

The Epistle of Jude

Circa A.D. 67



Introduction:

Jude, also known as Judas, is a significant figure in the New Testament, primarily recognized as the author of the Epistle of Jude.

This brief yet powerful letter is situated towards the end of the New Testament and addresses critical issues concerning faith, false teachings, and moral integrity.

Jude is traditionally identified as one of the brothers of Jesus Christ, making him a pivotal figure in the early Christian community.

Identity and Background:

Jude is often identified as "Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and a brother of James" (**Jude 1:1**).

Jude New Living Translation

Greetings from Jude

1 This letter is from Jude, a slave of Jesus Christ and a brother of James.

I am writing to all who have been called by God the Father, who loves you and keeps you safe in the care of Jesus Christ.^[a]

This introduction links him to James, who is widely regarded as the leader of the Jerusalem church and another brother of Jesus.

The Gospels of **Matthew (13:55)** and **Mark (6:3)** mention Jude as one of Jesus' siblings, alongside James, Joseph, and Simon.

Despite his familial connection to Jesus, Jude humbly refers to himself as a servant of Christ, emphasizing his devotion and submission to the Lordship of Jesus.

Matthew 13:55 New Living Translation

55 Then they scoffed, “He’s just the carpenter’s son, and we know Mary, his mother, and his brothers—James, Joseph,[a] Simon, and Judas.

Mark 6:3 New Living Translation

3 Then they scoffed, “He’s just a carpenter, the son of Mary[a] and the brother of James, Joseph,[b] Judas, and Simon. And his sisters live right here among us.” They were deeply offended and refused to believe in him.

The Epistle of Jude:

The Epistle of Jude is a short but theologically rich letter, consisting of only one chapter. It is addressed to "those who are called, loved by God the Father, and kept in Jesus Christ" - **(Jude 1:1)**.

Jude 1 New Living Translation

Greetings from Jude

1 This letter is from Jude, a slave of Jesus Christ and a brother of James.

I am writing to all who have been called by God the Father, who loves you and keeps you safe in the care of Jesus Christ.[\[a\]](#)

Jude's primary purpose in writing this letter is to urge believers to "contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints" (**Jude 1:3**).

Jude 3 New Living Translation

The Danger of False Teachers

3 Dear friends, I had been eagerly planning to write to you about the salvation we all share. But now I find that I must write about something else, urging you to defend the faith that God has entrusted once for all time to his holy people



He warns against false teachers who have infiltrated the Christian community, describing them as "ungodly people who pervert the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ" (**Jude 1:4**).

Jude 4 New Living Translation

4 I say this because some ungodly people have wormed their way into your churches, saying that God's marvelous grace allows us to live immoral lives. The condemnation of such people was recorded long ago, for they have denied our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.



Themes and Content:

Jude's epistle is characterized by its strong admonitions and vivid imagery.

He draws on various Old Testament examples and Jewish traditions to illustrate the consequences of apostasy and moral decay.

Notable references include the rebellion of Korah, the sin of Sodom and Gomorrah, and the judgment of fallen angels - **(Jude 1:5-7)**.

Jude 5-7 New Living Translation

5 So I want to remind you, though you already know these things, that Jesus[a] first rescued the nation of Israel from Egypt, but later he destroyed those who did not remain faithful.

6 And I remind you of the angels who did not stay within the limits of authority God gave them but left the place where they belonged. God has kept them securely chained in prisons of darkness, waiting for the great day of judgment.

7 And don't forget Sodom and Gomorrah and their neighboring towns, which were filled with immorality and every kind of sexual perversion. Those cities were destroyed by fire and serve as a warning of the eternal fire of God's judgment.



Jude emphasizes the certainty of divine judgment upon those who reject God's authority and lead others astray.

The letter also contains a notable doxology, praising God for His ability to keep believers from stumbling and to present them blameless before His glorious presence:

Jude 24-25 New Living Translation

A Prayer of Praise

24 Now all glory to God, who is able to keep you from falling away and will bring you with great joy into his glorious presence without a single fault.

25 All glory to him who alone is God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord. All glory, majesty, power, and authority are his before all time, and in the present, and beyond all time! Amen.

This **doxology** serves as a reminder of God's sovereignty and faithfulness, providing assurance to the faithful amidst challenges.

Definition and origin of doxology:

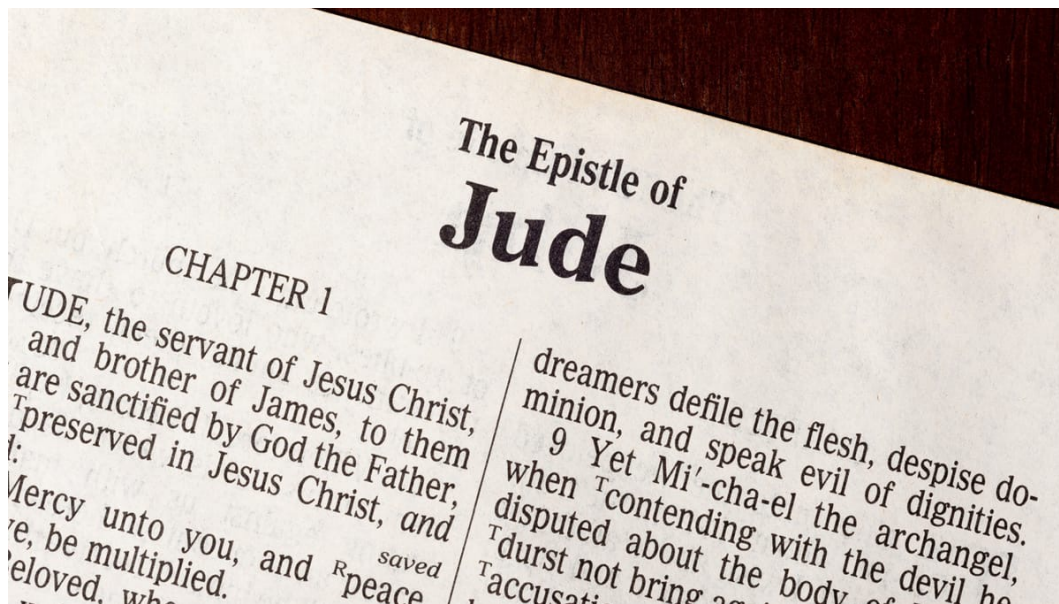
The term “Doxology” comes from two Greek words: “doxa” (δόξα), meaning “glory,” and “logia” (λογία), meaning “saying” or “expression.”

A doxology is a short statement or hymn of praise to God, found both within the text of Scripture and in the broader tradition of Christian worship.

These expressions acknowledge and magnify God's glory, power, and eternal nature.

Historically, doxologies have served as concise congregational responses of praise.

Over time, they have become integral to liturgical and devotional practices across various Christian traditions.



Jude's Legacy:

Jude's epistle, though brief, has had a lasting impact on Christian theology and ecclesiology.

It serves as a timeless reminder of the importance of doctrinal purity and moral integrity within the church.

Jude's call to "contend earnestly for the faith" resonates with believers who face challenges from false teachings and cultural pressures

Conclusion:

Jude, as a brother of Jesus and a devoted servant of Christ, offers a unique perspective within the New Testament.

His epistle stands as a testament to the early church's struggles and the enduring call to uphold the truth of the Gospel.

Through his warnings and exhortations, Jude continues to inspire and challenge Christians to remain steadfast in their faith and to guard against the influences that threaten to undermine the message of Christ.

**** Personal Note: This is my Favorite Epistle in the Bible ****

How do we obtain the Forgiveness of our Sins?



How do we get right with God, regardless of our individual sins?

Just say this Prayer and all of your sins will be forgotten, and you will have Eternal life, with Christ Jesus, in Heaven:

Lord Jesus, I repent of all my sins, and I ask you to come into my life, and I believe, that God raised You from the dead, this day, I ask you to be my Lord and Savior.

Romans 10:9 New Living Translation:

9 If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Friends, if you prayed that prayer, I believe that you are born again, and you have ever lasting life, get in a good bible teaching church, and may you keep growing, in the Lord, and may HE use you to help save many souls for His Kingdom !

In, Jesus Mighty Name!

Rev. Jesus Del Rio, Ed