

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**.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.”

