

COMMENTARY

Jude:

Jude wrote his book to Christians around 61 - 62 A.D. The purpose of the book was to warn them about those who had come in among them yet were not walking in the light. Jude says that these people will be punished.

vs. 1-16

Jude begins by stating that he would rather have written about their salvation and hope that they share in Jesus Christ but rather was going to write about the need for them to fight for what they believe because some were distorting the truth. He states that their existence was prophesied and that they would change God's grace and forgiveness into an excuse to go out and sin more. Paul had dealt with this same situation in Rome where he wrote that such should not be the case (Romans 5:20-6:4).

Jude reminds his readers that God has always punished those who failed to serve Him in the past and that He will continue to punish the same type of individuals in the future. He cites several examples that the Christians would have been familiar with.

Jude describes these people as being godless, change God's grace into a license for immorality, pollute their bodies, reject authority, slander celestial beings, speak abusively against whatever they do not understand, have rushed for profit, seek own desires and neglect others, grumble, find fault, follow evil desires, boast about themselves, and flatter others where they think it is in their own best interest.

vs. 17-25

Jude reminds them to persevere and keep on contending for the faith. He tells them to make sure that they remain firm in the Lord and are living for their Lord. He tells them to reach out and bring others to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as they wait for their reward-- ETERNAL LIFE.

Jude reminds his readers that God working through His Son can keep us safe and secure, presenting us holy through the blood of Christ. This is the reason, Jude says, that God and our Lord are worthy of glory, majesty, power and authority, both now and forever.

STUDY GUIDE

Jude:

1. Tell what you can about Jude.
2. What was Jude eager to write about?
3. What did he feel he had to write to them about?
4. What does Jude say about these who have slipped in among them?
5. What are examples that Jude gives concerning the disobedient being punished?
6. In verses 8 -- 10 what does Jude say about these dreamers?
7. What will the Lord do with those who come with Him?
8. What else does Jude say about these men in verse 16 who are living a life of sin?
9. In verses 20-23, what instructions does Jude give to Christians?
10. What is God able to do through Jesus according to verse 24?

BONUS:

1. List all the descriptions given in Jude about the evil ones among Christians. Do these people exist today?
2. How should a Christian handle one who is evil yet claims to be a believer?
3. How can we build ourselves up in our faith and keep ourselves in God's love?