
  - As a judgment, Israel killed Balaam by a sword. (Joshua 13:22)
- Korah had rebelled against God’s chosen leader Moses to elevate himself (Numbers 16:8-11).
  - As a judgment, the ground split open and swallowed Korah and his household followed by a firestorm from God (Numbers 16:31-35).

1:12 False teachers with unbiblical beliefs endanger others with unseen peril (Revelation 20:14; Ezekiel 34:2) just like hidden reefs.

- “Love feasts” were weekly fellowship meals (1 Corinthians 11:17).
- Inaccurate false teachers without the spirit bring false hopes (waterless clouds, fruitless trees).
- The phrase “doubly dead” refers to a physical and spiritual death (twice dead); the second death is eternal separation from God (Revelation 20:14).
- Spiritual lives have been “uprooted” meaning that they have been pulled out by the roots (wasted effort that leaves no way to receive nourishment). (2 Peter 2:13, 17)

**Metaphors to Godly Living**

- Cloud* → John 4:10, 11, 7:38
- Tree* → Psalms 1:3; Jeremiah 17:7-8
- Wave* → Isaiah 57:20, 21; Psalms 89:9, 104:9; Revelation 21:1
- Star* → Judges 5:20; Daniel 12:3; Matthew 8:12

- 1:13 Sea foam occurs around hidden, perilous rocks (concealed, treacherous sin).
- Stars used for guidance/direction, but wandering stars (e.g., meteors) without true spiritual, biblical compass charts an aimless course through hazardous waters (a chaotic world system).

<b>Metaphors of False Teachers</b> (Jude 1:12-13)	
Hidden Reefs	Unforeseen Dangers
Clouds without Water	False Hopes
Trees without Fruit	Unfruitful Lifestyle
Wild Waves	Spiritual Chaos & Peril
Wandering Stars	Misguided Error & Sin

**Read Jude 1:14-16 ... The Prophecy of Enoch About A Coming Judgment**

1:14 Only Enoch and Elijah are Biblically documented as being raptured without physical death; Enoch is listed 7 generations into this world while Jesus is listed with 77 generations (77 names in Mary’s genealogy – Luke 3:23-38).

- In the genealogical list of Genesis 5, all of the other men simply lived; however, Enoch “walked” (wayyithallêk וַיִּהְיוּ) with God. (Genesis 5:22)
- These are Enoch’s only words in the Bible, and he speaks on Christ’s second coming with the saints (Zechariah 14:5) to end the Tribulation and begin the millennial reign.
- The book of 1 Enoch is apocryphal and uninspired, but the term “godless” is used repeatedly in the book.

1:15 This is a quote from 1 Enoch 1:9. The focus of Enoch was the Lord’s return in judgment on the sin of man.

- The Jewish book entitled I Enoch was written prior to the first century as part of the pseudepigrapha. The Greek term "Pseudepigrapha" means false writings and is a compound word consisting of pseudo (false) and epigraph (to inscribe).
  - The Pseudepigrapha includes the Catholic Apocrypha of the Old Testament, and although not inspired, it was well known with historical insights from man’s perspective.
- There is no copy of the Hebrew original, so scholars only have a copy from Ethiopia which has been edited by Christians (circa 600AD).

1:16 These should be unwanted (and revealing) characteristics of those to be judged:  
 1.discontent 2.complain 3.self-made/self-focused 4.boastful/prideful 5.flattering  
 6.manipulative of people

**Read Jude 1:17-19 ... The Wickedness in the Last Time**

1:17 In spite of the false teachers who publicize, propagate and perform sinful lifestyles, Jude encourages believers to remember that mockers and false teachers have been prophesied for the end times.

1:18 Although Jude was not an apostle, he references the apostle’s teaching. (2 Peter 3:3; Acts 20:29; 1 Timothy 4:1; 2 Timothy 3:10-13; 4:3)

1:19 Pseudo-intellectuals will mock beliefs because they are blind to the spiritual (1 Corinthians 1:20-21, 3:19); this ridicule originates from pride (Proverbs 21:24).

- False teachers will settle into materialistic, self-centered pursuits, lives of sin and religious rituals.

### **Read Jude 1:20-23 ... The Faithful Believers in the Last Time**

1:20 Jude transitions from the focus towards the false teachers to believers who are deeply loved.

- Both Paul and Peter use the metaphor of a building for the body of believers (Acts 20:32; 1 Corinthians 3:10,12,14,17; Ephesians 2:20-22; Colossians 2:7; 1 Peter 2:5).
- The faith of the believer is to be “holy” (set apart for God’s use).
- In order to build yourself up, the first action mentioned is to pray in the Spirit. (Romans 8:26-27; Ephesians 6:18).

1:21 As with any relationship, the relationship with God needs to be fed and rekindled. So often, the excitement and joy of a new believer wanes over time with the cares of the world. (Revelation 2:4)

- As a believer reflects on the mercy shown by God, their love for God is renewed and deepened.

1:22 Believers are also called to live out God’s mercy to others who have weak faith. (Colossians 3:13; Matthew 6:12, 14-15; Ephesians 4:32; Luke 6:37)

1:23 Bringing someone to Christ is much like a heroic rescue of the ungodly from a very real fiery judgment (2 Timothy 2:26)

### **Read Jude 1:24-25 ... The Closing Doxology**

- A “benediction” is a blessing towards the worshippers while a “doxology” is an act of praise to God.

1:24-25 *“Now to Him who is able to protect you from stumbling and to make you stand in the presence of His glory, blameless and with great joy, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority before all time, now, and forever. Amen.”*

- After the various warnings to believers to faithfully defend the faith against false teachers, Jude recognizes that God protects and defends the believer from sin and falsehood.
- Believers serve a God “who is able.” (Romans 16:25; Ephesians 3:20)
- The ability to not stumble is an ancient reference to sure-footed horses. (Psalm 17:5; 66:9; 94:17-18; 121:3)
- Believers are blameless (Ephesians 1:4; Philippians 2:15) because of Christ sacrifice on the cross. (2 Corinthians 5:21; Colossians 1:22)
- Christianity is monotheistic of a single, triune God (Deuteronomy 6:4-5) who has provided salvation (Luke 1:47; 1 Timothy 1:1; 2:3, 4:10; Titus 1:3; 2:10; 3:4).
- God’s plan of salvation is only available through Jesus Christ the Lord (John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Timothy 2:5)