

Jude

CONTEND FOR THE FAITH

IN AND OUT®

JUDE Contend for the Faith

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Precept Ministries International P.O. Box 182218 Chattanooga, TN 37422

Lesson 1, Overview

If you were called to defend the faith, could you?

Perhaps this question brings to mind past opportunities to defend the faith. You may have backed away from the open door or hesitantly shared, or you may have spoken boldly. The book of Jude will help you see the necessity of being prepared to speak boldly whenever the occasion arises and what you need to do to be ready.

TAKING IT IN

- 1. Read Jude using the Observation Worksheets in the Appendix and mark every reference to the **author** in a distinctive color or way, including synonyms and pronouns which refer to the author.
- 2. Now read the book of Jude again. This time mark in another color or distinctive way every reference to the **recipients** of this letter. Make sure you mark pronouns and synonyms.
- 3. At the end of this lesson, you'll find a chart entitled "The Author and the Recipients." This chart has columns in which to list the information about the author and the recipients, what God has done or promises to do for them, and what they are to do. Fill in what you learn about them.
- 4. Did you see the author's purpose for writing this letter? If not, read the text again, specifically looking for why he wrote (what provoked or caused him to write what he did). When you discover the purpose, record it on "Jude at a Glance" at the end of this lesson.
- 5. When you read Jude, you saw various descriptions of ungodly people.
 - a. Read the text and mark this group in a distinctive way.
 - b. Fill out the chart "The Ungodly," which is found at the end of this lesson. For the column entitled "Their Comparison and Their Contrast," list individuals or groups that the ungodly are compared to or contrasted with.
- 6. Also at the end of the lesson is a chart entitled "Jude at a Glance." Once this chart is completed, you will have an overview of Jude.



- a. Fill in the Author. The date Jude was written is unknown. Many scholars believe Jude is the half-brother of Jesus Christ; therefore, his epistle could have been written as early as A.D. 50.
- b. Keeping in mind all you have observed in Jude this week, see if you can determine the theme of Jude. Is there a statement in the text that summarizes what Jude is about? Record the theme on the "Jude at a Glance" chart. Keep the theme as brief as possible so it is easy to remember.
- c. Now, read Jude one paragraph at a time. Record on the chart a theme for each paragraph, using words from the text.

Well, Beloved, how do you feel about what you've observed thus far in your study? Does it seem relevant for today? What kinds of concerns does it awaken in your heart?

LIVING IT OUT

Your final assignment this week is to use the Word of God as a prayer book. God tells us in John that if His words abide in us and we abide in Him, then we can ask whatever we wish and it will be done. As you look at what you have learned about the recipients, you have seen truth that can apply to you. You have observed who the recipients are, and in doing so, you have learned truths that pertain to every true child of God.

- 1. Make these truths the basis of worship and thanksgiving by thanking God for who you are and for what He has done or promises to do for you.
- 2. Then use the instructions to the recipients as a plumb line to examine your own walk with the Lord. Talk over what you learn with God in prayer.
- 3. Use anything you have learned as a stimulus for interceding for the church in general, for specific believers, and for those who are unsaved.

Jude is a significant book, isn't it! Are you surprised? We suggest, Beloved, that you share what you learn with others. You may have a talent for writing, a gift for teaching, or an enthusiastic heart for encouraging others. If you will share with others what you have learned, it will help anchor these truths in your heart and mind. Just remember, the church greatly needs this message.

JudeLesson 1, The Author and the Recipients

RECIPIENTS	What the Recipients Are to Do	
	What God Has Done or Promises to Do for Them	
	Recipients	
THE AUTHOR AND THE RECIPIENTS	Author	

Lesson 1, The Ungodly

THE UNGODLY

Their Comparison and Their Contrast	
Their Judgment	
Their Description	



JUDE AT A GLANCE

Book Theme:	
	Paragraph Themes
Author:	1:1–2
Purpose:	1:3–4
Key Words:	1:5–7
	1:8-13
	1:14-16
	1:17–23
	1:24–25



JUDE Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme	

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:

- 2 May mercy and peace and love be multiplied to you.
- 3 Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints.
- 4 For certain persons have crept in unnoticed, those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, ungodly persons who turn the grace of our God into licentiousness and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.
- Now I desire to remind you, though you know all things once for all, that the Lord, after saving a people out of the land of Egypt, subsequently destroyed those who did not believe.
- And angels who did not keep their own domain, but abandoned their proper abode, He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day,



- just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, since they in the same way as these indulged in gross immorality and went after strange flesh, are exhibited as an example in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire.
- **8** Yet in the same way these men, also by dreaming, defile the flesh, and reject authority, and revile angelic majesties.
- 9 But Michael the archangel, when he disputed with the devil and argued about the body of Moses, did not dare pronounce against him a railing judgment, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"
- But these men revile the things which they do not understand; and the things which they know by instinct, like unreasoning animals, by these things they are destroyed.
- Woe to them! For they have gone the way of Cain, and for pay they have rushed headlong into the error of Balaam, and perished in the rebellion of Korah.
- These are the men who are hidden reefs in your love feasts when they feast with you without fear, caring for themselves; clouds without water, carried along by winds; autumn trees without fruit, doubly dead, uprooted;
- wild waves of the sea, casting up their own shame like foam; wandering stars, for whom the black darkness has been reserved forever.



- 14 It was also about these men that Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones,
- to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."
- These are grumblers, finding fault, following after their *own* lusts; they speak arrogantly, flattering people for the sake of *gaining an* advantage.
- 17 But you, beloved, ought to remember the words that were spoken beforehand by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ,
- that they were saying to you, "In the last time there will be mockers, following after their own ungodly lusts."
- 19 These are the ones who cause divisions, worldly-minded, devoid of the Spirit.
- 20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,
- 21 keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.
- 22 And have mercy on some, who are doubting;



- save others, snatching them out of the fire; and on some have mercy with fear, hating even the garment polluted by the flesh.
- Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy,
- 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.