



CONTEND FOR THE FAITH

Jude 1-4

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Good morning Church! Today we begin a study in the book of Jude, which in Hebrew means “Judah” and in Greek “Judas”. Jude is the fourth shortest book of the New Testament with Philemon, 2 John & 3 John being shorter. This is an epistle or a “letter” written to address the arrival of false teachers and their apostasy.

- An APOSTATE is a person who RENOUNCES or REJECTS true biblical faith.

Jude 1-4

*“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.”*

- GNOSTICISM states an evil God who created all matter as evil has no meaning because real life exists in the spirit realm only.
- “GNOSIS” means KNOWLEDGE, it is thought that people can attain a secret knowledge to find their salvation and overcome the material world.

*“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, **9** not a result of works, so that no one may boast.” **Ephesians 2:8-9***

*“For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.” **Hebrews 4:12***

“You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you.”

Deuteronomy 4:2

*“ I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, **19** and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.” **Revelation 22:18-19***

Who was Jude?

1. Jude or “JUDAS” was a common name mentioned 8 times in the Bible.

2. Jude was a brother of James, half-brothers to JESUS. (*Matthew 13:55; Mark 6:3*)

“Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? And are not his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas?”

Matthew 13:55

“Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him.”

Mark 6:3

3. Jude had DENIED Jesus as Messiah. (*John 7:5*)

*“Now the Jews' Feast of Booths was at hand. **3** So his brothers said to him, “Leave here and go to Judea, that your disciples also may see the works you are doing. **4** For no one works in secret if he seeks to be known openly. If you do these things, show yourself to the world. **5** For not even his brothers believed in him.” **John 7:5***

*“All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.” **Acts 1:14***

4. The Book of Jude was acknowledged as CANONICAL in AD 170.

There are many false teachings of Christianity or other religions that are based on a mystical, woke, subjective, inward, emotional approach to truth which is not new at all. It is very old, going back in some form to the Garden of Eden, where Satan questioned God and the words He spoke and convinced Adam and Eve to reject them and accept a lie. Satan still calls God and the Bible into question and catches those who are either naïve and scripturally uninformed or who are seeking some personal revelation to make them feel special, unique, and superior to others. Let us compare everything to the Word of God, the only Truth and not be deceived.

Salvation through Jesus Christ

*The single most important decision a person could ever make in their lifetime is to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. The Bible says, "all have sinned and fall short of God's glory" and we don't deserve eternal life because the wages of sin is death". Yet through God's love, only "Christ gives us eternal life by grace through faith"... it is a gift of God. God's word says, That if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is LORD and believe in your heart God raised Him from the dead YOU WILL BE SAVED. **The Bible says to REPENT of your sins. BELIEVE in Jesus receiving His forgiveness.** Then, identify with Christ and start living a new life in obedience to God by being BAPTIZED.*