

~ Thought For The Day~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

"come just as you are"

Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing



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Prayer

God Father; in Jesus' name I ask it, Help me, God, to stay built up in my faith, to pray often in the Holy Spirit, and to keep myself in Your love. Thank You, God, that You are able to keep me from stumbling or falling, and to present me blameless and faultless before Your presence. God, I pray that I will always contend for my faith and my Christian beliefs, no matter what. Amen.

Worship Music

Put Your Heart In Me-Misty Edwards

When I Am Afraid-Laura Hackett

<u>Let's Survive This Together-</u> Laura Hackett

Love Can Make You New-JJ Heller

Scripture

Jude (Part I of 2 parts) (2005)

Jude 1:1-25 (AMP)

¹ JUDE, A servant of Jesus Christ (the Messiah), and brother of James, [writes this letter] to those who are called (chosen), dearly loved by God the Father *and separated (set apart)* and kept for Jesus Christ:

² May mercy, [soul] peace, and love be multiplied to you.

³ Beloved, my whole concern was to write to you in regard to our common salvation. [But] I found it necessary *and* was impelled to write you and urgently appeal to *and* exhort [you] to contend for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints [the faith which is that sum of Christian belief which was delivered verbally to the holy people of God].

⁴ For certain men have crept in stealthily [gaining entrance secretly by a side door]. Their doom was predicted long ago, ungodly (impious, profane) persons who pervert the grace (the spiritual blessing and favor) of our God into lawlessness *and* wantonness *and* immorality, and disown *and* deny our sole Master and Lord, Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).

⁵ Now I want to remind you, though you were fully informed once for all, that though the Lord [at one time] delivered a people out of the land of Egypt, He subsequently destroyed those [of them] who did not believe [who refused to adhere to, trust in, and rely upon Him].

⁶ And angels who did not keep (care for, guard, and hold to) their own first place of power but abando ned their proper dwelling place—these He has reserved in custody in eternal chains (bonds) under the thick gloom of utter darkness until the judgment *and* doom of the great day. ⁷ [The wicked are sentenced to suffer] just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the adjacent towns—

⁷ [The wicked are sentenced to suffer] just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the adjacent towns—which likewise gave themselves over to impurity and indulged in unnatural vice *and* sensual perversity—are laid out [in plain sight] as an exhibit of perpetual punishment [to warn] of everlasting fire.

⁸ Nevertheless in like manner, these dreamers also corrupt the body, scorn *and* reject authority *and* government, and revile *and* libel *and* scoff at [heavenly] glories (the glorious ones).

⁹ But when [even] the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, judicially argued (disputed) about the body of Moses, he dared not [presume to] bring an abusive condemnation against him, but [simply] said, The Lord rebuke you!

¹⁰ But these men revile (scoff and sneer at) anything they do not happen to be acquainted with *and* do not understand; and whatever they do understand physically [that which they know by mere instinct], like irrational beasts—by these they corrupt themselves *and* are destroyed (perish).

(perish).

11 Woe to them! For they have run riotously in the way of Cain, and have abandoned themselves for the sake of gain [it offers them, following] the error of Balaam, and have perished in rebellion [like that] of Korah!

¹² These are hidden reefs (elements of danger) in your love feasts, where they boldly feast sumptuously [carousing together in your midst], without scruples providing for themselves [alone]. They are clouds without water, swept along by the winds; trees, without fruit at the late autumn gathering time—twice (doubly) dead, [lifeless and] plucked up by the roots;

 $^{
m i3}$ Wild waves of the sea, flinging up the foam of their own shame $\it and$ disgrace; wandering stars,

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for whom the gloom of eternal darkness has been reserved forever.

¹⁴ It was of these people, moreover, that Enoch in the seventh [generation] from Adam prophesied when he said, Behold, the Lord comes with His myriads of holy ones (ten thousands of His saints)

¹⁵ To execute judgment upon all and to convict all the impious (unholy ones) of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed [in such an] ungodly [way], and of all the severe (abusive, jarring) things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.

¹⁶ These are inveterate murmurers (grumblers) who complain [of their lot in life], going after their own desires [controlled by their passions]; their talk is boastful *and* arrogant, [and they claim to] admire men's persons *and* pay people flattering compliments to gain advantage.

¹⁷ But you must remember, beloved, the predictions which were made by the apostles (the special messengers) of our Lord Jesus

¹⁷ But you must remember, beloved, the predictions which were made by the apostles (the special messengers) of our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).

¹⁸ They told you beforehand, In the last days (in the end time) there will be scoffers [who seek to gratify their own unholy desires], following after their own ungodly passions.

¹⁹ It is these who are [agitators] setting up distinctions and causing divisions—merely sensual [creatures, carnal, worldly-minded people], devoid of the [Holy] Spirit and destitute of any higher spiritual life.

²⁰ But you, beloved, build yourselves up [founded] on your most holy faith [make progress, rise like an edifice higher and higher], praying in the Holy Spirit;

²¹ Guard *and* keep yourselves in the love of God; expect *and* patiently wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah)— [which will bring you] unto life eternal.

²² And refute [so as to] convict some who dispute with you, and on some have mercy who waver and doubt.

²³ [Strive to] save others, snatching [them] out of [the] fire; on others take pity [but] with fear, loathing even the garment spotted by the flesh *and* polluted by their sensuality.

²⁴ Now to Him Who is able to keep you without stumbling *or* slipping *or* falling, and to present [you] unblemished (blameless and faultless) before the presence of His glory in triumphant joy *and* exultation [with unspeakable, ecstatic delight]—

²⁵ To the one only God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory (splendor), majesty, might *and* dominion, and power *and* authority, before all time and now and forever (unto all the ages of eternity). Amen (so be it).



Warning Against Apostasy

To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! A men.

Jude 24-25

Jude

The author identifies himself as Jude, which is also a nother form of the Hebrew word Judah (Greek *Judas*). Of those so named in the New Testament, the author of this letter is most likely either Judas, one of the 12 apostles (not Judas Iscariot; Luke 6:16; see Disciples) or Judas, the brother of Jesus (Matthew 13:55). The latter is commonly regarded as the writer of this letter.

When and Where?

The similarity of the situation in Jude and that mentioned in 2 Peter suggests the possibility that this letter may have been addressed to the same churches as those to which Peter addressed his first and second letters: churches in Asia Minor (1 Peter 1:1; 2 Peter 3:1). It was probably written around a.d. 67

Why?

Evidently Jude had been planning to write a more general statement about the doctrine of salvation to this group of churches when news of the appearance of a devastating heresy prompted him to send this stern warning (Jude 3–4)

The False Teachers (w. 4-19)

Jude does not mince words as to their nature. The frightful epithets which he uses refer to certain leaders within the church.

- "Godless men" (v. 4))
- They "change the grace of our God into a license for immorality" (v. 4))
- They "deny Jesus Christ" (v. 4))
- Like Sodom, they are given to sexual immorality (v. 7))
- They are "dreamers" who "pollute their own bodies" (v. 8))
- "Like unreasoning animals" they destroy themselves (v. 10))
- "Blemishes at your love feasts" (v.12))
- "Shepherds who feed only themselves" (v. 12))
- "Clouds without rain" (v. 12))
- "Trees, without fruit" (v. 12))
- "Wild waves of the sea, foaming up their shame" (v. 13))
- "Wandering stars, for whom blackest darkness has been reserved" (v. 13))
- "Grumblers" (v. 16))

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- "Faultfinders" (v. 16))
- Boasting about themselves (v. 16))
- "Scoffers who ... follow their own ungodly desires" (v. 18))
- They "do not have the Spirit" (v. 19))
- They "flatter others for their own advantage" (v. 16))
- They are people "who divide you" (v. 19))

These false teachers had already crept in (v.4)), yet they were spoken of as appearing in "the last time." While primarily referring to some particular class of men that belonged to Jude's day, this may possibly be a general characterization of the whole body of false teachers who would, through the centuries, corrupt the church from within and thus attempt to thwart the redemptive work of Christ. Those who are acquainted with church history know well how the church has suffered from such men.

The Fallen Angels (v. 6)

This verse and 2 Peter 2:4 are the only direct Scripture references to the fall of the angels (Revelation 12:9 seems to refer to their later defeat). Some think this is an allusion to Genesis 6:1–5, where the "sons of God" intermarried with the "daughters of men." More probably it refers to an earlier event, when Satan led certain of the angels in rebellion against God (Isaiah 14:12–15). This occurred prior to Adam and Eve's encounter with Satan which led to their sin in the garden of Eden.

Michael Disputes with the Devil (Jude 9)

Michael is mentioned in Daniel 10:13, 21 as a "chief prince," and in Revelation 12:7 as a leader of angels, but only in this passage is he called "the archangel." Moses' burial is told in Deuteronomy 34:5–7, but Michael's dispute with Satan about Moses' body is not mentioned. Origen, an early church father, says that Jude's statement is a reference to a passage in the apocryphal book *The Assumption of Moses*, which was written about the time of the birth of Christ. Only a part of this book survives, and the part we have does not contain such a passage. Jude may have had knowledge of the incident from other sources. Josephus says that God hid Moses' body lest it be made an idol. Possibly Satan wanted it in order to tempt Israel into idolatry. Jude's use of the incident seems to sanction its historicity. This section also serves as an example against the sin of bringing slanderous accusations against people: even the archangel, highest of creatures, did not do this when faced with the devil, the most degraded of creatures.

The Prophecy of Enoch (Jude 14-15)

This is the only scriptural allusion to the prophecy of Enoch. The brief story of his life is told in Genesis 5:18–24, but there is no mention of any of his words. Jude's quotation is from the apocryphal book of Enoch, which claims to have been written by the Enoch of Genesis 5 but actually did not appear until about 100 b.c. He evidently regards this comment as a genuine word of Enoch. Thus, while Adam, founder of the race, was yet alive, Enoch (contemporary with Adam for 300 years) prophesied of the eventual second coming of the Lord to execute judgment upon the disobedient race. Accompanying Christ will be "thousands upon thousands of his holy ones," referring to angels (2 Thessalonians 1:7) or possibly the raptured saints (Christians) who are returning with the Lord (1 Thessalonians 3:13), or both. 's sanction of one passage in the book of Enoch does not sanction the whole book, however. (Halley's Bible Handbook; Henry Halley; 2000; Bible history & commentaries; Zondervan; pages 893-895)

Refute error and contend for the faith.

Build yourself up by spending time in God's Word and by praying in the Holy Spirit.

Trust God to keep you from slipping and to hold you firmly in place in your faith as you do your part to walk in truth.

Part 2.....tomorrow

(Amplified Bible; The Everyday Life; 2005; Joyce Meyers; Scripture, commentaries, pages 2115-2119) (Word Search 9, Bible Software; (KJV) 2005; Bibles, dictionary, concordance, sermons, scripture)

Psa 119:105

Thy word [is] a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Chapel Flock; "Thought For The Day"

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