

Fulfilled Prophecies

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Jude - Keep Yourself In The Love Of God



By Dan Maines

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Introduction

- > † Jude wrote during a time when false teachers had quietly entered among God's people and were corrupting the truth.
- > † Instead of writing primarily about salvation, Jude was compelled to urge believers to defend the faith that had already been delivered.
- > † His message reminds us that truth must be protected and error must be exposed.

God Preserves His People

> Jude 1-2

- > 1 Jude, a bond-servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James,
- > To those who are the called, beloved in God the Father, and kept for Jesus Christ: 2 May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to
- > † God's people are called, loved, and kept by Him.
- > † The security of believers rests in God's faithfulness. (John 10:27-29)
- > † The same God who warns His people also preserves them. (1 Peter 1:5)

The Faith Once Delivered

> Jude 3

- > 3 Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith that was once for all *time* handed down to the saints.
- > † The faith was delivered once for all and was never intended to be altered or replaced. (Galatians 1:8-9)
- > † God's truth was entrusted to believers and was to be guarded faithfully. (2 Timothy 1:13-14)
- > † Jude urged believers to actively defend the truth against corruption and error. (Acts 20:29-30)

False Teachers Had Entered In

> Jude 4

- > 4 For certain people have crept in unnoticed, those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, ungodly persons who turn the grace of our God into indecent behavior and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.
- > † These men entered secretly and disguised their true intentions. (2 Corinthians 11:13-15)
- > † They abused God's grace and used it as a license for sinful living. (Romans 6:1-2)
- > † False teaching often appears harmless at first but eventually reveals its destructive nature. (Matthew 7:15)

Examples Of Divine Judgment

> Jude 5

- > 5 Now I want to remind you, though you know everything once *and* for all, that the Lord, after saving a people out of the

land of Egypt, subsequently destroyed those who did not believe.

> † God's deliverance did not excuse unbelief or rebellion. (Hebrews 3:16-19)

> † Past judgments serve as warnings for future generations. (1 Corinthians 10:11)

> † Jude reminded believers that unbelief always brings consequences. (Hebrews 4:11)

The Angels Who Left Their Proper Domain

> Jude 6

> 6 And angels who did not keep their own domain but abandoned their proper dwelling place, *these* He has kept in eternal restraints under darkness for the judgment of the great day,

> † Jude points to a previous example of rebellion and judgment to show that God does not overlook disobedience.

> † The emphasis of the passage is on the certainty of divine judgment.

> † Those who abandoned their assigned position became an example of the consequences of rebellion.

> † Jude's readers would have understood that God consistently judges those who reject His authority.

> † The point of the passage is God's faithfulness in both judgment and righteousness. (2 Peter 2:4)

> † Jude uses this example to strengthen his warning about the false teachers described throughout the letter.

Sodom And Gomorrah As An Example

> Jude 7

> 7 just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, since they in the same way as these *angels* indulged in sexual perversion and went after strange flesh, are exhibited as an example in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire.

> † Jude continues his pattern of citing well-known historical judgments.

> † Sodom and Gomorrah became enduring examples of what happens when wickedness becomes entrenched.

> † God's judgment against those cities demonstrated His

holiness and justice.

> † The destruction of Sodom served as a warning to future generations. (2 Peter 2:6)

> † Jude's purpose is to remind believers that God's standards do not change.

> † The certainty of judgment against rebellion is one of the major themes running throughout the letter.

Rejecting Authority

> Jude 8-10

> 8 Yet in the same way these people also, dreaming, defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak abusively of *angelic* majesties.

9 But Michael the archangel, when he disputed with the devil and argued about the body of Moses, did not dare pronounce against him an abusive judgment, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!" 10 But these people disparage all the things that they do not understand; and all the things that they know by instinct, like unreasoning animals, by these things they are destroyed.

> † The false teachers rejected God's authority while promoting their own desires.

> † Jude exposes the arrogance that often accompanies false teaching.

> † Instead of submitting to divine truth, these individuals elevated their own opinions.

> † They spoke confidently about matters they did not understand.

> † Pride and self-will often stand behind doctrinal corruption. (Proverbs 16:18)

> † Jude contrasts their behavior with the humility expected of God's people.

> † Their actions revealed a deeper spiritual problem than simple misunderstanding.

> † False teaching is often rooted in a refusal to submit to God's revealed truth.

The Way Of Cain, Balaam, And Korah

> Jude 11

> 11 Woe to them! For they have gone the way of Cain, and for pay they have given themselves up to the error of Balaam, and

perished in the rebellion of Korah.

> † Cain represents worship without faith and a heart that resisted God's correction. (Hebrews 11:4)

> † Cain's jealousy ultimately led to hatred and violence. (Genesis 4:8)

> † Balaam represents those who are willing to compromise truth for personal gain. (2 Peter 2:15)

> † Balaam knew what was right yet continually sought a way around God's command.

> † Korah represents open rebellion against God's established authority. (Numbers 16:1-35)

> † Jude combines these three examples to reveal the character of the false teachers.

> † Rebellion, greed, and self-exaltation were all present among those troubling the churches.

> † These examples show that the problem was not merely intellectual error but moral corruption.

Hidden Reefs Among You

> Jude 12-13

> 12 These are the ones who are hidden reefs in your love feasts when they feast with you without fear, *like shepherds* caring *only* for themselves; clouds without water, carried along by winds; autumn trees without fruit, doubly dead, uprooted; 13 wild waves of the sea, churning up their own shameful deeds like *dirty* foam; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of darkness has been reserved forever.

> † Jude describes these individuals as hidden dangers within the Christian community.

> † They appeared harmless on the surface but posed great spiritual danger.

> † Clouds without water promised blessing but delivered nothing.

> † Fruitless trees symbolized lives lacking genuine spiritual fruit. (Matthew 7:17-20)

> † Twice dead emphasizes complete spiritual barrenness.

> † Wild waves picture instability, restlessness, and disorder.

> † Wandering stars portray those who have departed from the

path established by God.

> † Every illustration emphasizes emptiness despite outward appearance.

> † Jude's descriptions expose the difference between genuine faith and mere religious appearance.

> † The passage reminds believers to evaluate teaching by its fruit rather than its popularity.

Enoch's Prophecy Of Judgment

> Jude 14-15

> 14 *It was also about these people that* Enoch, *in the seventh generation* from Adam, prophesied, saying, “Behold, the Lord has come with many thousands of His holy ones, 15 to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.”

> † Jude applied Enoch's prophecy to the ungodly people of his own day. (Jude 4)

> † Jesus likewise warned that judgment would come upon that generation. (Matthew 23:35-36)

> † The coming judgment language parallels the judgment described by Jesus before the destruction of Jerusalem. (Matthew 24:30-34)

The Character Of The Ungodly

> Jude 16

> 16 These are grumblers, finding fault, following after their *own* lusts; they speak arrogantly, flattering people for the sake of *gaining an* advantage.

> † After quoting Enoch's prophecy, Jude immediately identifies the people who were under condemnation.

> † Their lives were characterized by continual complaining and dissatisfaction rather than gratitude toward God. (Philippians 2:14)

> † They followed their own desires instead of submitting to God's will. (2 Timothy 4:3)

> † Their speech was filled with arrogance and self-promotion rather than truth and humility. (Proverbs 16:18)

- > † They used flattery and favoritism when it served their personal interests. (James 2:1-9)
- > † Jude exposes not only their doctrine but also their character.
- > † False teaching is often accompanied by pride, selfish ambition, and a desire for personal gain. (2 Peter 2:3)
- > † The conduct of these men revealed the true condition of their hearts. (Matthew 7:16-20)
- > † Jude's description provides believers with practical marks by which false teachers can be recognized.
- > † The warning reminds us that biblical truth must be evaluated not only by words but also by fruit.

The Last Days Mockers

> Jude 17-19

> 17 But you, beloved, ought to remember the words that were spoken beforehand by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ, 18 that they were saying to you, "In the last time there will be mockers, following after their own ungodly lusts." 19 These are the ones who cause divisions, worldly-minded, devoid of the Spirit.

> † Jude was speaking about mockers who were already present among his readers.

> † The apostles had warned repeatedly that such conditions would arise in their generation. (Acts 20:29-30)

> † The New Testament consistently describes the last days as a present reality for the first-century church. (Hebrews 1:1-2)

> † John likewise said it was the last hour. (1 John 2:18)

Keep Yourselves In The Love Of God

> Jude 20-21

> 20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, 21 keep yourselves in the love of God, looking forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.

> † Spiritual growth comes through faith, prayer, and dependence upon God. (Colossians 2:6-7)

> † Believers are called to remain steadfast and grounded in God's love. (John 15:9-10)

> † Jude encouraged perseverance during a time of increasing spiritual danger. (Hebrews 10:35-39)

Rescuing Those In Danger

> Jude 22-23

> 22 And have mercy on some, who are doubting; 23 save others, snatching them out of the fire; and on some have mercy with fear, hating even the garment polluted by the flesh.

> † Jude distinguished between those who were deceived and those who were actively promoting error.

> † Believers are called to show mercy toward those who are wavering in the faith. (Galatians 6:1)

> † Some people require urgent intervention before they are completely consumed by false teaching. (James 5:19-20)

> † Mercy must be balanced with discernment so that we are not drawn into the same corruption. (1 Corinthians 15:33)

To Him Be Glory

> Jude 24-25

> 24 Now to Him who is able to protect you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory, blameless with great joy, 25 to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, *be* glory, majesty, dominion, and authority before all time and now and forever. Amen.

> † God is able to preserve His people and keep them secure in Christ. (Philippians 1:6)

> † Our confidence rests in God's power and faithfulness rather than our own strength. (John 10:27-29)

> † Jude concludes by directing all glory, majesty, dominion, and power to God. (Romans 16:25-27)

The Fulfilled Perspective In Jude

> † Jude's warnings were directed to first-century believers facing first-century dangers.

> † The false teachers had already entered among them and were actively corrupting the faith. (Jude 4)

> † The mockers were already present during Jude's lifetime. (Jude 17-19)

> † The judgment anticipated throughout the New Testament was rapidly approaching. (Hebrews 10:37)

- > † The old covenant age was ready to vanish away as God brought judgment upon apostate Israel. (Hebrews 8:13)
- > † Jude fits perfectly within the first-century framework of covenant transition and judgment.

Historical References

- > † Clement of Alexandria cited Jude as authoritative Scripture and used it in defending Christian doctrine.
- > † Tertullian quoted Jude when addressing false teachers and doctrinal corruption.
- > † Origen frequently referenced Jude and regarded it as an important warning against apostasy.
- > † Eusebius acknowledged Jude among the recognized Christian writings used by the early church.
- > † Clement of Rome wrote during the same first-century period and reflected the expectation of impending divine judgment.

How It Applies To Us Today

- > † We must know Scripture well enough to recognize false teaching when it appears.
- > † We should defend biblical truth while maintaining a Christlike attitude.
- > † We must continue building ourselves up through prayer, study, and obedience.
- > † We should remember that God's warnings are given for our protection.
- > † Our confidence remains in God's ability to keep His people secure.

Q & A Appendix

- > **Q:** What does it mean to contend earnestly for the faith?
- > **A:** It means to stand firmly for the truth of God's word and defend it against error. (Philippians 1:27)
- > **Q:** Who were the false teachers Jude warned about?
- > **A:** They were ungodly people who distorted God's grace and led others astray. (2 Peter 2:1-3)
- > **Q:** Why did Jude remind believers about God's judgments?
- > **A:** To show that unbelief and rebellion bring consequences. (1 Corinthians 10:11)
- > **Q:** Was Jude warning about a future generation thousands of

years later?

> **A:** No. Jude repeatedly spoke of conditions already present among his readers and warned them about people who had already entered among them. (Jude 4, 17-19)

> **Q:** Why did Jude emphasize examples of judgment?

> **A:** To remind believers that God judges rebellion while preserving those who trust Him. (Jude 5-7, 24)

> **Q:** How do believers keep themselves in the love of God?

> **A:** By continuing in faith, prayer, and obedience to Christ. (John 15:9-10)

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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Source Index

> † Jude 1-25

> † Clement of Alexandria, Tertullian, Origen, Eusebius, Clement of Rome

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