

Jude

Contending for the Faith Without Being Contentious

Required Text:

Kistemaker, Simon J, *James, New Testament Commentary, Epistles of John, Peter and Jude*, Baker Books, Grand Rapids, MI, 1995

Other Readings:

Any good, modern, commentary on the book of Jude

Introductory Matters:

Author

The name ("Judas" in Greek) occurs 44 times in the NT and refers to at least eight men

See Matthew 13:55 & Mark 6:3 for a list of Jesus' brothers

Luke 6:16 – "of James" (compare Matthew 10:3 & Mark 3:18, seems to be Thaddaeus)

Describes himself in v. 1

An apostle? See vs. 1 & 17

Recipients

What do we learn from v. 5 – 7, 9, 11, 14

Date

Given the lack of Gentile references

Story recorded by Hegesippus about Jude's grandsons

Structure / Outline

- I. Salutation (1, 2)
- II. Purpose statement & exhortation (3, 4)

- III. The false teachers (5 – 19)
- IV. The second exhortation (20 – 23)
- V. Concluding doxology (24, 25)

Note: No benediction at the end

Literary Characteristics

The use of the OT (vs 5 – 7, 11)

The Use of Jewish Apocrypha (v 9, 14, 15)

The use of “threes” (vs. 1, 2, 8, 16 [note the verbs], 19, 25 [textual variant])

Comparison to 2 Peter

Jude		2 Peter
4	Godless men who deny the sovereign Lord	2:
6	Angels held in darkness for judgment	2:
7	Sodom and Gomorrah an example	2:
8	Speak evil of dignitaries	2:
9	Michael did not bring a slanderous accusation	2:
10	They are like brute beasts	2:
11	They have followed the way of Balaam	2:
12	Clouds without rain, driven by a storm	2:
13	Blackest darkness is reserved for them	2:
16	They lust, boast and flatter	2:
17	The apostles foretold	3:
18	Mockers in the last time	3:

Purpose

1: 3 – 4

Homework

I. Salutation (v 1, 2)

The author identifies himself by name. Who was he? See page 1 of the notes.

He is a “slave of Jesus Christ”

Greek = *doulos*, not *diakonos*. How does one become a slave of Christ? 1 Corinthians 6:20; 7:23 & 1 Peter 1:18ff

The slave relationship seems to be a redemptive one.

What is the mood of the implied verb?

He is a “brother of James.” Which James?

What is not stated? See James 1:1 also.

Three attributes: called, loved and kept

“Called” = The term us used different ways. (== named, addressed, etc.) We usually divide the biblical data related to salvation into “external call” and “effectual call”

External call – Matthew 9:13 (and parallels); 22:14

Effectual call – Romans 8:29ff; 9:11, 24ff; 1 Corinthians 1:9; 7:17 – 24; 1 Thessalonians 5:24; 1 Peter 2:9

What are the constituent parts? Gospel proclamation, External call, Regeneration, Conversion

Who does the calling?

The Father – 1 Corinthians 1:9; 1 Thessalonians 2:12; 1 Peter 5:10

The Son – Matthew 11:28; Luke 5:32; John 7:37; Romans 1:6

The Spirit – Matthew 10:20; John 15:26; Acts 5:31 – 32

See WCF, chapter 10

“Loved by God the Father”

This is a textual variant. Compare 1 Corinthians 1:2

What does it mean to be loved by God the Father? See 1 John 3:1; Ephesians 2:4ff; 1 Thessalonians 1:4; 2 Thessalonians 2:13

What conclusion do we make about those who are loved by God the Father? Compare this to a general, non-specific definition of God’s love.

“Kept by Jesus Christ”

The verb is used five times by Jude

It is used elsewhere with a number of meanings, “obey” (keep the commandments), protect or secure (see Acts 12: 5, 6; 1 Thessalonians 5:23 (with “called”))

What is the meaning here? Kept “by” or “for” Jesus Christ?

Let’s not get lost in the weeds! Why does Jude list these three attributes that you have?