

# JUDE

## **Greetings (1-2)**

<sup>1</sup>From Jude, brother of James and a servant of Jesus Christ.

To those who have been called, who are loved by God the Father and kept for the purposes of Jesus Christ.

<sup>2</sup>May God's mercy, peace and love be imparted to you abundantly.

## **Fight for the faith (3-4)**

<sup>3</sup>My dear friends, because I have been so keen to write to you about the salvation we share, it has been necessary for me to urge you to fight for the faith which has been revealed to the saints, the revelation received once for all time. <sup>4</sup>Certain men have infiltrated your ranks, men whose condemnation was written about long ago. They are ungodly men who use God's grace as a pretext for their immorality, and so deny our only Lord and Master, Jesus Christ.

## **The rebellious will perish (5-19)**

<sup>5</sup>My intention is to remind you of what you already know, that the Lord, after delivering His people from their bondage in Egypt, then destroyed those who did not believe. <sup>6</sup>Also the angels who did not keep to their appointed positions of authority in heaven, but left the place where they belonged, are now kept in darkness, bound eternally in chains awaiting final judgment on the great Day of the Lord. <sup>7</sup>Likewise, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which indulged in immorality and sexual perversion, serve as a warning, for they experienced the punishment of eternal fire.

<sup>8</sup>In the same way, these dreamers on the one hand defile their own bodies and on the other despise God's authority and mock those who belong to His glory. <sup>9</sup>But the archangel Michael stood against the devil when he disputed with him about Moses' body, saying, "The Lord rebuke you."

<sup>10</sup>But these men mock what they do not understand and they are destroyed because they give in to their natural instincts as if they were animals. <sup>11</sup>They are cursed because they follow the way of

Cain and have given themselves to the same error as Balaam. They will perish as Korah did when he rebelled against God's authority.

<sup>12</sup>Yet these men participate in your love feasts. They stand out as blemishes and are not even embarrassed, even though they serve only their own interests. They are like waterless clouds driven along by the wind, trees that bear no fruit in the autumn, uprooted and totally worthless. <sup>13</sup>They are wild sea waves whose foam is their own shame; wandering stars reserved for eternal darkness.

<sup>14-15</sup>Enoch, of the seventh generation after Adam, prophesied about such men, saying, "See, the Lord came with tens of thousands of His holy ones to judge all men and to condemn all the ungodly for the immoral deeds of which they are clearly guilty, and condemn all the ungodly sinners for the harsh words they spoke against Him."

<sup>16</sup>They grumble and are never satisfied. They want only to gratify their own lusts. They display their arrogance through what they say about themselves and they flatter others in order to take advantage of them.

<sup>17-18</sup>But you, my beloved friends, must remember the warnings of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ when they told you, "In the last days there will be those who mock the truth, interested only in fulfilling their own ungodly lusts." <sup>19</sup>These men have caused division; they are worldly people who do not possess God's Spirit.

### **Remain in God's love (20-25)**

<sup>20</sup>However, my dear friends, you are to build yourselves up in your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>Keep yourselves in God's love as you await your inheritance of eternal life through the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>22-23</sup>And be merciful towards those who doubt, seeking to snatch them from the fires of judgment. Show others mercy, together with the kind of fear that hates having to do with anything that is corrupt.

<sup>24</sup>Now to Him who is able to prevent you from stumbling and who can, with joy, present you perfect in His glorious Presence, to the only God our Saviour be glory, majesty, might and authority through Jesus Christ our Lord throughout all ages, now and forever. Amen! It shall be so!