

Jude 1-6

Contend for the faith

(The People's Bible, James/1,2 Peter/1,2,3 John/Jude, pages 323-332)

Look

The content of this letter follows very closely that of 2 Peter. It shows how 2 Peter was fulfilled. Many date this letter after 2 Peter, sometime between A.D. 75 and 80. **Jude was probably written to Jewish Christians. Galatians 1:19, 2:9, Acts 15 show leaders of church in Jerusalem at this time.**

Verse 1: "Jude" was a half-brother of Jesus our Lord (Matthew 13:55, Mark 6:3; Acts 1:14, 1 Corinthians 9:5). He was also a brother of James, the leader of the church in Jerusalem. **Jude calls himself a servant of Jesus Christ (he could have said his brother---the brothers came to believe after Jesus' resurrection.)**

Discuss:

1. Compare the prophecy statements of 2 Peter with statements in Jude about their fulfillment. Write down the fulfillment after the prophecy.
 - 2 Peter 2:1 "There will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce...heresies."
Jude 4 **They are godless men; they secretly slipped in among you.**
 - 2 Peter 2:1 "even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them."
Jude 4 **deny Jesus Christ**
 - 2 Peter 2:3 "Their condemnation has long been hanging over them."
Jude 4 **was written about long ago**
 - 2 Peter 3:3 "In the last days scoffers will come."
Jude 17,18 **In the last times there will be scoffers**
2. What is the purpose of this epistle? (verse 3)
The need to contend for the faith (wake up and fight for the faith) see Peoples Bible
3. What were the false teachers advocating? (verse 4)
They changed the grace of our God into a license for immorality and to deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord?? See 1 Corinthians 6:10-12, 15, Romans 6:3, 6,15.
4. Jude reminds his readers that this sort of thing has happened in the past. What two examples does he give? (verses 5,6) What will happen to such people?
 - 1) Exodus: God's great gift of the exodus from Egypt; some didn't believe and were destroyed
 - 2) Angels: rebelled and now are in outer darkness
 - 3) Sodom/Gomorrah: their great immorality lead to their destruction

Apply

5. How can Jude's greeting in verse 1 provide comfort for Christians of all eras?
God does it all; He calls, loves, and keeps us; I am God's child; I need forgiveness for my sins, so I run to the Cross. We have this comfort but need the constant reminder.
Jude urges God's people to contend for the Christian faith and warns against immorality and false teachers.
Immorality is one issue Jude's addressing (with Holy inspiration)