

The Letter of

# Jude

1:20-25



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Jude 1:20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

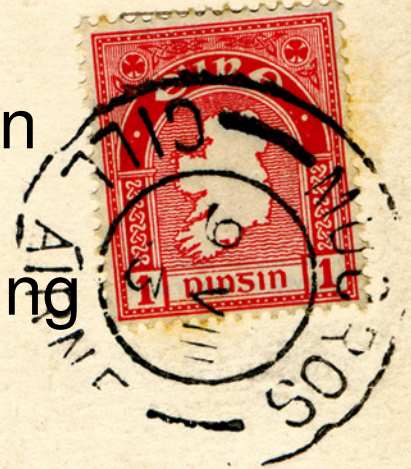
21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

22 And of some have compassion, making a difference:

23 And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

25 To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.



## I. THE PLAN, 1:1-4

### A. An impressive name, 1:1-2

1. The servant, 1:1a “Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James...”
2. The Savior, 1:1b “Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ...”
3. The saints, 1:1c-2

### B. An imperative need, 1:3-4


1. The original proposal, 1:3a
2. The overriding problem, 1:3b-4

## II. THE PLOT, 1:5-19

### A. Confronting the apostasy of the church, 1:5-16

1. Some parallels, 1:5-10
2. Some portraits, 1:11
3. Some pictures, 1:12-16



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- a. The question of successful delusion:  
a look at hostile nature, 1:12-13
- b. The question of secular  
humanism: a look at Holy Scripture, 1:14-15
- c. The question of subversive  
criticism: a look at human behavior, 1:16
- (1) The obsessive godlessness of apostasy,  
1:16a-b
    - (a) The wicked talk of apostates, 1:16a
    - (b) The wicked walk of apostates, 1:16b
  - (2) The obvious goal of apostasy, 1:16c

B. Confronting the apathy of the church, 1:17-19

1. The people addressed, 1:17a

2. The problem addressed, 1:17b-19

a. What we must recall, 1:17b

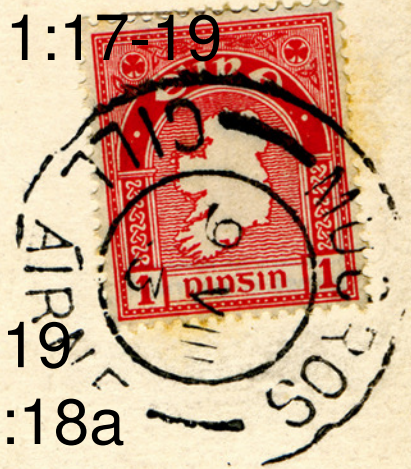
b. What we must recognize, 1:18-19

(1) The mind of an apostate, 1:18a

(2) The morals of an apostate, 1:18b

(3) The move of an apostate, 1:19a

(4) The mark of an apostate, 1:19b



Tonight, we conclude the last of the “General Epistles,” the Book of Jude.

### III. THE PLEA, 1:20-25

#### A. An exhortation, 1:20-23

##### 1. Some personal advice for the saint, 1:20-21

a. The outward look, 1:20a “But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith,



Original Word: ἐποικοδομέω

Transliteration: epoikodomeó

Definition: I build upon (above) a foundation.

*epoikodoméō* (from *epí*, "apt, fitting on," which intensifies *oikodoméō*, "to build up, edify") – properly, *appropriately* build on, following a *plan* with *pre-designed* (*pre-defined*) specifications.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/2026.htm>

1 Cor. 3:9 For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.



11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble

13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

16 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

17 If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.





Eph 2:20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:

22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

2 Pet. 3:18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.



2Pe 1:5 And beside this, giving all diligence,  
**add to your faith** virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to  
temperance patience; and to patience godliness

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to  
brotherly kindness charity.

8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you  
that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge  
of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see  
afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old  
sins.

b. The upward look, 1:20b "...praying..."



Eph. 6:18 **Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit**, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;



Jas 5:16b "...The **effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man** availeth much."

c. The inward look, 1:20c "...in the Holy Ghost,"

Rom. 8:26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: **but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us** with groanings which cannot be uttered.

27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

1 Cor. 12:3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.



Gal. 4:6 And because ye are sons, **God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.**

1 Cor. 14:15 What is it then? I **will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also**: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.

d. The onward look, 1:21

Jude 1:21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Original Word: τηρέω

Transliteration: téreó

Definition: I keep, guard, observe, watch over.

*tēréō* (from *tēros*, "a guard") – properly, maintain (preserve); (figuratively) *spiritually guard* (watch), *keep intact*. <http://biblehub.com/greek/5083.htm>

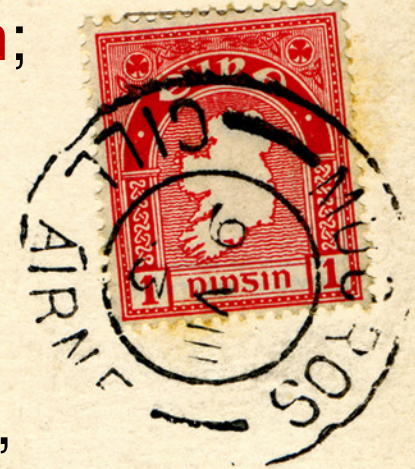


Jn. 15:9 As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you:

**continue ye in my love.**

10 **If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love;** even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

1 Jn. 2:28 And now, little children, **abide in him**; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.



1 Jn. 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

Rom. 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

2. Some practical advice for the soul winner, 1:22-23

a. Compassion is needed, 1:22



Jude 1:22 And of some have compassion, making a difference:

Original Word: ἐλεέω

Transliteration: eleeó

Definition: I pity, have mercy on. (compassion) (**imperative verb**)

*eleéō* – **to show mercy as God defines it**, i.e. as it accords with His truth (*covenant*) which expresses "God's covenant-loyalty-mercy" (i.e. *acting only on His terms*).

<http://biblehub.com/greek/1653.htm>

Original Word: διακρίνω

Transliteration: diakrinó

Definition: I separate, distinguish, discern one thing from another; I doubt, hesitate, waver. (making a difference)

<http://biblehub.com/greek/1252.htm>



## b. Caution is needed, 1:23

Jude 1:23 And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

Original Word: ἄρπάζω

Transliteration: harpazó

Definition: I seize, snatch, obtain by robbery. (pulling)

*harpázō* – properly, seize by force; *snatch* up, suddenly and decisively – like someone seizing bounty (spoil, a prize); to take by an *open display* of force (i.e. *not* covertly or secretly). <http://biblehub.com/greek/726.htm>



B. An explanation, 1:24-25

1. Our Great High Priest, 1:24

a. A word about the present, 1:24a

“Now unto him that is able to keep you  
from falling...”



Original Word: φυλάσσω

Transliteration: phulassó

Definition: (a) I guard, protect; mid: I am on my guard,  
(b) act. and mid. of customs and regulations: I keep,  
observe.



*phylássō* (akin to *phýlaks*, "a military guard") – properly, preserve by "having an eye on" (J. Thayer), **referring to the uninterrupted vigilance shepherds show in keeping their flocks** (see Lk 2:8, used with *phylakḗ*, "a military guard," i.e. exercising unbroken vigilance as a military guard).

*phylássō* ("keep watch over, keep secure") emphasizes the needed vigilance to keep what is entrusted. Thus (*phylássō*) is often used in the NT in the Greek *middle* voice meaning, "*Personally* be on guard against," stressing the constant, *personal interest* involved with the guarding

<http://biblehub.com/greek/5442.htm>

Luke 2:8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, **keeping watch over their flock** by night.

Luke 11:28 But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and **keep it**.

2 Tim. 1:12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able **to keep that** which I have committed unto him against that day.

Phil. 3:21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby **he is able even to subdue** all things unto himself.



2 Tim. 1:12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that **he is able to keep** that which I have committed unto him against that day.

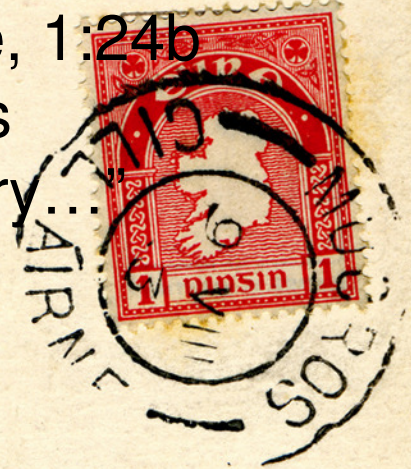


Heb. 2:18 For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, **he is able to succour** them that are tempted.

Heb. 7:25 Wherefore **he is able also to save** them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

b. A word about the prospect, 1:24b-c

(1) A glorious throne, 1:24b  
“...and to present you faultless  
before the presence of his glory...



Original Word: ἄμωμος

Transliteration: amomos

Definition: blameless, without blemish, unblemished,  
faultless

*ámōmos* (an adjective, derived from A "not" and *mōmos*,  
"blemish") – properly, unblemished, without spot or blot  
(blight); (figuratively) morally, spiritually blameless,  
*unblemished* from the marring effects of sin.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/299.htm>

Eph 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and **without blame** before him in love:



Eph 5:27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and **without blemish**.

1Pe 1:19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb **without blemish** and without spot:

(2) A glorious thrill, 1:24c –  
“...with exceeding joy,”

Original Word: ἀγαλλίασις

Transliteration: agalliasis

Definition: wild joy, ecstatic delight, exultation, exhilaration.



*agallíasis* (from *agalliáō*, "to exalt") – *exuberant joy*,  
"intense joy and gladness" <http://biblehub.com/greek/20.htm>

## 2. Our Great High Prince, 1:25

a. His personal splendor, 1:25a "To the only wise God our Saviour..."

b. His positional splendor, 1:25b "...be glory and majesty..."

c. His practical splendor, 1:25c "...dominion and power..."

Original Word: ἐξουσία

Transliteration: exousia

Definition: (a) power, authority, weight, especially moral authority, influence,  
(b) in a quasi-personal sense, derived from later Judaism, of a spiritual power, and hence of an earthly power.



d. His perpetual splendor, 1:25d "...both now and ever. Amen."



## Conclusion

Isa. 43:11 I, even I, am the LORD; and **beside me there is no saviour.**

Isa. 44:8 Fear ye not, neither be afraid: have not I told thee from that time, and have declared it? ye are even my witnesses. **Is there a God beside me? yea, there is no God;** I know not any.

