

*"Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it needful to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." — JUDE 1:3 (KJV)*

# THE DANGER WITHIN

A VERSE-BY-VERSE COMMENTARY  
ON THE BOOK OF JUDE

Exposing  
False Teachers

Contending  
for the Faith

Standing Firm in  
God's Truth

Keeping Yourselves  
in the Love of God

Beloved, believe not every spirit,  
but try the spirits whether they  
are of God: because many  
false prophets are gone out  
into the world.  
1 John 4:1 (KJV)

EARNESTLY  
CONTEND  
FOR THE FAITH  
JUDE 1:3

DR. PAUL CRAWFORD

THE DANGER WITHIN

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ON THE BOOK OF JUDE

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# The Danger Within

*A Verse-by-Verse Commentary on the Book of Jude*

By Dr. Paul Crawford

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Dr. Paul Crawford

# PREFACE

## *The Danger Within*

### *A Verse-by-Verse Commentary on the Book of Jude*

By Dr. Paul Crawford

The Book of Jude is one of the shortest books in the New Testament, yet it contains one of the strongest warnings given to the Church. Jude wrote to believers who were facing a danger that did not necessarily come from outside the Christian community, but from **within**. False teachers had slipped into the fellowship of believers, distorted the grace of God, rejected the authority of Jesus Christ, and led others toward spiritual destruction.

That message is just as important today.

We live in a time when information is everywhere, but biblical truth is often neglected. Many voices claim to speak for God, yet not every voice speaks according to the Word of God. Teachings that once would have been recognized as false doctrine are sometimes welcomed into churches without careful examination. Moral compromise can be presented as freedom, worldly philosophy can be presented as wisdom, and personal opinion can be elevated above the authority of Scripture.

Jude calls the Church to wake up.

His command is simple and powerful: **“Contend for the faith”** (Jude 3). The faith Jude speaks about is not merely personal belief or religious preference. It is the body of truth concerning Jesus Christ and the Gospel that was entrusted to the saints. Jude understood that truth must be guarded, proclaimed, lived, and defended.

This commentary, **The Danger Within**, was written to examine Jude carefully, verse by verse, and to bring its ancient message into the life of the modern believer.

Jude does not simply tell us that false teachers exist. He teaches us how to recognize them. He reminds us of the consequences of rebellion through examples from Israel's history, the angels who sinned, Sodom and Gomorrah, Cain, Balaam, and Korah. These examples demonstrate that God is loving and merciful, but He is also holy and just.

Jude also teaches us that spiritual danger is not always obvious.

Some dangers come disguised as religion. Some come through persuasive words. Some come through people who appear to be spiritual leaders. Others enter quietly through compromise, entertainment, pride, greed, immorality, or a gradual abandonment of biblical truth.

That is why discernment is essential.

But Jude's message is not merely negative. He does not leave believers frightened or discouraged. After warning the Church about false teachers, Jude tells believers how to remain spiritually strong:

**“But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life”** (Jude 20–21).

There is the balance of Jude.

**Know the truth.**

**Defend the truth.**

**Live the truth.**

**Love people.**

**Show mercy.**

**Rescue those who are in danger.**

**And remain faithful to Christ.**

One of the most encouraging truths in this little letter appears at its conclusion. Jude does not ultimately place our confidence in ourselves. He points us to the God who is able to keep us from falling.

**“Now to Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy”** (Jude 24).

What a powerful promise.

The Christian life involves spiritual warfare, temptation, deception, persecution, and opposition. Yet the believer is not abandoned. The same God who called us is able to keep us. The same Christ who saved us is able to sustain us. The same Holy Spirit who indwells us enables us to stand faithfully in a world that increasingly rejects biblical truth.

My prayer is that this commentary will accomplish more than simply explain the words of Jude. I pray that it will cause readers to examine their own faith, strengthen their commitment to Scripture, develop greater spiritual discernment, and encourage them to stand firmly for Jesus Christ.

This book is intended for pastors, teachers, Bible students, Sunday school classes, small groups, and individual believers who desire to understand Jude more deeply. Each verse deserves careful consideration because every verse contributes to Jude's urgent message.

The title **The Danger Within** is a reminder that we must not only watch for the attacks that come from outside the Church. We must also examine what is being permitted, taught, practiced, and accepted within the Church.

The answer is not fear.

The answer is **faithfulness**.

The answer is not compromise.

The answer is **truth**.

The answer is not hatred toward those who are deceived.

The answer is **mercy, discernment, and the proclamation of the Gospel**.

And above everything else, the answer is **Jesus Christ**.

Jude begins by identifying himself as a servant of Jesus Christ, and he ends with a magnificent declaration of glory to God. That is where every faithful study of Scripture should ultimately lead—not merely to information, but to worship.

May these pages encourage you to **contend for the faith**, stand firmly upon the Word of God, recognize spiritual deception, extend mercy to those who are struggling, and remain faithful to Jesus Christ until the day He comes.

The danger is real.

The battle is spiritual.

The truth is worth defending.

And the God who called us is able to keep us.

**To Him be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time, now, and forever. Amen.**

**Dr. Paul Crawford**

## **PROLOGUE**

### **When the Danger Comes From Within**

***The Danger Within: A Verse-by-Verse Commentary on the Book of Jude***

**By Dr. Paul Crawford**

There are dangers that are easy to recognize.

A storm gathering on the horizon can be seen. A fire can be smelled. An enemy approaching from a distance can be identified. When danger announces itself, people naturally prepare to defend themselves.

But some of the greatest dangers are the ones that remain hidden.

They enter quietly.

They speak familiar words.

They look respectable.

They may even use the language of faith.

This is the danger Jude confronted.

The Church was not simply being attacked by people who openly rejected Christianity. Something far more subtle was happening. People who claimed to belong among God's people were bringing destructive teaching into the fellowship of believers. They were twisting God's grace, corrupting Christian freedom, rejecting the authority of Christ, and leading others away from the truth.

Jude understood that the greatest threat to the Church would not always come from outside its walls.

Sometimes the danger would come from **within**.

That is why Jude's short letter speaks with such urgency.

He originally intended to write about the salvation believers shared, but circumstances demanded another message. He felt compelled to warn God's people about those who were corrupting the faith.

Jude wrote:

**“Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once delivered to the saints.”**

— Jude 3

Those words form the heartbeat of this remarkable letter.

### **Contend for the faith.**

Jude was not calling Christians to be argumentative, hateful, or quarrelsome. He was calling them to recognize that the Gospel is precious and that biblical truth cannot be treated as something disposable.

The faith had been **delivered**.

It was entrusted to God's people.

It was not theirs to rewrite.

It was not theirs to redefine.

It was not theirs to reshape according to the desires of the culture.

The message of Jesus Christ was worth guarding.

### **The Quiet Entrance of False Teaching**

Jude tells us that certain ungodly people had **“crept in unnoticed”** (Jude 4).

That phrase should cause every Christian leader and believer to pause.

False teaching does not always announce itself by saying, “I am false teaching.”

Sometimes it sounds religious.

Sometimes it quotes Scripture.

Sometimes it promises freedom.

Sometimes it appeals to human desires.

Sometimes it removes the uncomfortable parts of Christianity while keeping enough biblical language to appear legitimate.

The danger is that deception often works gradually.

A person may compromise one truth today, another tomorrow, and eventually discover that the foundation of biblical faith has been replaced with human opinion.

Jude therefore calls believers to spiritual discernment.

We must learn to distinguish **truth from error, holiness from compromise, grace from license, and genuine faith from empty profession.**

## **Jude's Warnings From History**

Jude does not build his warning upon speculation.

He reaches back into biblical history.

He reminds his readers of Israel, who experienced God's deliverance from Egypt but later demonstrated unbelief. He speaks of angels who abandoned their proper position. He points to Sodom and Gomorrah as examples of rebellion and judgment. He mentions Cain, Balaam, and Korah.

Each example carries the same fundamental lesson:

**God takes rebellion seriously.**

God's mercy should never be interpreted as permission to continue in sin.

His grace should never become an excuse for disobedience.

His patience should never be mistaken for approval.

Jude wants the Church to remember that God's character has not changed.

He is merciful.

He is loving.

He is patient.

But He is also holy, righteous, and just.

## **The Battle Is Not Over**

The message of Jude may have been written nearly two thousand years ago, but its relevance has not diminished.

The Church still faces false teaching.

Believers still encounter deception.

People still distort Scripture.

Some still use religion for personal gain.

Some still turn God's grace into an excuse for sinful living.

Some still reject the authority of Jesus Christ while claiming to speak in His name.

The methods may change, but the spiritual problem remains.

That is why Jude's letter should not be treated as an obscure portion of the New Testament.

It is a warning.

It is a call to discernment.

It is a call to courage.

It is a call to holiness.

It is a call to perseverance.

And above all, it is a call to **contend for the faith**.

## **But Jude Does Not End With Fear**

Perhaps the most beautiful feature of Jude is that he does not leave believers staring at the darkness.

After warning them about false teachers, spiritual corruption, judgment, and apostasy, Jude turns their eyes toward God.

He tells believers to build themselves up in faith, pray in the Holy Spirit, keep themselves in God's love, and look for the mercy of Jesus Christ.

Then he gives one of the most powerful doxologies in the New Testament:

**“Now to Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy.”**

**— Jude 24**

The warning is serious, but the promise is greater.

The world may be deceptive, but God is faithful.

False teachers may arise, but God's Word remains true.

The Church may face opposition, but Christ remains Lord.

Believers may experience spiritual battles, but God is able to keep His people.

## **Why This Book Matters**

**The Danger Within** is more than an examination of ancient words.

It is an invitation to examine the Church today.

It asks difficult questions:

Are we testing what we hear against Scripture?

Are we teaching the whole counsel of God?

Are we confusing grace with permission to sin?

Are we recognizing false teaching?

Are we protecting those who are spiritually vulnerable?

Are we willing to stand for truth when standing becomes unpopular?

Are we contending for the faith without losing our love for people?

Are we building ourselves up spiritually?

Are we praying?

Are we remaining in God's love?

Are we looking for the return of Jesus Christ?

These questions matter because Jude understood something that every generation of Christians must understand:

**Truth must be guarded because souls are at stake.**

## **A Call to Stand**

As you begin this verse-by-verse journey through Jude, do not read this letter merely as an ancient warning about somebody else.

Read it as a mirror.

Allow Jude to examine your faith.

Allow Scripture to challenge your assumptions.

Allow God's truth to correct where correction is necessary.

And allow God's grace to strengthen where you are weak.

The Church does not need less truth in difficult times.

It needs more.

The believer does not need less discernment.

The believer needs greater discernment.

We do not need to abandon biblical conviction in order to demonstrate Christian love.

We need to learn how to **speak the truth in love.**

Jude's message is urgent:

**Stand firm.**

**Guard the truth.**

**Reject deception.**

**Show mercy.**

**Rescue the wandering.**

**Remain faithful.**

**Keep your eyes on Jesus Christ.**

The danger may be within.

But the answer is found in the One who is able to keep us from falling.

And when the battle is over, the glory will belong to Him.

**To the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time, now and forever. Amen.**

Let us begin the journey through Jude.

## **Jude — Crawford Standard Bible**

### **“Contend for the Faith”**

**A Verse-by-Verse Bible Study with Cross References in Simple American English**

### **Introduction**

The Book of Jude is only one chapter long, but its message is powerful and urgent.

Jude warns the church about **false teachers, spiritual rebellion, immorality, pride, greed, division, and apostasy**. At the same time, Jude gives believers practical instructions for remaining strong in the faith.

The central command of the book is:

**“Earnestly contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.”**

Jude teaches us that Christians are not called merely to believe the truth. We are also called to **know it, live it, protect it, and defend it**.

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# I. Greeting

## Jude 1

**“Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and the brother of James, to those who are called, loved by God the Father, and kept safe in Jesus Christ.”**

### Cross References

**Romans 1:1** — Paul identifies himself as a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God.

**1 Peter 1:1** — Peter writes to God's chosen people who are living as foreigners scattered throughout different regions.

**John 17:11** — Jesus prayed to the Father that He would protect His followers through the power of His name so that they might be one.

### Bible Study

Jude identifies himself first as a **servant of Jesus Christ**.

Although Jude was the brother of James and therefore connected to Jesus' earthly family, he does not emphasize his family relationship with Jesus. Instead, he emphasizes his position as Christ's servant.

That is significant.

Our greatest identity is not our family name, occupation, education, position, or accomplishments.

Our greatest identity is that we **belong to Jesus Christ**.

Jude also describes believers as:

- called,
- loved by God,
- and kept by Jesus Christ.

The Christian life begins with God's calling, continues in God's love, and rests in God's keeping power.

### Spiritual Lesson

**Before we defend the faith, we must belong to the One whose faith we are defending.**

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## II. Mercy, Peace, and Love

### Jude 2

**“May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.”**

#### Cross References

**1 Peter 1:2** — God's people are chosen according to God's plan and are made holy by the Spirit so that they will obey Jesus Christ and be cleansed by His blood. Peter prays that grace and peace will be multiplied to them.

**2 Peter 1:2** — May grace and peace be multiplied to you through knowing God and Jesus our Lord.

**Numbers 6:24** — May the LORD bless you and protect you.

#### Bible Study

Jude is about to deliver some very serious warnings.

Yet he begins by speaking of **mercy, peace, and love**.

This is important.

Truth and love must remain together.

Christians should never become so passionate about defending truth that they become hateful toward people. At the same time, Christians should never become so concerned about appearing loving that they abandon biblical truth.

Jude gives us both:

**Truth must be defended.**

**People must be treated with mercy.**

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## III. A Call to Defend the Faith

### Jude 3

**“Beloved, although I was eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt it necessary to write and urge you to earnestly contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.”**

#### Cross References

**1 Timothy 6:12** — Fight the good fight of faith. Take hold of eternal life, because God called you to it.

**2 Timothy 4:7** — Paul said that he had fought the good fight, finished the race, and kept the faith.

**Philippians 1:27** — Live in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ. Stand together in one spirit and work together for the faith of the gospel.

## Bible Study

Jude originally wanted to write about the salvation Christians share.

But circumstances required him to address a more urgent problem.

False teachers had entered the church.

Therefore Jude commands believers to:

**“Earnestly contend for the faith.”**

The word **contend** means to struggle, fight, defend, or stand firmly for something valuable.

The Christian faith is not something we should treat casually.

The gospel has been **“once for all delivered to the saints.”**

The truth of the gospel is not something every generation is supposed to reinvent.

## Spiritual Lesson

**We should not surrender biblical truth simply because defending it becomes uncomfortable.**

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# IV. False Teachers Have Entered

## Jude 4

**“For certain people have secretly slipped in among you—ungodly people who were long ago marked for condemnation. They twist the grace of our God into immorality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.”**

## Cross References

**2 Peter 2:1** — False prophets appeared among God's people in the past, and false teachers will also secretly enter the church. They will introduce destructive teachings and even deny the Lord who bought them.

**Romans 6:1** — Paul asks whether Christians should continue living in sin because God's grace is available. His answer is absolutely not.

**Titus 1:16** — Some people claim to know God, but their actions deny Him. Their lives show that they are disobedient and unfit for good works.

## **Bible Study**

Jude identifies the danger of false teachers.

Their error was not merely intellectual.

They used God's grace as an excuse for sinful living.

This is one of the most dangerous distortions of Christianity:

**“Because God forgives me, sin does not matter.”**

That is not biblical grace.

Grace forgives sin, but grace does not give us permission to love sin.

## **Spiritual Lesson**

**True grace leads us toward holiness, not toward greater rebellion.**

---

# **V. Warnings From History**

## **Jude 5**

**“Though you already know all this, I want to remind you that the Lord once saved His people out of Egypt, but later destroyed those who did not believe.”**

## **Cross References**

**Exodus 12:51** — On that very day, the LORD brought the Israelites out of Egypt like an army.

**Numbers 14:29** — God declared that those who had rebelled against Him would die in the wilderness, except for those He would preserve.

**1 Corinthians 10:5** — God was not pleased with most of the Israelites in the wilderness, and their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

## **Bible Study**

Israel experienced God's deliverance from Egypt.

Yet many Israelites later refused to believe and obey God.

Their deliverance from Egypt did not mean they could live in rebellion without consequences.

## **Spiritual Lesson**

**A powerful beginning does not replace continued faithfulness.**

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# VI. Angels Who Rebelled

## Jude 6

**“And the angels who did not keep their proper position but left their dwelling place—He has kept them in eternal chains under darkness until the judgment of the great day.”**

### Cross References

**Genesis 6:2** — The sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful and took women for themselves.

**2 Peter 2:4** — God did not spare angels who sinned. He cast them into hell and kept them in dark places until judgment.

**Isaiah 24:21** — The LORD will punish the powers in heaven above and the kings of the earth below.

### Bible Study

Jude points to rebellious angels as another example of rebellion against God's authority.

The central principle is clear:

**Rebellion against God's authority is serious.**

God's judgment is certain, even when judgment appears delayed.

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# VII. Sodom and Gomorrah

## Jude 7

**“In the same way, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities gave themselves to sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desires. They serve as an example of those who suffer the punishment of eternal fire.”**

### Cross References

**Genesis 19:24** — The LORD caused burning sulfur to fall on Sodom and Gomorrah from heaven.

**2 Peter 2:6** — God condemned Sodom and Gomorrah to destruction and made them an example of what happens to ungodly people.

**Revelation 14:10** — Those who reject God will experience His judgment and the consequences of their rebellion.

## Bible Study

Jude uses Sodom and Gomorrah as an example of God's judgment against persistent rebellion and sexual immorality.

The lesson is not merely historical.

Jude is warning the church that **God takes holiness seriously**.

---

# VIII. The Ungodly Reject Authority

## Jude 8

**“In the same way, these dreamers pollute their own bodies, reject authority, and slander heavenly beings.”**

## Cross References

**2 Peter 2:10** — God especially judges those who follow the corrupt desires of the flesh and despise authority. They are arrogant and unafraid to speak against spiritual beings.

**1 Timothy 1:19** — Hold on to faith and a good conscience. Some have rejected these and suffered spiritual shipwreck.

**2 Peter 2:12** — These people are like animals that act only by instinct. They speak against things they do not understand and will be destroyed by their corruption.

## Bible Study

Jude identifies three problems:

1. **Corrupt behavior**
2. **Rejection of authority**
3. **Arrogant speech about spiritual matters**

False teachers often become dangerous because they believe they know more than God's Word.

## Spiritual Lesson

**Spiritual arrogance can become more dangerous than spiritual ignorance.**

---

# IX. Michael and the Devil

## Jude 9

**“Yet Michael the archangel, when disputing with the devil about the body of Moses, did not dare pronounce a railing judgment but said, ‘The Lord rebuke you!’”**

### Cross References

**Daniel 10:13** — Michael, one of the chief angelic princes, came to help Daniel's heavenly messenger.

**Zechariah 3:2** — The LORD said to Satan, “The LORD rebuke you, Satan. The LORD, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebuke you.”

**Deuteronomy 34:6** — God buried Moses in a valley in Moab, but no one knows the exact location of his grave.

### Bible Study

Jude contrasts the arrogance of the false teachers with the restraint of Michael.

Michael did not attempt to pronounce his own judgment against Satan.

He said:

**“The Lord rebuke you!”**

The lesson is humility before God's authority.

We should never treat spiritual warfare as entertainment or become arrogant about supernatural things.

### Spiritual Lesson

**Confidence in God does not require arrogance toward spiritual enemies.**

---

# X. Corruption Through Ignorance

## Jude 10

**“But these people slander what they do not understand. What they know by instinct, like unreasoning animals, is what corrupts them.”**

### Cross References

**2 Peter 2:12** — These people speak against things they do not understand and are destroyed by the very corruption they practice.

**Psalms 49:20** — A person who has wealth and honor but does not understand spiritual truth is like an animal that will perish.

**1 Corinthians 2:14** — A person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from God's Spirit because they seem foolish to that person.

## **Bible Study**

Jude warns against speaking confidently about things we do not understand.

There is a difference between **faith** and **presumption**.

Faith trusts God's revealed truth.

Presumption speaks beyond what God has revealed.

---

# **XI. Cain, Balaam, and Korah**

## **Jude 11**

**“Woe to them! They have gone the way of Cain, rushed greedily into Balaam’s error for profit, and perished in Korah’s rebellion.”**

## **Cross References**

**Genesis 4:8** — Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

**Numbers 22:7** — The leaders of Moab and Midian took payment with them and went to Balaam to ask him to curse Israel.

**Numbers 16:33** — Korah and those with him went down alive into the earth, and the earth closed over them.

## **Bible Study**

Jude gives three historical examples.

### **Cain — Hatred**

Cain allowed jealousy and hatred to control him.

### **Balaam — Greed**

Balaam became associated with using spiritual influence for financial gain.

### **Korah — Rebellion**

Korah rebelled against the authority God had established.

These three examples represent:

**Hatred.**

**Greed.**

**Rebellion.**

### **Spiritual Lesson**

**A person's spiritual downfall may begin with the heart long before it becomes visible in behavior.**

---

## **XII. False Teachers at the Love Feasts**

### **Jude 12**

**“These are blemishes at your love feasts, eating with you without the slightest concern. They are clouds without rain, blown along by the wind; trees without fruit, twice dead and uprooted.”**

### **Cross References**

**2 Peter 2:13** — These false teachers enjoy their sinful pleasures openly and are like stains among God's people.

**Ezekiel 34:2** — God condemns shepherds who feed themselves instead of caring for the flock.

**Proverbs 25:14** — A person who promises a gift but does not give it is like clouds and wind that bring no rain.

### **Bible Study**

The false teachers looked like they belonged among God's people.

They attended the love feasts.

They participated in Christian fellowship.

But their lives produced no spiritual fruit.

Jude describes them as:

**clouds without rain,  
trees without fruit,  
and twice dead.**

They appeared promising but produced nothing spiritually beneficial.

### **Spiritual Lesson**

**Christian appearance is not the same thing as Christian character.**

---

## XIII. Wild Waves and Wandering Stars

### Jude 13

**“They are wild waves of the sea, foaming up their shame; wandering stars for whom the blackest darkness has been reserved forever.”**

#### Cross References

**Isaiah 57:20** — The wicked are like a restless sea that cannot become calm. Its waters continually stir up mud and dirt.

**2 Peter 2:17** — These false teachers are springs without water and clouds driven by a storm. Darkness has been reserved for them.

**Daniel 12:3** — Those who lead others toward righteousness will shine like the stars forever.

#### Bible Study

Jude uses vivid pictures.

A wild sea is unstable.

A wandering star is unreliable.

False teachers may sound impressive, but they do not provide stable spiritual direction.

#### Spiritual Lesson

**Do not build your faith on personalities. Build it on God's truth.**

---

## XIV. Enoch's Prophecy

### Jude 14–15

**“Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these people, saying: ‘Look! The Lord is coming with ten thousands of His holy ones to execute judgment on everyone, and to convict all the ungodly of all the ungodly deeds they have done and of all the harsh words that ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.’”**

#### Cross References

**Genesis 5:24** — Enoch walked with God, and then God took him away; he was no longer on earth.

**Deuteronomy 33:2** — The LORD came with thousands of His holy ones.

**Zechariah 14:5** — The LORD will come, and His holy ones will come with Him.

**Daniel 7:10** — Thousands upon thousands served God, and millions stood before Him as the court began its judgment.

**Psalms 96:13** — The LORD is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with His truth.

**2 Peter 3:7** — The present heavens and earth are being kept for fire until the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly people.

### **Bible Study**

Jude reminds us that judgment is coming.

The wicked may appear successful for a time.

False teachers may attract crowds.

Ungodly people may seem to escape consequences.

But God's final judgment is certain.

### **Spiritual Lesson**

**God's delay in judgment should never be mistaken for God's approval.**

---

## **XV. Grumbling and Selfish Living**

### **Jude 16**

**“These people are grumblers and complainers, living according to their own lusts. They boast loudly and flatter others to gain advantage.”**

### **Cross References**

**Numbers 14:2** — The Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron and wished they had died in Egypt.

**Numbers 16:41** — The Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron after Korah's rebellion.

**Proverbs 28:21** — Showing favoritism is not good, yet some people will do wrong for something as small as a piece of bread.

### **Bible Study**

Jude describes people controlled by:

- complaining,
- selfish desires,
- pride,
- boasting,
- and manipulation.

Flattery can be especially dangerous because it sounds positive while being used for selfish purposes.

### **Spiritual Lesson**

**Not every flattering word comes from a sincere heart.**

---

## **XVI. Remember the Apostolic Teaching**

### **Jude 17**

**“But you, beloved, remember the words spoken beforehand by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ.”**

### **Cross References**

**2 Peter 3:2** — Remember the words spoken by the holy prophets and the command given through the apostles of Jesus Christ.

**Acts 20:29** — Paul warned that after his departure, savage wolves would come among the believers and would not spare the flock.

**Ephesians 2:20** — God's people are built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus Himself as the cornerstone.

### **Bible Study**

Jude tells believers to **remember**.

Remembering God's truth protects us from being carried away by new false ideas.

The church needs to remain grounded in the teaching handed down through Scripture.

---

## **XVII. Scoffers in the Last Days**

### **Jude 18**

**“They told you, ‘In the last days there will be scoffers who follow their own ungodly desires.’”**

## Cross References

**2 Timothy 3:1** — In the last days, difficult and dangerous times will come.

**1 Timothy 4:1** — The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceptive spirits and teachings from demons.

**2 Peter 3:3** — In the last days, scoffers will come, following their own sinful desires.

## Bible Study

Jude teaches that spiritual deception should not surprise believers.

The presence of false teaching does not mean God's Word has failed.

It means Scripture's warnings are being fulfilled.

---

# XVIII. Those Who Cause Division

## Jude 19

**“These are the ones who cause divisions, worldly-minded and without the Spirit.”**

## Cross References

**James 3:15** — This kind of wisdom does not come from heaven. It is earthly, unspiritual, and influenced by evil.

**1 Corinthians 2:14** — A person without the Spirit does not accept spiritual truth because it seems foolish to him.

**1 John 2:19** — Some people left the believers because they did not truly belong to them. Their departure revealed that they were not truly part of them.

## Bible Study

False teaching often produces division.

Instead of producing unity around Christ, false teachers produce factions centered around themselves.

The church must therefore distinguish between:

**healthy disagreement** and **destructive division**.

---

# **XIX. Build Yourself Up in Faith**

## **Jude 20**

**“But you, beloved, build yourselves up in your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit.”**

### **Cross References**

**Ephesians 6:18** — Pray at all times in the Spirit, staying alert and continuing to pray for God's people.

**Romans 8:26** — The Spirit helps us in our weakness. When we do not know how to pray, the Spirit helps us according to God's will.

**Colossians 2:7** — Be rooted and built up in Christ, established in the faith, and overflowing with thanksgiving.

### **Bible Study**

Jude moves from warning to instruction.

He tells believers how to remain strong:

**Build yourself up in faith.**

This requires spiritual discipline.

We grow through:

- God's Word,
- prayer,
- fellowship,
- obedience,
- worship,
- and dependence upon the Holy Spirit.

### **Spiritual Lesson**

**A strong Christian life does not happen accidentally. It must be built.**

---

# **XX. Keep Yourself in God's Love**

## **Jude 21**

**“Keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you eternal life.”**

## Cross References

**John 15:9** — Jesus said, “As the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you. Remain in My love.”

**Titus 2:13** — Believers are waiting for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Romans 5:21** — Grace reigns through righteousness and leads to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Bible Study

Christians are called to remain in God's love while waiting for Christ.

This does not mean that God's love is weak or temporary.

It means believers are called to remain faithful in their relationship with God.

## Spiritual Lesson

**While we wait for Christ's return, we should remain faithful to Christ.**

---

# XXI. Show Mercy to Those Who Doubt

## Jude 22

**“Show mercy to those who doubt.”**

## Cross References

**James 5:19** — If someone among believers wanders away from the truth and another person brings that person back, the one who restores him saves him from death and covers many sins.

**Galatians 6:1** — If someone is caught in sin, spiritual believers should restore that person gently while watching themselves so they are not tempted.

**Romans 14:1** — Accept believers who are weak in faith without arguing over doubtful matters.

## Bible Study

Not everyone who struggles with questions is a false teacher.

Some people genuinely doubt and need patient instruction.

Jude tells believers to respond with **mercy**.

## Spiritual Lesson

**We should correct confusion without crushing the person who is confused.**

---

## XXII. Rescue Others From the Fire

### Jude 23

**“Save others by snatching them from the fire. To still others, show mercy mixed with fear, hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh.”**

#### Cross References

**Amos 4:11** — God said that He had rescued some people like a burning stick pulled from a fire, yet they still did not return to Him.

**Zechariah 3:4** — Joshua's filthy clothes were removed, and he was given clean clothes because God had removed his guilt.

**James 5:20** — Whoever turns a sinner from wandering away saves that person from death and covers many sins.

#### Bible Study

Jude gives another picture of rescuing people.

Some people need a strong warning.

Others need patient mercy.

The believer must understand the difference.

We are called to **hate sin without hating sinners**.

We must help people escape destruction while remaining careful not to become entangled in the very sins from which we are trying to rescue them.

---

## XXIII. God Is Able to Keep Us

### Jude 24

**“Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before His glorious presence with great joy—”**

#### Cross References

**Romans 16:25** — God is able to establish believers according to the gospel and the message about Jesus Christ.

**Ephesians 3:20** — God is able to do far more than anything we could ask or imagine through His power working in us.

**2 Peter 3:18** — Grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ. To Him belongs glory both now and forever.

## **Bible Study**

After all the warnings Jude has given, he ends with hope.

The Christian's ultimate confidence is not found in his own strength.

It is found in **God's ability to keep him**.

God is able to:

- keep us from stumbling,
- preserve us,
- strengthen us,
- and ultimately present us blameless before His presence.

## **Spiritual Lesson**

**We contend for the faith, but we ultimately depend upon God to keep us.**

---

# **XXIV. The Final Doxology**

## **Jude 25**

**“To the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all time, now, and forever. Amen.”**

## **Cross References**

**1 Timothy 1:17** — To the eternal King, immortal, invisible, and the only God, be honor and glory forever.

**Romans 11:36** — Everything comes from God, exists through God, and ultimately belongs to God. To Him be glory forever.

**Revelation 5:13** — Every creature in heaven, on earth, under the earth, and in the sea gives praise and honor and glory and power to the One sitting on the throne and to the Lamb forever.

## **Bible Study**

Jude ends with worship.

After warning about false teachers, judgment, rebellion, immorality, pride, and deception, Jude directs our attention back to God.

God alone deserves:

**glory,  
majesty,  
power,  
and authority.**

The Christian life begins with God, is sustained by God, and ultimately ends in worship of God.

---

## **Key Lessons from Jude**

### **1. Contend for the Faith**

The gospel must be defended against false teaching and ungodly influences.

### **2. God's Grace Never Gives Permission to Sin**

Grace forgives sin, but grace should never become an excuse for continuing in rebellion.

### **3. God Judges Rebellion**

Israel's unbelief, rebellious angels, and Sodom demonstrate that God takes rebellion seriously.

### **4. Beware of False Teachers**

False teachers may look religious while being controlled by greed, lust, pride, and selfish ambition.

### **5. Know the Difference Between Truth and Error**

Christians cannot defend the faith if they do not know what the faith teaches.

### **6. Build Yourself Up Spiritually**

Faith grows through Scripture, prayer, obedience, and dependence upon the Holy Spirit.

### **7. Show Mercy to Those Who Doubt**

Not every person who struggles with faith is an enemy. Some need patient teaching and restoration.

## **8. Rescue People From Sin**

Christians should care enough to warn people about spiritual danger and point them toward Christ.

## **9. Hate Sin Without Hating People**

Jude teaches both compassion and caution.

## **10. God Is Able to Keep His People**

Our confidence ultimately rests in God's preserving power.

---

# **XXXVI. Questions for Personal Study**

### **Question 1**

**Who was Jude?**

#### **Answer:**

Jude identifies himself as a servant of Jesus Christ and the brother of James. Rather than emphasizing his family relationship to Jesus, he emphasizes that he is Christ's servant.

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### **Question 2**

**What does Jude mean when he tells believers to “contend for the faith”?**

#### **Answer:**

He means that believers must stand firmly for the truth of the gospel and defend it against false teaching and corruption.

---

### **Question 3**

**What does it mean that the faith was “once for all delivered to the saints”?**

#### **Answer:**

It means the Christian faith has been entrusted to God's people as a definite body of truth. Believers are called to preserve and proclaim that truth rather than continually changing it to suit the culture.

---

## Question 4

**What was wrong with the false teachers Jude described?**

**Answer:**

They twisted God's grace into an excuse for immoral living, rejected authority, promoted ungodliness, sought personal advantage, and ultimately denied the authority of Jesus Christ.

---

## Question 5

**Why does Jude mention Israel's unbelief?**

**Answer:**

He uses Israel as a warning that experiencing God's work does not give people permission to continue in unbelief and rebellion.

---

## Question 6

**Why does Jude mention the rebellious angels?**

**Answer:**

They provide another example showing that rebellion against God's authority brings judgment.

---

## Question 7

**Why does Jude mention Sodom and Gomorrah?**

**Answer:**

He uses them as an example of God's judgment against sexual immorality, rebellion, and persistent ungodliness.

---

## Question 8

**What does Michael's response to Satan teach us?**

**Answer:**

It teaches humility and restraint. Even Michael did not arrogantly pronounce his own judgment against Satan. He said, **“The Lord rebuke you!”**

---

## **Question 9**

**What do Cain, Balaam, and Korah represent?**

**Answer:**

They represent three dangerous forms of spiritual corruption:

- **Cain — hatred and murder**
  - **Balaam — greed and using spiritual things for profit**
  - **Korah — rebellion against God's authority**
- 

## **Question 10**

**What does Jude mean by “clouds without rain” and “trees without fruit”?**

**Answer:**

He means that false teachers may appear promising, but they produce no genuine spiritual fruit. They offer something that appears valuable but ultimately provides no spiritual nourishment.

---

## **Question 11**

**What does Jude teach about the coming judgment?**

**Answer:**

Jude teaches that God will ultimately judge ungodliness, false teaching, rebellion, sinful actions, and sinful words.

---

## **Question 12**

**How should Christians respond to people who doubt?**

**Answer:**

They should show mercy, patience, and compassion while helping them understand the truth.

---

## **Question 13**

**What does Jude mean by “snatching them from the fire”?**

**Answer:**

He is describing the urgent responsibility of rescuing people from spiritual destruction by warning them about sin and pointing them toward God's truth.

---

**Question 14**

**Why does Jude tell believers to build themselves up in faith?**

**Answer:**

Because believers need spiritual strength to resist false teaching, withstand temptation, remain faithful, and continue following Christ.

---

**Question 15**

**What role does prayer have in the Christian life according to Jude?**

**Answer:**

Prayer is essential to spiritual growth and perseverance. Jude tells believers to pray in the Holy Spirit as they build themselves up in faith.

---

**Question 16**

**What does it mean to keep ourselves in God's love?**

**Answer:**

It means remaining faithful to God, continuing in obedience and fellowship with Him, and living in the love Christ has given us while we wait for His return.

---

**Question 17**

**What is the great encouragement found in Jude 24?**

**Answer:**

God is able to keep believers from stumbling and ultimately present them blameless before His glorious presence with great joy.

---

## **Question 18**

**Who receives the glory at the end of Jude?**

**Answer:**

God receives all glory, majesty, power, and authority through Jesus Christ our Lord.

---

# **XXXVII. Personal Application and Discussion**

## **Question 1**

**Am I willing to stand for biblical truth when it becomes unpopular?**

**Answer:**

Jude teaches that believers must contend for the faith. Truth should not be abandoned simply because defending it creates opposition.

---

## **Question 2**

**Have I confused God's grace with permission to sin?**

**Answer:**

Jude warns against people who turn God's grace into immorality. Genuine grace should lead us toward repentance and holiness rather than greater sin.

---

## **Question 3**

**Do I know what I believe?**

**Answer:**

A Christian cannot effectively contend for the faith without knowing the faith. Believers should study Scripture carefully so they can recognize truth and error.

---

## **Question 4**

**Am I building myself up spiritually?**

**Answer:**

Jude says believers should build themselves up in their faith and pray in the Holy Spirit. Spiritual strength requires intentional spiritual growth.

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**Question 5**

**How do I respond when another Christian doubts?**

**Answer:**

Jude says to show mercy. The goal should be restoration rather than humiliation.

---

**Question 6**

**Am I careful when helping people trapped in sin?**

**Answer:**

Yes. Jude teaches compassion but also caution. Christians should rescue people from sin while taking care not to become spiritually corrupted themselves.

---

**Question 7**

**Am I more interested in winning arguments than winning people?**

**Answer:**

Jude teaches us to contend for truth while also showing mercy. Truth should never become an excuse for cruelty.

---

**Question 8**

**Do I recognize the danger of spiritual pride?**

**Answer:**

Jude repeatedly warns about arrogant people who reject authority and speak about things they do not understand. Humility is essential to spiritual maturity.

---

**Question 9**

**Am I watching for false teaching?**

**Answer:**

Jude says false teachers can secretly enter the church. Believers therefore need biblical discernment and must compare teaching with God's Word.

---

**Question 10**

**Where should my confidence ultimately rest?**

**Answer:**

Our confidence should ultimately rest in God.

Jude does not end by saying, “You are strong enough to preserve yourself.”

He ends by saying:

**God is able to keep you from stumbling.**

That is our hope.

---

## **Final Summary of Jude**

The Book of Jude gives the church a serious warning and a powerful encouragement.

**Jude warns us:**

**False teachers will come.**

**Sin can corrupt.**

**Grace must not be abused.**

**Rebellion brings judgment.**

**Pride leads people away from truth.**

**Greed can corrupt spiritual leadership.**

**Jude commands us:**

**Contend for the faith.**

**Build yourself up spiritually.**

**Pray in the Holy Spirit.**

**Remain in God's love.**

**Wait for Christ's mercy.**

**Show mercy to those who doubt.**

**Rescue those who are spiritually endangered.**

**Remain separated from the corruption of sin.**

**And Jude encourages us:**

**God is able to keep us.**

The final message of Jude is therefore both a **warning and a promise.**

We must take truth seriously.

We must recognize false teaching.

We must resist ungodliness.

We must defend the faith.

But we do not stand alone.

**The same God who calls us to contend for the faith is the God who is able to keep us from falling and present us blameless before His glorious presence with great joy.**

## **The Central Message of Jude**

**Stand firm in the truth.**

**Walk faithfully in God's love.**

**Show mercy to those who struggle.**

**Rescue those in spiritual danger.**

**Reject ungodliness.**

**And trust the God who is able to keep you.**

**“To the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all time, now, and forever. Amen.”**

## **EPILOGUE**

### **Standing Firm Until the End**

***The Danger Within: A Verse-by-Verse Commentary on the Book of Jude***

**By Dr. Paul Crawford**

The Book of Jude is short enough to read in only a few minutes, but its message can occupy the heart and mind for a lifetime.

Jude began with a warning.

He ended with worship.

Between those two points, he reminded the Church that the Christian life is lived in the midst of a spiritual battle. False teachers will arise. Deception will increase. Ungodly influences will attempt to enter the fellowship of God's people. Some will distort grace, reject authority, pursue sinful desires, and lead others away from the truth.

But Jude never tells believers to surrender.

He tells them to **stand**.

His message is not simply, “Watch out.”

It is also, “**Stand firm.**”

## **THE FAITH MUST BE GUARDED**

Jude's central command remains:

**“Contend earnestly for the faith which was once delivered to the saints.”**

— Jude 3

The Christian faith is not something that changes with every generation.

Culture changes.

Opinions change.

Political movements change.

Social values change.

Human philosophies change.

But the truth of God remains.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ does not need to be reinvented. It needs to be proclaimed faithfully.

The Church must never become so concerned with being accepted by the world that it becomes unfaithful to the Word of God.

There will always be pressure to compromise.

There will always be voices telling Christians that biblical truth is outdated.

There will always be those who attempt to redefine sin, holiness, salvation, marriage, morality, authority, and the identity of Jesus Christ.

Jude reminds us that God's people must know what they believe and why they believe it.

We cannot defend a faith we do not understand.

We cannot recognize false teaching if we do not know the truth.

We cannot stand firmly upon Scripture if we rarely open it.

## **THE DANGER IS NOT ALWAYS OBVIOUS**

One of the most sobering lessons in Jude is that false teachers can enter quietly.

They may not appear dangerous at first.

They may possess charisma.

They may be intelligent.

They may be persuasive.

They may know religious language.

They may even speak about God.

But Jude teaches us that appearances are not enough.

The question is not simply:

**Does this person sound spiritual?**

The question is:

**Does this teaching agree with the truth of Scripture?**

Spiritual discernment requires more than emotion.

It requires biblical knowledge.

It requires prayer.

It requires wisdom.

It requires the willingness to examine everything according to God's Word.

## **GRACE IS NOT PERMISSION TO SIN**

Jude specifically warns about people who twisted God's grace into an excuse for ungodliness.

This warning remains essential.

Grace does not mean that sin no longer matters.

Grace means that God offers forgiveness to sinners through Jesus Christ.

Grace does not encourage rebellion.

Grace teaches us to turn away from rebellion.

Grace does not lower God's standard of holiness.

Grace gives us the power and desire to pursue holiness.

The Christian must never use God's mercy as an excuse to continue deliberately in sin.

The same Savior who forgives us also calls us to follow Him.

## **MERCY MUST ACCOMPANY TRUTH**

Jude's message is firm, but it is not without compassion.

He instructs believers to have mercy on those who doubt and to rescue others from spiritual danger.

This gives us an important balance.

We must not compromise truth in order to demonstrate love.

But neither should we use truth as an excuse to become harsh, arrogant, or indifferent toward people.

The Christian response to deception should include both **truth and mercy**.

There are people who are confused.

There are people who have been deceived.

There are people who have been wounded by false teaching.

There are people who are searching for answers.

There are people who have wandered away from biblical truth.

The Church must be willing to reach them.

We must warn them.

We must teach them.

We must pray for them.

And when possible, we must help restore them.

## **BUILD YOURSELF UP**

Jude gives believers practical instructions for remaining spiritually strong:

**“Building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God.”**

— Jude 20–21

A strong Christian life does not happen accidentally.

We must cultivate our relationship with God.

We must study Scripture.

We must pray.

We must worship.

We must fellowship with other believers.

We must obey God's commands.

We must remain sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

We must continually grow.

The Christian who stops growing becomes vulnerable.

A neglected spiritual life creates opportunities for deception.

That is why spiritual maturity matters.

## THE GOD WHO KEEPS US

Yet after all of Jude's warnings, the final word is not human strength.

It is God's faithfulness.

Jude concludes:

**“Now to Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy.”**

— Jude 24

This is the great encouragement of the letter.

We are called to contend.

We are called to remain faithful.

We are called to exercise discernment.

We are called to resist deception.

But ultimately, our confidence rests in God.

He is able to keep us.

He is able to strengthen us.

He is able to preserve us.

He is able to bring us safely into His presence.

The Christian life begins with God's grace, continues through God's grace, and ultimately ends in God's presence.

## THE FINAL WORD IS WORSHIP

Jude began by identifying himself as a servant of Jesus Christ.

He ends by giving glory to God.

That is where every Christian study should lead.

Not merely to information.

Not merely to knowledge.

Not merely to theological debate.

But to **worship**.

The more clearly we see God's holiness, the more deeply we understand His grace.

The more seriously we recognize sin, the more precious the cross becomes.

The more clearly we understand the dangers surrounding the Church, the more thankful we become for the God who preserves His people.

And the more we understand Jesus Christ, the more we desire to give Him glory.

## **THE CALL REMAINS**

The generation that first received Jude's letter is gone.

The false teachers Jude confronted are gone.

The ancient controversies have passed into history.

But the Word of God remains.

And the call remains:

**Contend for the faith.**

**Guard the truth.**

**Reject false teaching.**

**Live in holiness.**

**Show mercy.**

**Rescue those who are wandering.**

**Build yourself up in the faith.**

**Pray in the Holy Spirit.**

**Keep yourself in the love of God.**

**Look for the mercy of Jesus Christ.**

And above all:

**Remain faithful to Jesus.**

The danger within is real.

The spiritual battle is real.

Deception is real.

But God's power is greater.

His truth is stronger.

His grace is sufficient.

His promises are certain.

And His Son, Jesus Christ, is victorious.

## **A FINAL ENCOURAGEMENT**

If there is one message I hope you carry from this study of Jude, it is this:

**Do not compromise your faith.**

Do not trade biblical truth for popularity.

Do not trade holiness for acceptance.

Do not trade the authority of Scripture for human opinion.

Do not trade the Gospel for a message that simply makes people comfortable.

Stand firm.

Stand humbly.

Stand courageously.

Stand lovingly.

And stand upon the Word of God.

There may be times when standing for truth is difficult.

There may be times when you feel alone.

There may be times when the world seems to move farther away from God.

But remember Jude's final assurance:

**God is able to keep you from falling.**

Therefore, keep your eyes on Christ.

Keep your heart in God's Word.

Keep praying.

Keep believing.

Keep serving.

Keep loving.

Keep standing.

And when your journey is finished, may you stand before the presence of God's glory with exceeding joy, knowing that the One who called you was faithful to keep you.

**TO HIM BE THE GLORY**

Jude closes his letter with words that should remain upon our hearts:

**“To the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time, now, and forever. Amen.”**

— Jude 25

The battle belongs to the Lord.

The truth belongs to the Lord.

The Church belongs to the Lord.

And our salvation belongs to the Lord.

Therefore, let us contend for the faith—not with pride, but with humility; not with hatred, but with love; not with fear, but with courage.

For the danger may be within.

But **Christ is greater than the danger.**

And the God who is able to keep us will have the final word.

**Amen.**

## A NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR

### *The Danger Within*

#### *A Verse-by-Verse Commentary on the Book of Jude*

**By Dr. Paul Crawford**

Dear Reader,

Thank you for taking the time to open this book and study the short but powerful Letter of Jude.

When I began working through Jude, I was struck again by how relevant this small letter is to the Church today. Jude wrote nearly two thousand years ago, yet the spiritual dangers he addressed remain familiar. False teaching, compromise, moral confusion, spiritual pride, deception, and rejection of biblical authority continue to challenge God's people.

Jude's message is therefore not merely a warning from the past. It is a message for the Church today.

The title of this commentary, **The Danger Within**, was chosen because Jude focuses our attention on a particularly serious form of spiritual danger: deception that enters among God's people. Jude warned that certain individuals had “**crept in unnoticed**” (Jude 4). They were not necessarily obvious enemies standing outside the Church. They had entered among believers and were corrupting the truth from within.

That should cause every Christian to take a closer look at what we believe, what we teach, and what we allow to influence our lives.

This commentary has been written as a **verse-by-verse study** of Jude. My purpose is to slow down and examine each verse carefully, explain its meaning, consider its biblical context, and draw practical applications for Christian living.

I have also attempted to keep the central message of Jude in view throughout the entire study.

## **Contend for the faith.**

Those words from Jude 3 are not a call to unnecessary arguments or hostility. They are a call to remain faithful to the truth God has entrusted to His people.

We live in a world where many people want Christianity without biblical authority, grace without repentance, salvation without transformation, and Jesus without submission to His lordship.

Jude reminds us that we cannot separate Christ from His truth.

The Christian faith is not ours to redesign.

We are called to receive it, understand it, live it, proclaim it, and defend it.

At the same time, Jude reminds us that defending truth must never cause us to forget compassion.

He tells us to have mercy on those who doubt and to rescue those who are in danger. That is an important lesson for all of us.

We must stand firmly for truth while maintaining a heart for people.

We must reject false teaching without becoming hateful toward those who are deceived.

We must defend biblical holiness while remembering that every one of us is dependent upon God's grace.

We must speak the truth while doing so with love.

As you read this commentary, I encourage you not simply to ask, **“What does Jude say?”**

Ask:

### **“What is God saying to me?”**

Ask how Jude's warnings apply to your own spiritual life.

Ask whether you are growing in biblical discernment.

Ask whether you are building yourself up in the faith.

Ask whether your prayer life is strong.

Ask whether you are remaining in the love of God.

Ask whether you are willing to stand for biblical truth when doing so becomes difficult.

And ask whether you are helping others who are struggling with doubt or deception.

One of the greatest encouragements in Jude is found at the very end of the letter.

After giving some of the strongest warnings about false teachers and judgment, Jude reminds us that God is **“able to keep you from falling”** (Jude 24).

That truth gives me great encouragement.

Our responsibility is to remain faithful, but our ultimate confidence is in God.

We are not strong because we are perfect.

We are strong because God is faithful.

We are not preserved because we never struggle.

We are preserved because God is able to keep us.

We are not victorious because we possess unlimited strength.

We are victorious because Jesus Christ has already won the ultimate victory.

My prayer is that **The Danger Within** will help you understand Jude more clearly and take its message more seriously.

I pray that it will strengthen pastors and teachers, encourage Bible students, challenge mature believers, and help new Christians develop a deeper appreciation for biblical truth.

Most importantly, I pray that this study will cause you to look beyond Jude's warnings and see the Savior to whom Jude ultimately points.

**Jesus Christ is worthy of our faith.**

He is worthy of our obedience.

He is worthy of our worship.

He is worthy of our loyalty.

And He is worthy of our willingness to stand for the truth.

If this book accomplishes anything, I hope it accomplishes this:

**That you will leave these pages more determined to know God's Word, more discerning about spiritual deception, more compassionate toward those who are struggling, and more committed to Jesus Christ.**

The Church needs believers who will stand.

Not angry believers.

Not arrogant believers.

Not careless believers.

But faithful believers.

Believers who know the Word.

Believers who love the truth.

Believers who show mercy.

Believers who recognize deception.

Believers who refuse to compromise.

Believers who keep their eyes on Christ.

May we be such believers.

And may we never forget Jude's call:

**“Contend earnestly for the faith which was once delivered to the saints.”**

— Jude 3

Thank you for allowing me to walk with you through this remarkable letter.

May God use the truths found in Jude to strengthen your faith, deepen your understanding, sharpen your discernment, and draw you closer to Jesus Christ.

And may we always remember that although the danger is real, **the power of God is greater.**

**Standing with you for the truth,**

**Dr. Paul Crawford**

**Author**

## **A Closing Prayer**

**“Father, I thank You for every reader who has walked through these pages. For the one who does not yet know You, I pray they would hear Your voice and receive Your Son, Jesus, as Lord and Savior. For the one who already believes, I pray You would set their heart ablaze with urgency—to speak, to share, to love, and to never be silent. May we all live as faithful watchmen, sounding the trumpet until the day You call us home. In Jesus’ mighty name, Amen.”**

## **THE BIBLE WAY TO HEAVEN**

### **1. Admit you are a sinner.**

**"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)**

**No one is good enough to go to Heaven on his own merit.**

**No matter how much good we do, we still come short.**

### **2. Realize the penalty for sin.**

**"For the wages of sin is death..." (Romans 6:23a)**

**Just as there are wages for good, there is punishment for wrong.**

**The penalty for our sin is eternal death in a place called Hell.**

### **3. Believe that Jesus Christ died, was buried, and rose again for you.**

**"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." (Romans 10:9)**

#### **4. Trust Christ alone as your Saviour.**

**"...But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23b)**

**"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13)**

**Eternal life is a gift purchased by the blood of Jesus and offered freely to those who call upon Him by faith.**

**Anyone who believes on the Lord Jesus Christ will be saved forever. Being saved is a one-time event.**

**Dr. Paul Crawford is more than just a Christian Author; His books are a source of inspiration and guidance on your spiritual journey. His books are created with a deep sense of faith and a desire to uplift and inspire all who read.**

# THE DANGER WITHIN

A VERSE-BY-VERSE COMMENTARY  
ON THE BOOK OF JUDE

THE GREATEST THREATS TO THE CHURCH  
OFTEN COME FROM WITHIN.

The book of Jude is short, sharp, and sobering. It warns of false teachers who creep in unnoticed, twist the truth, and lead God's people away from the faith once delivered to the saints. Yet Jude also calls believers to stand firm, contend for the faith, and keep themselves in the love of God as they wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*The Danger Within* is a verse-by-verse commentary that opens the depths of this often-overlooked New Testament letter. Dr. Paul Crawford guides you through every verse with clarity, conviction, and compassion, helping you understand its meaning, apply its truth, and live with spiritual discernment in today's world.

IN THIS COMMENTARY, YOU WILL DISCOVER:

- ✝ A clear and faithful exposition of every verse in Jude
- ✝ The historical and cultural background behind the text
- ✝ Key teachings on false teachers, apostasy, and judgment
- ✝ Practical applications for standing firm in the faith
- ✝ Encouragement to grow in faith, love, and perseverance
- ✝ Christ-centered truth that strengthens and protects the soul

JUDE'S MESSAGE IS AS URGENT TODAY AS EVER.

Whether you are a pastor, teacher, student, or believer hungry for truth, this book will equip you to recognize danger, hold fast to sound doctrine, and contend for the faith with courage and confidence.

STAND WATCHFUL. STAND FAITHFUL. STAND FIRM.  
THE TRUTH IS WORTH DEFENDING.