

Lessons From Jude

Introduction

(Jd 1-2)

INTRODUCTION

1. Good Evening,
 - a. Greeting...
2. New series of “lessons from Jude.”
 - a. We will examine this short but vital book to the Word of God.
 - i. It is a powerful book on the now ever evident apostasy.
3. Let us go right into our material for today.

I. The Historicity Of Jude

A. Author

1. The first verse clearly states that Jude is the author.
 - i. **Jd 1** “Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James, To those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ”¹
2. Which Jude is it? There are three Judes that have been presented as possible authors.
 - i. Jude the apostle
 - a. The problem here is that this Jude is the son of James not brother.
 - b. **Lk 6:16** “and Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.”
 - ii. Jude the bishop of Jerusalem
 - a. The problem here is to fold.
 1. First we don’t know if he had a brother named James. There is not that much information concerning him.
 2. Second he lived much later in the second century and thus not possibly the author.
 - iii. Jude the brother of Christ and James
 - a. Why would Jude not say he was the brother of the Lord?
 1. “Palestinian Jewish-Christian circles in the early church used the title ‘brother of the Lord’ not simply to identify the brothers, but as ascribing to them an authoritative status, and therefore the brothers themselves, not wishing to claim an authority based on mere blood-relationship to Jesus, avoided the term.” (<http://goo.gl/JUWwu>)
3. Thus we find Judas the brother of Jesus the most likely author.
 - i. He is the one most credited.

¹ All Scriptures are taken from the ESV unless otherwise noted. If other translations are used this is not necessarily an endorsement of the translation.

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B. Date

1. The most likely dates of the book are somewhere between 60-80AD.
 - i. Hegesippus tells how Jude's grandsons were brought before Domitian on suspicion of overthrowing the Roman empire. They explain their kingdom was eschatological and heavenly in nature and not political and earthly. It is said Domitian then dismissed them and put an end to the persecution of the church. (Ibid)
2. Though this is most unlikely it shows that Jude was considered dead by the 90's AD.

C. Literary form

1. This is what is commonly called an epistle or letter.
2. It is written in very good grammatical Greek which is the reason some have suggested this couldn't be Jude the brother of the Lord as he was not a highly educated man.
 - i. This does not in any way however effect the authorship as God is the true author (**II Ti 3:16-17**).

II. The Context Of Jude

A. The specific recipients

1. It was written to the called, beloved/sanctified, and kept/preserved.
2. It was not written to a specific church or individual.
 - i. It therefore is often called a general epistle like "James, I&II Peter, and I John."

III. The Content Of Jude

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| A. Warning Against Apostasy | (1-4) |
| B. Apostasy Judgment | (5-19) |
| C. Safeguards Against Apostasy | (20-23) |
| D. Doxology | (24-25) |

IV. The Opening Statements Of Jude

A. Jude makes a plea to the...

1. Called
2. Beloved/Sanctified
3. Kept/Preserved

B. The called

1. All those in Christ have been called.
 - i. What a holy calling it is.
 - a. **II Ti 1:9** "who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began"
2. This call came through the gospel of Jesus Christ.
 - i. **II Th 2:13-14** "But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. 14 To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ."

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3. This calling has been made available to all.
 - i. **I Ti 2:3-6** “This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.”
 - ii. **II Pt 3:9** “The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.”
 4. The called responsibility is to make their calling and election sure.
 - i. This requires much effort on our part.
 - a. **II Pt 1:10-11** “Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. 11 For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”
 - ii. If we are without effort we are not better than the Israelites in the wilderness.
 - a. **He 3:12-19**
 1. All were called to enter the Promised Land.
 2. Most were unable to enter due to a lack of effort.
 5. Thus we must make sure we are worthy of being called.
- C. Beloved/Sanctified
1. The word sanctified means to make holy, to set apart for a special purpose.
 - i. Thus God has set apart those that have been called.
 2. The called are beloved or sanctified through a specific process by the Holy Spirit.
 - i. Notice the called are...
 - a. Sanctified by the Holy Spirit.
 1. **Ro 15:16**
 - b. Sanctified by the Spirit of God.
 1. **I Co 6:11**
 - c. Sanctified by the Spirit.
 1. **II Th 2:13**
 - d. Sanctified by the sanctifying work of the Spirit.
 1. **I Pt 1:2**
 - e. Sanctified by the truth, the Word.
 1. **Jn 17:17**
 - a. The Word of God is the sword of the Spirit.
 - i. **Ep 6:17**
 3. The called are always in a continual progress of sanctification.
 - i. Notice the called are always “being sanctified.”
 - a. **He 2:11** “For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers”

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- ii. Paul prayed that the Thessalonians would “receive” completely sanctification.
 - a. **I Th 5:23** “Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”
- D. The kept/preserved
 - 1. The word kept or preserved means, “to guard from loss or injury.”
 - i. The called and sanctified are thus guarded from loss or injury.
 - 2. This shows the amazing assurance in Christ.
 - i. **I Pt 1:5** “who by God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.”
 - ii. **II Ti 4:18** “The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.”
 - iii. **Jn 10:27-29** “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand.”
 - 3. Thus doesn’t suggest one cannot fall from grace.
 - i. The Bible is clear people can and have.
 - a. **Ga 5:4** “You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace.”
 - b. **Ga 6:1** “Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.”

CONCLUSION

- 1. Brethren let us make sure we are living up to being called, being sanctified, and worthy of being preserved.
 - a. Let us never waver or not live up to such a high calling.
- 2. Question: Are you living up to the titles you have as a Christian?
 - a. If so continue therein and grow thereby.
 - b. If not why not? Make it right today.
- 3. Invitation
 - a. For those that are Christians but are not living for Christ repent by confessing your sins to God that He may forgive you and dedicate your life/time back to Him.
 - i. **I Jn 1:7, 9** "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin...9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."
 - b. For those that are not Christians or for those that think they are Christians and want to know for sure notice what is required to become a child of God or Christian according to God and God only.
 - i. Hear/Study **Rom 10:17; II Tim 2:15**
 - ii. Believe Jesus Is The Christ **Jn 3:16; 8:24**

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- iii. Repent/Turn To God [Ac 17:30; Lk 24:47](#)
- iv. Confess Jesus As Lord [Mt 10:32; Rom 10:9](#)
- v. Immersed For The Forgiveness of Sins [Ac 2:38; 22:16; I Pt 3:21](#)
- vi. Live A Faithful Life [I Jn 1:7; Eph 5:8](#)