



THE
EPISTLE
OF
JUDE

A Study of Apostacy

Pastor L. A. Radtke
Beacon Bible Church

STUDY QUESTIONS ON JUDE

Beacon Bible Church
McKinley, Minn.
Pastor L. A. Radtke

1. Do you believe in the inspiration of the Scriptures?
2. Write Dr. Schaffer's definition on inspiration:
3. Write from memory II Tim. 3:16 and II Peter 1:21
4. What is an apostate?
5. Who was the first apostate?
6. How long will apostasy be present in the earth?
7. Name a doctrine Paul mentions which is a by-product of apostasy:
8. What spirit motivates an apostate?
9. In that an apostate is never original he must do what with the truth?
10. What book in the Bible is devoted entirely to apostasy?
11. What does Jude or Judas mean?
12. What does servant mean?
13. According to Mark 10:45, what should be the desire of a servant?
14. From what is the believer freed in becoming a servant?
15. Before one is saved from what is he freed?
16. Who was the half brother of Jude?
17. How many full brothers did Jude have?
18. When were the half brothers of the Lord Jesus Christ saved? Jn. 7:5

DOCTRINE OF APOSTACY

Beacon Bible Church

Pastor L. A. Radtke

The Book of Jude

I. Characteristics of Apostates

- A. Saturated with human viewpoint: v. 8
- B. Despise authority: v. 8
- C. Blaspheme God: v. 8
- D. Mockers: v. 18
- E. Lust-centered: v. 18
- F. Trouble makers: v. 19
- G. Human viewpoint because they are not possessors of the Holy Spirit: v. 19

II. Categories of Apostates

- A. Lust for praise (Cain--unbeliever)
- B. Lust for money (Balaam--a believer)
- C. Lust for power (Korah--a believer)

III. Types of Apostates

- A. Believers: v. 5
- B. Angelic: v. 6
- C. Unbeliever: v. 7

IV. Illustrations Describing Apostates from Nature: v. 12, 13

- A. "Spots in love": Literally "hidden rocks in shallow water that destroy ships, etc." The apostates sneak into fellowship dinners to gain acceptance and destroy.
- B. "Clouds without water": Water represents the Word. Unprofitable clouds in agricultural environment. Drift a great deal of the time.
- C. "Trees": Autumn trees which are expected to yield fruit. "Twice dead" is active voice--result of their volition. "Plucked up" is passive voice--receives the action of the verb; i.e., the judgment of God.
- D. "Raging waves": They reach the shore and dissipate, destroying themselves by their own power. Apostates destroy themselves.
- E. "Wandering stars": Great brief light. Apostates have short, ineffective influence.

V. The Judgment of the Apostates: v. 14, 15

- A. Jesus Christ at the Second Advent: v. 14
- B. Jude as a pastor-teacher: v. 15

VI. The Defense Against Apostates: v. 17-21

- A. The Word of God: v. 17
- B. Identification of Apostates (see Characteristics)
- C. Personal Worship: v. 20
 - 1. Bible study
 - 2. Prayer

VII. Offense Against Apostates

- A. Refute: v. 22 (from Greek)
- B. Witness: (To unbelieving apostates--v. 23) But there are qualifications on this. Compare II John, verses 7-11.
- C. Have compassion (agapao love) for believers: v. 21 (Don't get mental attitude sins as a result of pressure from apostates. Understand the doctrine of separation. (see category.) You will not have rapport with them, and from many of them, you should separate yourself.
- D. Despise the False Doctrine of the Apostates: v. 23

THE GENERAL EPISTLE OF JUDE
by Pastor L. A. Radtke

Jude is the only book in the Bible that is devoted entirely to the teaching of Apostasy, although there is a relationship between II Peter and Jude concerning Apostasy.

Apostasy now and always will plague the Church of Jesus Christ, for Apostasy made it's entrance long before the Church and will be here after the Church is gone.

Who was the first Apostate? Isa. 14 teaches that it was the Devil. He in turn fooled Eve who in turn caused Adam to turn against the truth.

From that time on, men have been turning from the truth. Even after a lamb's covering was provided by the Lord in the garden and a blood sacrifice was instituted as an approach to God, Cain turned against the truth and preferred his own works rather than a blood sacrifice of another. (Vs. 11) From the beginning up until the Lord returns, Apostasy will continue to increase. Luke 18:8 "When the Son of man cometh shall He find faith on the earth".

Let us look at some descriptive terms used by Paul to describe the character of Apostates: (I Tim 4:1) (II Tim. 4:3) (Rev. 3:15-20) (II Pet. 2:1-3:3) An Apostate is one who turns from the truth and perverts it to gain his own selfish ends. Jude brings this teaching to a climax as we note in this outline:

1. The security of the believer (vs. 1, 2)
2. The believer and the faith (vs. 3)
3. Apostates described (vs. 4)
4. Apostasy in O.T. history (vs. 5-8)
5. Apostasy in the supernatural realm (vs. 9-10)
6. An ancient trio of Apostates (vs. 11)
7. Apostasy in the natural realm (vs. 12-13)
8. Apostasy in O.T. prophecy (vs. 14-16)
9. Apostates described (vs. 17-19)
10. The believer and the faith (vs. 20-23)
11. The security of the believer (vs. 24, 25)

Jude	servant	brother	Vs. 1
sanctified	preserved	called	Vs. 1
mercy	love	peace	Vs. 2
ungodly	turning	denying	Vs. 4
Israel	angels	cities	Vs. 5-7
defile	despise	speak evil	Vs. 8
Cain	Balaam	Core	Vs. 11
murmurers	complainers	self-willed	Vs. 16
boastful	partial	greedy	Vs. 16
separatists	sensual	unspiritual	Vs. 19
praying	keep	looking	Vs. 20, 21

The Inspired Word - Introduction to Jude

When studying the Word of God, one must be convinced in his own thinking that the Bible is God's inspired Word. Jude was the penman used by the Holy Spirit to record God's Word.

Verses on Inspiration

II Tim. 3:16 - All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

II Peter 1:21 - For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

Defination of Inspiration

"God so moved upon human authors so that without destroying their personal intellect, literary style, and vocabulary, His complete and connected will towards man was recorded". Quoted from Dr. Lewis Sperry Chafer

Principle of Inspiration - God used human authors.

Dates Jude was written - Around 67-68 A.D. shortly before the fall of Jerusalem in 700 A.D.

Purpose - To warn the Christians of Spiritual Contamination
Jude had originally intended to write a doctrinal epistle dwelling on the grand subject of salvation. (v. 3). But because of the infiltration of false teachers into Christian circles had become so wide spread that Jude was constrained by the Spirit to devote this letter to warn his fellow believers about this serious threat.

History proves the truth of God's Word in that churches always deteriate from with-in. The objective of the devil is to side trap the Believer so that he is no longer usable to the Spirit of God.

Jude is fullfilling the admonition given to the elders (Acts 20:28-31) He is warning the flock).

Note: Judes commands to his readers in verses 3, 17, 21, 22

Key Verses (3b)...ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

(21) Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Jude is the only book in the Bible that is devoted entirely to the teaching of Apostasy although there is a relationship between Jude and II Peter. Note the literary relationship between these books. Jude may be thinking of Peter in vs 18 and the false teachers predicted by Peter in II Pet. 2:1, 3, 12 have appeared.

Jude v. 4	II Peter 2:1-3	Jude v. 12, 13	II Peter 13-17
" v. 6	" " 2:6-12	" v. 16	" " 2:18
" v. 7-10	" " 2:15	" v. 17, 18	" " 3:1-3

also

Note the literary relationship, although the authors did not copy from each other.

(Vs. 1) Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ and called.

(1) Jude - Means "Praised" "celebrated" as the name Jesus finds it's equivalent in the Hebrew name Joshua. So Jude or Judas is the Greek form of the Hebrew name Judah. Both of these names were very popular names among the Jewish people of that time. Note: Judas of Galilee, Acts 5:37; Judas surnamed Barsabas, Acts 15:22; Judas Iscariot, John 6:71.

(2) Servant - of Jesus Christ. Bond slave (Gr. Doulos) of Jesus Christ. Although he was a half brother of the Lord Jesus Christ, he did not stand on his human relationship, but rather his spiritual relationship. All believers should consider themselves servants of Jesus Christ.

(Romans 6:18) "Being then made free from sin, ye become the servants of righteousness."

(Romans 6:20) "For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness. "

The Lord Jesus Christ illustrates this principle: (Phil 2:3-9)

(Phil. 2:7) "Made Himself of no reputation, took upon Himself the form of a servant."

(Mark 10:45) "For the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister. "

Paul illustrates this principle: (Rom. 1:1) (Phil. 1:1)

(II Cor 4:5) "I am a Bond slave for Christ and your servants for Jesus sake"

(3) Brother of James - Jude was the brother of James, who was the presiding Elder of Jerusalem (Acts 15:13 and 21:18) and authored the epistle of James. James is called the Lord's brother in Galatians 1:19. This means that Jude was one of the four brothers of the Lord Jesus mentioned in Mt. 13:55 and Mark 6:3. Our Lord spoke of these children in the home of Mary as "My brethren... my mothers children". Ps. 69:7-8

Neither James or Jude were mentioned among the twelve apostles (Jn. 7:5) indicates that none of his brethren believed on Him until after His resurrection. Though the Lord Jesus Christ was virgin born, his half brothers were not.

It is very apparent that there is no scripture to back the doctrinal error of Rome concerning the Assumption of the Virgin Mary (1950 A. D.)

- (4) Receptients (Jude vs. 1)
- a. Sanctified objects of Divine affection (loved ones).
 - b. Preserved objects of Divine preservation .
 - c. Called objects of Divine plan.
- Vs. 2 (1) Mercy is a reference to that compassion which abides eternally in the very nature of God. God cannot save man on the basis of His mercy alone, but God who is rich in mercy, for His great love where with He loved us ("By grace, ye are saved.") Grace met all the demands of justice. God is the Father of mercies to those who trust Him. (II Cor 1:3) and are told to obtain mercy at the throne of grace. (Heb. 4:16)
- (2) Peace (Isa. 57:20, 21) "There is no peace for the wicked. (Rom. 1) Peace is made with God. When accepting Christ as one's personal Saviour. (Phil. 4:6) The peace of God is available to the believer. (Jn. 16:23)
- (3) Love (agape) - Divine Love provided by the Holy Spirit. (Rom. 5:5, Gal 5:22)
- Vs. 3 (1) The intention of the Author - to write on the subject of common salvation. Common (Gr. Koinonia) to share in common, joint participation in any common effort. (Study notes on Doc. of Fellowship)
- (2) Jude of necessity changes his subject to earnestly contending for the faith. This is an imperative command and is the responsibility of every believer. It is fulfilled when witnessing to the lost, as well as taking a position against error or false doctrine.
- Vs. 4 (1) "Certain men" (personalities) Devil uses men to propagate false doctrine according to Rom. 16:17. These men are to be marked and avoided.
- (2) "Crept in unawares" Sneak in the side door, and settled down along side. The best way to overcome an enemy is to sneak behind the lines and while posing as a friend, feed them wrong information. An apostate is a professional religious sneak and liar.
- (3) Five characteristics of an Apostate
- a. Teach false doctrine. I Tim 4:1; II Tim 3:5-7
 - b. Pass themselves off as apostles of light. II Cor 11:13-15
 - c. They are motivated by demons. I Cor 10:20 and 21
 - d. They have deceptive personalities, P.R. men. II Tim 3:1-7
 - e. They are guilty of hyprocrisy. Mt 23:27, 28

Three kinds of Apostates are listed - Vs. 5-7

1. Believers - vs. 5
2. Angels - vs. 6
3. Unbelievers - vs. 7

- Vs. 5 (1) He seeks to remind them of what they should have already known.
- (2) "How the Lord, having saved the people out of the land". The Lord assumes the responsibility of saving people. The people referred to here are the Jewish people who were redeemed out of Egypt. But after they were saved, God then had to discipline them in the wilderness because they would not believe the promises of God so that they might be useful to God.

We will pause to look at Israel's history of failures to walk by faith. (Heb 3:9-12, Heb 11:6) We will see what led them up to their ultimate failure and destruction, which in turn should help us from making the same mistake. In I Cor 10:11:

"Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples, and they are written for our admonition upon whom the ends of the ages are come."

And Romans 15:4:

"For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope."

In Numbers 14:22-24, Israel's failure is stated this way:

"Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt, and in the wilderness, and have tempted me now these ten times, and have not hearkened to my voice;" (Vs. 22)

Ten is the number of completeness. Israel tempted the Lord ten times setting forth their complete failure and weakness.

10 plagues fell upon the Egyptians
 10 spies said they were unable to take the land
 10 pounds, 10 talents
 10% tithe is the Lord's, acknowledgement that all is the Lord's
 Christ healed 10 lepers (Complete work) are returned, incomplete work
 Beast of Daniel had 10 horns (Complete world power)
 Daniel asked for a 10 day trial.

Israel's journey in the wilderness speaks of the believer's journey today as a pilgrim and stranger in this present world, which is a wilderness.

Let us see what we can learn from Israel's 10 failures:

1st temptation was the Red Sea - When Israel yielded to despair and fear. They failed to believe that they had an invincible position in Christ. (Gal 6:14, 2:20, Rom ch 6)

2nd temptation was at Marah - Bitter water (Ex 15:23, Num 33:8, 9.)

The flesh will grasp at that which it thinks will satisfy. To find out that it is bitter, and you return home disappointed. We set our heart on some earthly object and obtain it and find it empty, no satisfaction. Then Israel murmured. Exodus was no longer looking to the Lord. Vs. 25, Tree (calvary) Christ - thrown into the water - Speaks of including Christ, makes bitter sweet.

3rd temptation in wilderness of Sin or Zin - (Ex 16) This tells us the going was tough for Zin, meaning mud or mire. Israel was bogged down, supplies were low and again they complain (vs. 1 and 3) They had forgotten how tough it was before they were freed. (Ex 3:7, 8). This was not the way they had planned so they were upset. God's solution Manna in the morning (Ex 16:4, 5) Quail at night. (Ex 16:11-13) Note: 16:16 Omer = 6 pt. = 2 mill people = 12 mill pt. or 9 mill pounds gathered daily. This would have required 10 trains of 30 cars each with 15 tons in a car each and everyday. Is God able to take care of the believer?

Manna is the type of Christ and the Word of God. (Ch. 16 vs. 13-15)

Manna came to them - Christ came to us.

Manna was white in color (vs 31) Speaks of purity emphasizing purity of Christ (Word of God) Ps 12:6.

Manna was to be eaten, not to be admired. God's word is eaten to produce practical Christian living. As physical food is needed to sustain us physically, so the Word of God is needed to sustain us spiritually. In correct eating there are three things:

1. Appropriation - I Pet 2:2; Matt. 4:4 Read, study
2. Mastication - Ps 1:2 Memorization
3. Assimilation - Transmitted into the blood and tissue affording strength, health

Manna gathered daily - Ex 16:4 What was gathered today was worthless the next. The soul requires daily food as impossible as it would be to live a week on a Sunday dinner, it is as impossible to live a whole week on a Sunday sermon.

Manna was gathered in the morning Ex. 16:13, 14 (Best time to read the Word.)

Manna obtained by labor, did not fall into their mouth. II Tim. 2:15

Some gathered more, some less. Ex. 16:17. Read until the H.S. meets your need.

What was gathered, must be used. We only keep what we use. Ex. 16:19

Manna was despised by mixed multitudes. Nu. 11:4-6

Manna was preserved in the ark for forty years. Ex. 16:33; Heb. 9:4 Tho we cannot feed on yesterday's experience, the Word of God has been preserved for us to feed upon. until we go home to be with Him. No one will ever exhaust the Word of God.

Rephidum (In Ex. Ch 16, Manna a type of Christ or the Bread of Life who came into the world to give life. Jn 6:48-51.

Ex. Ch 17 We come to Rephidum which means refreshment. Type of Holy Spirit shed forth because He died. Until the rock was smitten the stream of Grace could not flow. Jn 8:37-39.

Ex. Ch 17:7 The name of the place was called Massah (testing). "Because they tempted the Lord saying, Is the Lord among us or not?" We learn again our tendency is to distrust God. We would rather learn on the cobweb of human resources than trust upon God. Heb. 3:11 and 12. The longer one is saved the greater perspective he has of sin. Jer 17:9

Ex. Ch 17:8 First time Israel came in conflict with external foe. The Gift of Holy Spirit leads to conflict. Until they met Amalek they had nothing to do. Note the difference between Christ's battle for us. They did not have to cope with Pharaoh (Satan) or Egypt (world) which was used to keep Israel from serving the Lord. Israel's conflict began when they stood in the full power of Redemption and had tasted that Spiritual Rock, for Amalek is a type of (OSN) flesh. There is a difference between Christ's battle for us and the Holy Spirit is us. The former is all over, the latter is still going on.

Ex. Ch 17:9-13 There are two distinct things intercession and conflict. Aaron a type of Christ interceding for us (on High). Hur means light emblem of Holy Spirit. Carrier on struggle within.

True Christian living is produced by the Holy Spirit not by being occupied with our condition and constantly using I John 1:9 but rather by seeing our position in Christ and His ministry in our behalf to make head way in the Christian Life. We must look only to him. This is the Holy Spirit's desire within us. This allows the believer to produce the power of God, (Moses' rod).

4th temptation

- a. The commandments (moral phase) - Ex. 20:1-17
- b. The judgements (social phase) - Ex. 21-23
- c. The ordinances (spiritual phase) - Ex. 25-41
- d. It was addressed to Israel, and was a way of life for the nation, both believers and unbelievers. Ex 20:1 Rom 2:14

What the Law can do

- a. It teaches we are sinners: Rom 3:20, Rom 5:20, Rom 7:7, Rom 7:13, Gal 3:24, I Tim:9-10
- b. Puts us under a curse; Deut 27:26, Gal 3:10
- c. Puts us in jail; Gal 3:23, Rom 3:19
- d. It brings us to Christ: Gal 3:24

The law cannot Give life: Romans 3:28, Gal 2:16, Rom 8:3-4
produce spirituality: Gal 3:1-4, Gal 5:23, Rom 8:4, 5:20

5th temptation was at Mt. Horeb - Ex. 32 & 33

At Mt. Horeb Israel was idolatrous, they make a golden calf, as they stripped themselves of their ornaments and even their clothing at Mt. Horeb.

6th temptation was the wickedness of Nadab and Abidu - Lev. 10

Their wickedness was that of offering "Strange Fire". Their sin was in acting in the things of God without seeking the mind of God. It was "will worship" (Col. 2:23) which has a show of wisdom and humanity and impresses people, but is not in accordance with God's Word. It sets forth a carnal or fleshly means of worship void of the Spirit of Truth. Think of all the rituals encouraged by religions which God gave no instructions for, and will not accept.

7th temptation was at Taberah

Again at Taberah the people complained. (Numbers 11:1-3; I Cor. 10) God sent judgement because of their complaining.

8th temptation was at Kibroth-hattaavah -

(Graves of Greed) (Num. 11:1-35) Israel was not content with the Lord's provision "Manah" Their hearts were in Egypt (V 4&5) and there they lusted after flesh. The people were ready to kill Moses. In trying the patience of God he smote the people with a very great plague.

9th temptation was at Rephidum -

Israel failed twice at Rephidum first, Ex 17, second 40 years later Num. 20. There was no water and Israel was thirsty. Instead of bowing before God on their knees, they mounted their high horses of vanity and pride and rebellious nature, and blamed God, Moses, and everyone but themselves. God gave them water out of a flinty rock in His love and grace, but Israel had again failed the test.

10th temptation was at Kadish Barnea -

Here at the brink of success Israel could have gone into the Land but unbelief kept them out. This was the last straw. God took them back into the wilderness and waited 40 years for that generation to die. While he fed them, clothed them, and cared for them. He always takes care of his children, whether they are faithful or not. But accordingly, in Heb. Ch. 3 & 4, they had never entered into that place of "Rest" or victory where the Lord could use them as He saw fit. I wonder how many believers are wandering today in the wilderness confused, no direction, and are just waiting to die. The greatest tragedy of all is for a believer to become stiff necked, and rebellious and fail to serve the Lord and fulfill the purpose for which he has been redeemed.

BEACON BIBLE CHURCH
P. or L. A. Radtke

JUDE (vs. 6)

"And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day."

- a. And the angels which kept not their first estate. These angels did not keep that which belonged to them.
These are demons who had committed a sin for which they were placed into chains in Tartarus. II Pet. 2:4.
- b. Satan was the first apostate who used what God had given him for his own glory and prophet. EZEK. 28 & ISA. 14.
All fallen angels (demons) are headed by Satan.
There are imprisoned demons. II Pet. 2:4
There are operational demons. I Tim. 4:1

Demons keep unbelievers from believing. II Cor. 4:3 & 4; I Tim. 4:1-4; I Cor. 10:20-21

Demons keep believers from being spiritual and used of the Lord. II Cor. 11:3&4

Demons will be judged by believers. I Cor. 6:3

Fallen angels, plus Satan, are sentenced to the Lake of Fire. Mt. 25:41. This sentence took place in the past.

A believer today need not fear the devil or demons nor should he be occupied with demons. The believer should be occupied with the Word. The Lord will and must take care of the demons. In short, "Put on the armour of God" and all will be well. Eph. 6:10-17.

JUDE (vs. 7)

"Even as Sodom and Gomorrhah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire."

"Sodom" & Gomorrah set forth as examples of apostasy and God's judgment upon it. These were 2 cities out of 5 that were involved in the same practices. Note (Gen. 14:9) (Deut. 29:23) "Admah", "Zedollm" & "Zoar" all were destroyed. These 5 cities were located in a lush fertile valley south of the Dead Sea.

- A Sodemite was a male temple prostitute, one of the class attached to certain sanctuaries of heathen deities, and "consecrated" to the impure rites of their worship. Immoral unnatural vice. The presence of Sodomites was abhorrent to a faithful Jew. Dt. 23:17. It was noted as a mark of degeneracy in Rahoboams time. I Kn. 14:24. Asa endeavored to get rid of them (I Kn. 15:12 & Jehosphat routed them out. 22:46. Their religion was made up of 3 things; Strange flesh means flesh of a differend kind, Homosexuality; Lesbianism, Co-habitation with animals.
Note: Gen. 19 and how just Lot II Pet 2:7 & 8 was saved from judgment.
Note: N. T. References: Mt. 10:12-15; Mt. 11:20-24; Lk 17:20-24; Lk. 17:31 & 32 - Remember Lot's wife - Let him likewise not turn back. Lot's wife is an example of turning back and turning back is apostasy. Like Israel in the wilderness and the angels who sinned, she did not have another opportunity to sin against light which had been given her.