

Bible Study 04-02-2025

Rev. Debbie Sexton

Book of Jude

"Contend for the Faith"

(Open your Bible to follow along.)

Outline

Part 1: KJV Verses 1-16 The Dangers of False Teachers

Part 2: KJV Verses 17-25 Our Duty to Fight For God's Truth

V1 Jude was the servant of Jesus, and brother of James (author of the book of James and first pastor of the Jerusalem church in **Acts** 15). He does not pull rank here by reminding us that he was an actual half-brother of Jesus (**Mark** 6:3). He and his brothers did not believe in the ministry of Jesus until after the resurrection (**John** 7). The beginning of the age of the Church is described in the Acts of the Apostles. The end of the Church Age is set forth in the Epistle of Jude. Jude and James were prominent leaders of their day. When they spoke, every believer listened and circulated the message to the churches and other believers. The recipients of this letter are the True Believers: Sanctified (set apart) by God the Father, Preserved in (kept for) Jesus Christ (**Jn** 17:11), and called (one who accepts the gospel, live a life of holiness, called to an eternal hope, called to serve our Lord) **1 Corinthians** 7:20-24.

V2 Mercy: upward look, Peace: inward look, Love: outward look, The believer has received the mercy, and peace, and love of God. When they are multiplied, will we be able to cope with the great apostasy.

V3 "It was needful for me": to bear down upon, to compress. Because it was needful for the church.

(**1 Cor 9:16** for *necessity is laid upon me.*) Jude was anxious to praise God and rejoice in the salvation God gives us in Jesus Christ, but the Spirit of God compelled him to write about the battle against the forces of evil in the world. The church was under attack by false teachers and their beliefs. We are to contend for the faith, (the entire Word of God), but not be contentious (**Titus** 3:9).

V4 The Christian life is a battlefield, not a playground. (**Nehemiah** 4:17-18) These ungodly men crept in unnoticed. But how? The soldiers of God's army had grown weary, complacent and careless at the post.

Jude had to blow the trumpet. The enemy wants to change the doctrine and twist or turn the grace of our God into lasciviousness (a work of the flesh) or absence of moral restraint, and indecency. Your lifestyle is evident in your faith. The Word of God will never change.

V5-7 False teachers reject and deny Jesus Christ. They will be judged. Their seeming success will not stand. The church must exercise discernment, watch and pray. We must apply the Word of God

(Romans 16:17-20) and have the courage to stand firm in the faith together with all saints of God.

V8-9 Apostates: They rejected both divine and human authority which comes from the throne of God. They are given over to sensuous dreams or pleasures of the world. Claim to have visions and dreams from the Lord for deceptive purposes.

V10 NLT *But these people scoff at things they do not understand. Like unthinking animals, they do whatever their instincts tell them, and so they bring about their own destruction.*

V11 NLT *What sorrow awaits them! For they follow in the footsteps of Cain, who killed his brother. Like Balaam, they deceive people for money. And like Korah, they perish in their rebellion.*

V12 False teachers are filled with emptiness and instability. Like a cloud with no water and a tree without fruit.

V13 Luke 6:46 *And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?"* Life in all of its fullness is found only in Christ. **1 Peter 2:25** *For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.*

V14-15 False teachers will be judged by Jesus Christ Himself for teaching something other than the fact that Jesus Christ is the Son of God sent into the world to save men.

V16 False teachers are never satisfied. They do not permit Christ to lead them because they have rejected Him as the Son of God. They live life in the lust of their own flesh. They need recognition to feel that they are significant.