



Jude

Living Earnestly in the Family of God

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Acknowledgment

My wife, Beverly Allen, has devoted herself to ChristAssembly.org. Most days her body gives her trouble, but she spends time helping ChristAssembly.org. She brings her doctoral training in biochemistry and molecular biology to her work and greatly improves the quality of ChristAssembly.org. She has spent many hours creating custom graphics fitting the verse, reviewing articles and books, and providing careful proof reading, even when she does not feel her best. Other friends from Korea have helped in proof reading books for ChristAssembly.org, with our thanks in Christ Jesus for their friendship and faithful labors.

Beverly and I have been married more than forty years and Jesus used her life to make my life so much better in so many ways. Her constant love and support changes my life daily. She also provides honest feedback and careful analysis. I love my wife and want everyone to know that she spends her time serving Jesus behind the scenes at ChristAssembly.org.



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1

Introduction

Jude wrote a general epistle intended for wider distribution. He wrote to the called, beloved of God the Father, and kept for Jesus Christ. Jude warned them about creepers, revilers, mockers, and grumblers who had come into the local assemblies with evil intent.

Jude commanded the saints to contend earnestly for the faith once for all delivered to the saints. The creepers had come in unnoticed and were marked out beforehand for destruction. They turned the grace of God into licentiousness and denied the only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

The Lord saved people out of Egypt, but then destroyed them in the wilderness because of their unbelief. Likewise, He has kept angels who abandoned their proper domain in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day. Like Sodom and Gomorrah, they had gone after strange flesh and indulged in gross immorality.

Those men defile the flesh and reject authority, and revile angelic authority. They have gone the way of Cain, rushed headlong into the error of Balaam, and perished in the rebellion of Korah. They are the men who are hidden reefs in our love feasts, caring only for themselves. They are clouds without water like autumn trees without fruit and like the wild waves of the sea, casting up their own shame like foam. They are the wandering stars, for whom the black darkness has been reserved forever.

Enoch prophesied: Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones, to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the irreverent: (a) of all their irreverent deeds which they have done in an irreverent way; and (b) of all the harsh things which irreverent sinners have spoken against Him. They are grumblers, finding fault, following after their own lusts and speaking arrogantly, flattering to gain an advantage. Because God inspired

each word in the original autographs of the Bible, making them Holy Words, we should be careful to translate the words precisely. The New American Standard translators, and many others, translated the Greek word “asebeia” as “unGodly.” Yet, “asebeia” does not contain the word “God” in it. In the New Testament, adding an “a” (alpha privative) at the beginning of a word often negates the usual meaning or a term in the sense of without or lacking. Therefore, I prefer to view the “a” alpha privative as negating “sebeia,” which means reverence. So, “asebeia” should be translated irreverence. The term for God (“Theos”) does not appear in “sebeia.” Precise words require precise translations.

Jude reminded believers to remember the words which the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ spoke beforehand. They said to the saints that in the last time mockers will come, following after their own irreverent lusts. Those mockers cause divisions, being worldly minded and devoid of the Spirit. The beloved saints must build themselves up in their most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit. They must keep themselves in the love of God, earnestly waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life. The saints should have mercy on some who are doubting. The saints must save others, snatching them out of the fire. The saints must have mercy with fear, hating even the garment polluted by the flesh.

In closing, Jude commended the saints to Him Who is able to keep you from stumbling and make you stand in the presence of His glory with great joy. To the only God our Savior, through our Lord Jesus Christ, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

HALLELUJAH !

2

Contending against the Creepers Today

Jude commanded the saints to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints. Jude took a very long view of history and drew important lessons for today. Jude revealed that some people had crept in unnoticed into the local assemblies. They were long beforehand marked out for condemnation, because they turned the grace of our God into licentiousness and denied the only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Jude reminded the saints that God saved a people out of Egypt, but subsequently destroyed those who did not believe. Likewise, God did not spare the angels who did not keep their own domain, but abandoned their proper abode. He has kept those angels in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day. Those angels were like Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them. They indulged in gross immorality and had gone after strange flesh. God now exhibits them as an example in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire.

HALLELUJAH !

Day One

Called Today



How did Jude introduce himself? Jude introduced himself as a slave of Jesus Christ.

At the moment of salvation, every believer becomes a slave of Christ. Having been justified by faith, we have peace with God and are freed from slavery to sin. Jesus Christ remains our new, loving Master for all eternity.

In the Old Testament, bondslaves made a deliberate choice to continue serving their masters after six years. Saints make no such choice. They leave the slavery of sin behind, but become slaves of Christ at the moment of salvation. Jesus laid down His soul and shed His lifeblood to purchase us for Himself. We become the unique possession of Jesus Christ.

Jude also introduced himself as the brother of James, apparently the brother of Jesus. The apostle James was a prominent leader in the early church. James was known to the churches, but was not one of the twelve apostles of Jesus. Jude wrote to the called, beloved in God the Father, and kept for Jesus.

Slave and Brother

1. **Jude**. Who was Jude who wrote the New Testament letter?
2. **Slave**. Jude described himself as a slave of Jesus Christ. He became a slave of Jesus Christ at the moment of salvation, no longer enslaved to sin.
3. **Brother**. Jude also described himself as a brother of James.
4. **Chosen**. Jude wrote to those who are called, the ones chosen by God.
5. **Recipients**. Jude also described his recipients as beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ.
6. **Beloved**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that we are the called of God, beloved of God the Father, and kept for Jesus Christ.
7. **Called**. We rejoice today because God called us, loves us, and keeps us.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by remembering that we are the called of God.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by remembering that God calls us the beloved of God.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by reminding each other that we are kept for Jesus Christ.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by praising God that we are His beloved. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending for the faith as the called of Jesus Christ?

HALLELUJAH !

Day 2

Mercy and Peace Today



What greeting did Jude offer the saints? Jude greeted the saints with mercy and peace and love.

New Testament saints greeted each other with warm affection focused upon the great things that God provides to us. Mercy, peace and love come from God. They are unlike anything the world has to offer.

Jude talked about mercy and peace and love being multiplied to the saints. They already had mercy and peace and love, but he wanted them to know far more of those great qualities from God.

Jude wrote words of strength and encouragement. Mercy and peace and love can exist with saints living in the harshest of spiritual environments. Those great gifts come from God and do not depend upon the present atmosphere or circumstances.

God gives mercy and peace and love at the moment of salvation. He multiplies mercy and peace and love over all eternity in our lives. The Holy Spirit produces His fruit in our lives to the glory of God. Therefore, we

stand in mercy and peace and love from God, knowing that God will multiply those things in our lives as we serve Him.

Multiplied

1. **Mercy, Peace and Love**. What did Jude want multiplied to those called of God? Jude wanted mercy, peace and love multiplied to them.
2. **Blessings**. Like so many other New Testament writers, Jude wrote about the blessings from God.
3. **Multiplied**. Jude wanted those blessings multiplied to the family of God.
4. **Tone**. Mercy, peace, and love set the tone for his epistle.
5. **Directions**. Jude will reveal God's directions for all the church.
6. **Saints**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that we want mercy, peace and love multiplied to the saints.
7. **Our Lives**. We rejoice today because Jesus brought mercy, peace and love into our lives for all eternity.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by praying for the saints to have mercy and peace and love.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by praying for the saints to have mercy, peace and love multiplied to them.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by letting saints know that we are praying for them that God would multiply mercy, peace and love to them.**

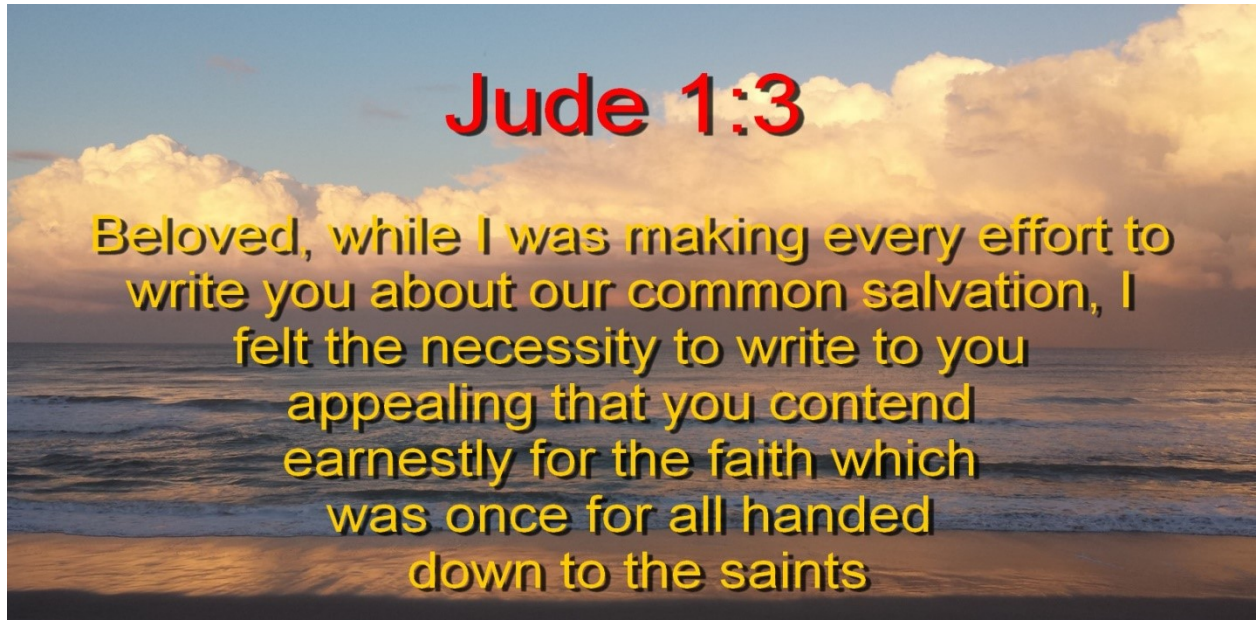
Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by greeting our friends in Christ with the blessings of mercy, peace and love being multiplied to them. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending for the faith by praying for mercy, peace and love to be multiplied to the saints?

HALLELUJAH !

Day 3

Every Effort Today



What necessity did Jude write about? Jude felt it necessary to write about contending for the faith.

Jude wrote in a context of evil people infiltrating the church with evil doctrine and evil practice. He charged the saints to contend earnestly for the faith which was once and for all handed down to the saints.

Jude meant that the saints should stand against evil people teaching evil doctrine. Saints should also stand against people who turn the grace of God into licentiousness.

Jude called the saints beloved. He shared with them why he was writing and his motives for writing. He sought to safeguard the saints from evil.

Jude appealed to the saints to contend earnestly for the faith. This contending earnestly meant that the saints would struggle spiritually against evil forces. Jude wrote the people he loved to help them stand in the grace of

God against forces arrayed against them seeking to corrupt the local assembly.

Jude emphasized that their faith was once and for all handed down to the saints. Faith in Jesus Christ does not change with the political climate or with the people ruling the local assembly. God handed down the faith once and for all.

Contend

1. **Earnest**. What did Jude want the saints to do? Jude wanted the saints to contend earnestly for the faith.

2. **Common**. Jude wrote about our common salvation, which all saints share by common faith in our common Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

3. **Faith**. Jesus paid one price, His terrible death, for our common faith handed down to the saints.

4. **Contend**. Having received this common faith, Jude appealed to all saints to contend earnestly for the common faith.

5. **Necessary**. Jude felt it was a matter of necessity to write and make his appeal.

6. **Saints**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that we contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to all the saints.

7. **Delivered**. We rejoice today because Jesus delivered our faith to us and has done so for the saints of all generations.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by contending earnestly for the faith.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by remembering that the faith was delivered to us once and for all.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by standing together to contend earnestly for the faith delivered to us once and for all.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by contending earnestly for the faith. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by standing up for your faith in Jesus Christ?

HALLELUJAH !

Day 4

Irreverent Persons Today



What people have crept in unnoticed among the saints? Irreverent persons marked out for condemnation have crept in among the saints.

Jude warned the saints about intruders sneaking in among them. Those intruders had been marked out by God long beforehand for condemnation. They were irreverent persons introducing evil behavior in the local assembly.

The intruders were stealthy. They crept in unnoticed. They brought with them the practice of turning the grace of God into licentiousness. Licentiousness means that they acted without restraint as to the moral standards established by God. They lived a sexually free and promiscuous lifestyle.

They also denied our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ. Without Christ, these intruders had no hope of going to heaven. Jesus Christ is the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father but through Him.

Jude urged the saints to contend earnestly for the faith against those intruders who crept into the local assembly. By their doctrines and licentious lifestyle they sought to undermine the church and its stability in Christ.

Unnoticed

1. **Irreverent**. What irreverent people crept in among the saints? The people who turned the grace of our God into licentiousness.

2. **Licentious**. Licentiousness means unrestrained sexual activity.

3. **Unrestrained**. Some people abused God's grace and lived without any restraint and disregarded God's standards of moral conduct.

4. **Condemned**. Jude warned the saints that they had been infiltrated by irreverent persons, marked out for condemnation.

5. **Deniers**. The same people deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

6. **Take Notice**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that we take notice of people who turn the grace of God into licentiousness.

7. **Eternal**. We rejoice today because the grace of God saved us, keeps us, and holds us for all eternity.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by remembering that certain people have crept unnoticed into the assembly.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by taking notice of people who deny the Lord Jesus Christ and live in licentiousness.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by standing firmly against intruders who turn the grace of God into licentiousness.**

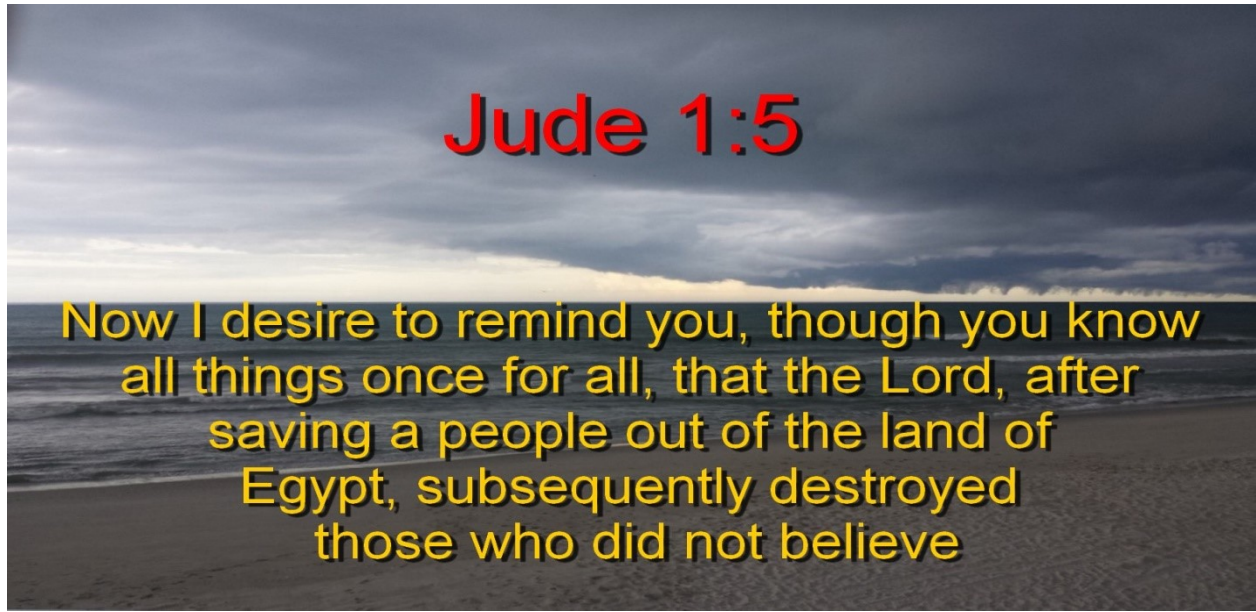
Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by taking notice of people who deny the Lord Jesus Christ and live in licentiousness. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending against the people in the local assembly who deny the Lord Jesus Christ?

HALLELUJAH !

Day 5

Remind Today



What happened to the people that the Lord saved out of Egypt? The Lord destroyed those people who did not believe.

Jude reminded the saints about the deliverance and destruction of unbelievers from Egypt. God delivered His people from slavery in Egypt, but they fell in the wilderness because of unbelief in God.

Jude reminded the saints that they knew all things once for all. The Old Testament provided that knowledge about the history of Israel. Many of the saints came from a Jewish background.

Jude intended for the saints to learn how to live in the present time based upon their knowledge of God's character and actions in the past. When He did not spare His own people for unbelief, then they should understand that God would not ignore unbelief at any time.

Jude meant contending earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints means that every saint must stand firmly against unbelief and the enemies of God.

Destroyed

1. **Desire**. Why did Jude remind the saints that God destroyed the unbelievers in the wilderness after delivering them from Egypt? Jude reminded the saints because he intended for them to learn from the past.

2. **Remind**. Jude, like Paul, reminded people of the history of Israel and their relationship with God for the purpose of changing lives today.

3. **Know**. Jude also reminded the saints that they know all things once for all, because they had been taught the history of Israel from the Old Testament.

4. **Lord**. Jude emphasized that the Lord of the New Testament is the Lord of the Old Testament.

5. **Egypt**. The Lord saved the people out of the land of Egypt.

6. **Wilderness**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that we learn from the Old Testament about God's character and actions, and realize that we should live in fear of Him, even though He always loves us.

7. **Destroyed**. We rejoice today because we do not face the same destruction for unbelief as the people in the wilderness because Jesus saved us from the penalty of our sins by faith in Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by remembering that God saved the people of Israel out of Egypt.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by remembering that, after saving people out of Egypt, God destroyed the people of Israel who did not believe.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by remembering that God did not spare His own chosen nation when they murmured in unbelief.**

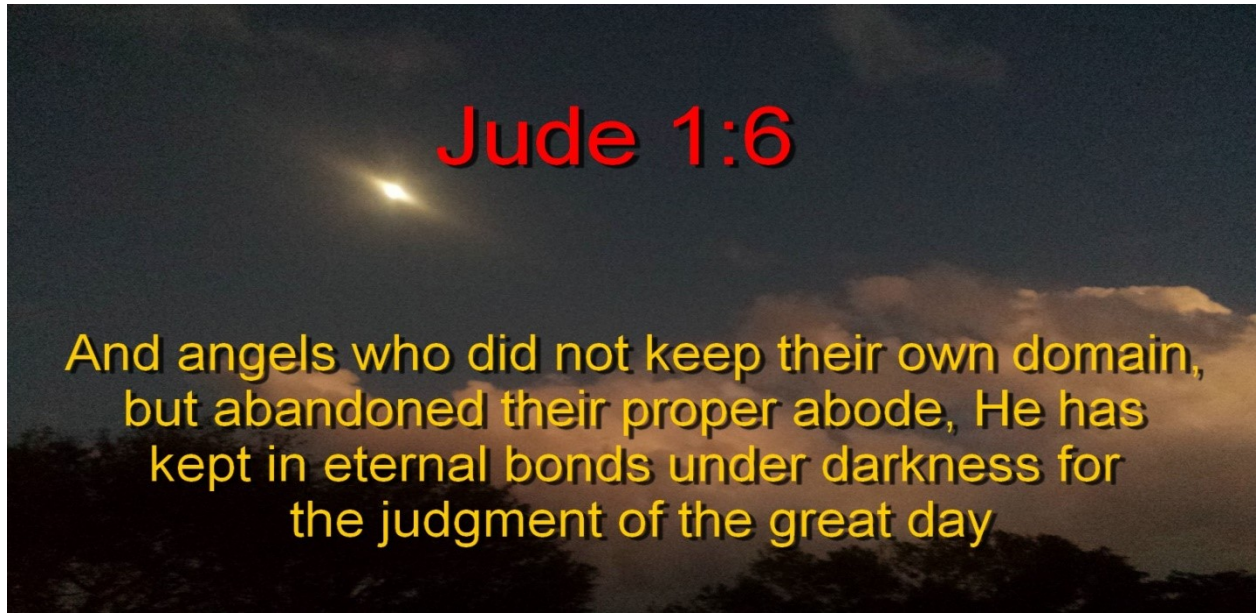
Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by remembering that God did not spare His own chosen people who did not believe. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending with thanksgiving to God for your faith today?

HALLELUJAH !

Day 6

Angels Today



What happened to the angels who abandoned their proper abode? God has kept them in eternal bonds under darkness.

Angels fascinate many people. Jude described the judgment day coming for the angels who sinned. Paul reminded the saints that they will judge angels.

Jude had already described how God destroyed the people of Israel because of their unbelief in the wilderness. God saved them out of Egypt by His mighty power, but then they fell into idolatry and unbelief in the wilderness and so God destroyed those unbelievers.

Jude carefully outlined that God did not spare the people of Israel in the past and likewise bound the angels under darkness for their transgressions.

Jude illustrated the peril of unbelief both for the children of Israel (God's chosen people) and His own angels who sinned against Him.

Therefore, people should not presume that God would overlook their unbelief and transgressions.

Eternal Bonds

1. **Angels**. What did God do with angels who did not keep their own domain? God kept them in eternal bonds.

2. **Destruction**. God brought destruction upon the people of Israel in the wilderness for their unbelief.

3. **Darkness**. God has kept angels who left their proper domain under darkness in eternal bonds awaiting the Day of Judgment.

4. **Unbelief**. God always takes unbelief and disobedience very seriously.

5. **Disobedience**. God did not spare the angels who disobeyed His commands nor the people of Israel who did not believe in Him for salvation.

6. **Deliverance**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that Jesus, at the moment of salvation, delivered us from the judgment of the great day.

7. **Free Gift**. We rejoice today because Jesus gave us eternal life as a free gift for which we will be eternally grateful.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by remembering the angels who left their proper abode and are kept in eternal chains under darkness.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by remembering that the angels who transgressed will face the great Day of Judgment.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by understanding the love and fear of God, based upon His righteousness displayed in the Old Testament.**

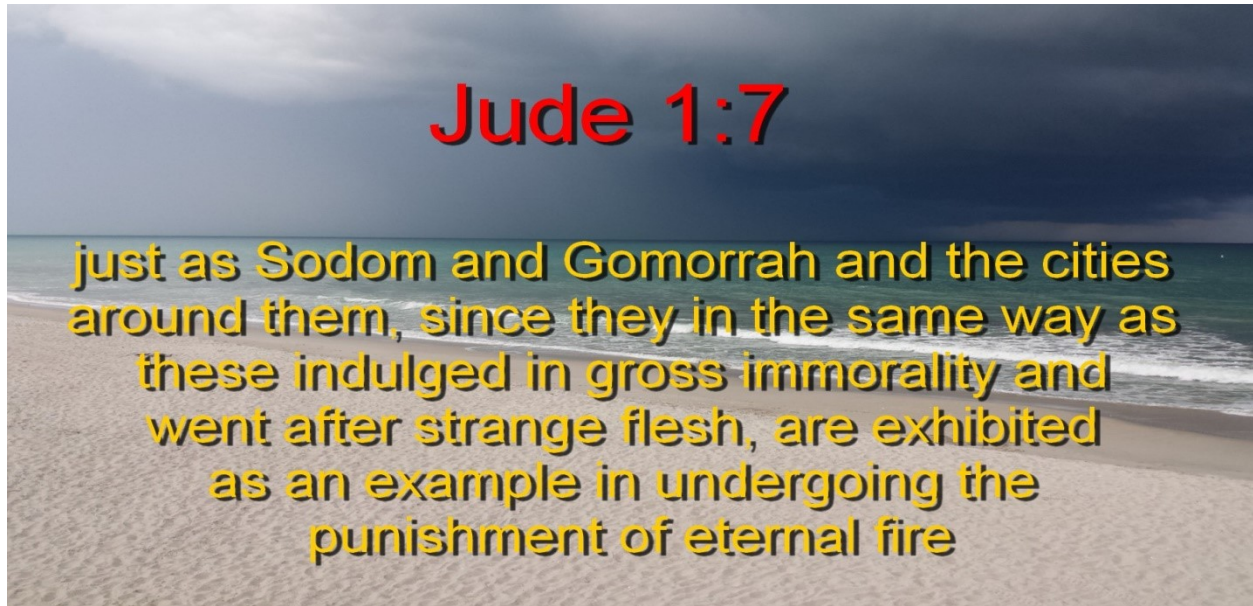
Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by remembering the angels who left their proper abode. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending according to the love of God and His righteousness?

HALLELUJAH !

Day 7

Gross Immorality Today



Are people suffering in eternal fire today? Jude revealed that the people of Sodom and Gomorrah are exhibited today as an example in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire.

While some people may say that eternal fire only refers to the Lake of Fire, and it is yet future, they overlook Jude describing the people of Sodom and Gomorrah as undergoing the punishment of eternal fire today. In other words, they are already suffering eternal fire as punishment. Therefore, we know that Hades burns with eternal fire and the Lake of Fire burns with eternal fire.

The people of Sodom and Gomorrah indulged in gross immorality and went after strange flesh. We know that description includes homosexuality. While homosexuality is widely accepted today in many churches and in many denominations, the Bible forbids all homosexuality. Jude reminds us that all homosexuality incurred eternal fire as punishment in the Old Testament.

God created sexuality, making humans male and female. God designed sex for marriage, and never outside of marriage, between one male and one

female. God joins one male to one female and they become one flesh. God looks upon all homosexuality as very evil behavior. Just as God did not spare the people of Israel nor the angels who left their abode, so also He destroyed the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah and sentenced those immoral people to the punishment of eternal fire.

Eternal Fire

1. **Example**. Whom did God exhibit as an example of the punishment of eternal fire? God exhibited Sodom and Gomorrah.

2. **Destruction**. Jude related how God did not spare His own people in the wilderness, but destroyed them because of their unbelief.

3. **Eternal Bonds**. Jude then explained that angels who did not keep their proper abode also are kept in eternal bonds.

4. **Gross Immorality**. Jude next compared Sodom and Gomorrah to the punishment of angels, because they indulged in gross immorality.

5. **Punishment**. They also went after strange flesh, and so God exhibited them as an example in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire.

6. **Take Heed**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that we take heed of the punishment of eternal fire that God imposed upon Sodom and Gomorrah.

7. **Jesus Suffered**. We rejoice today because Jesus suffered the eternal punishment of God on the cross so that we would have eternal life.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by remembering the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah suffering today the punishment of eternal fire.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by understanding how God looks upon gross immorality and going after strange flesh with great disdain.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by encouraging one another to avoid gross immorality and going after strange flesh.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by avoiding gross immorality and going after strange flesh. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending against gross immorality and going after strange flesh?

HALLELUJAH !

3

Contending against the Revilers

Jude described the creepers as revilers. By dreaming, the revilers defile the flesh and reject authority. They also revile angelic majesties. When Michael, the archangel, disputed with the devil and argued over the body of Moses, He did not dare pronounce a railing judgment against the devil, but said “The Lord rebuke you!”

The revilers revile things which they do not understand. The things they know by instinct, like unreasoning animals, destroy them. Woe to them! For they have fallen into the way of Cain, Balaam, and Korah. They lurk in the love feasts of the local assembly as hidden reefs, without fear, caring only for themselves. They are like: clouds without water, carried along by winds; and autumn trees without fruit; and waves of the ocean casting up their own shame like foam; and wandering stars, for whom the black darkness has been reserved.

HALLELUJAH !

Day 8

Defile Today



Regarding the people who crept in unnoticed, how did Jude describe their attitude towards authority? They defiled the flesh, rejected authority and reviled angelic majesties. They were the revilers.

Jude wrote that the revilers bore certain similarities to the people of Sodom and Gomorrah. They both defiled the flesh, rejected authority, and reviled angelic majesties.

Jude wrote about angels. He first wrote that God did not spare those angels who left their proper abode. Then he wrote that certain people reviled angelic majesties.

Jude remained very concerned about the welfare of the saints because of evil people creeping into the assembly unnoticed. The spiritually mature leaders of the church always carry out shepherding duties, even if they do not have the spiritual gift of pastor. Elders do the work of a pastor, even if they do not have the spiritual gift of pastor. Jude functioned as an elder exercising spiritual concern for the welfare of the flock.

Yet in the same way these men, also by dreaming, defile the flesh, and reject authority, and revile angelic majesties.

Angelic Majesties

1. **Dreaming**. What do the creepers do by dreaming? The creepers defile the flesh and reject authority and revile angelic majesties.

2. **Sodom and Gomorrah**. Just like Sodom and Gomorrah, the revilers defile the flesh as they indulge in gross immorality and go after strange flesh.

3. **Authority**. The revilers also reject authority. While the saints contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to them, the revilers reject authority and seek to follow their own ways and their own lusts without restraint.

4. **Angelic Majesties**. The revilers also revile angelic majesties. Angels differ in strength and majesty. The revilers do not recognize the power of angels, but speak evil of them.

5. **Judgment**. Jude revealed that the revilers face judgment for their evil deeds and words.

6. **Restraint**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that the saints recognize the revilers and the way they defile the flesh, and reject authority, and revile angelic majesties.

7. **Remember**. We rejoice today because Jude revealed the nature and activity of the revilers so that we would recognize them and contend against them with the power of Jesus Christ.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by understanding that revilers defile the flesh, reject authority, and revile angelic majesties.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by identifying the revilers in the local assembly and silencing them.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by guarding against the revilers who have come in among us unnoticed.**

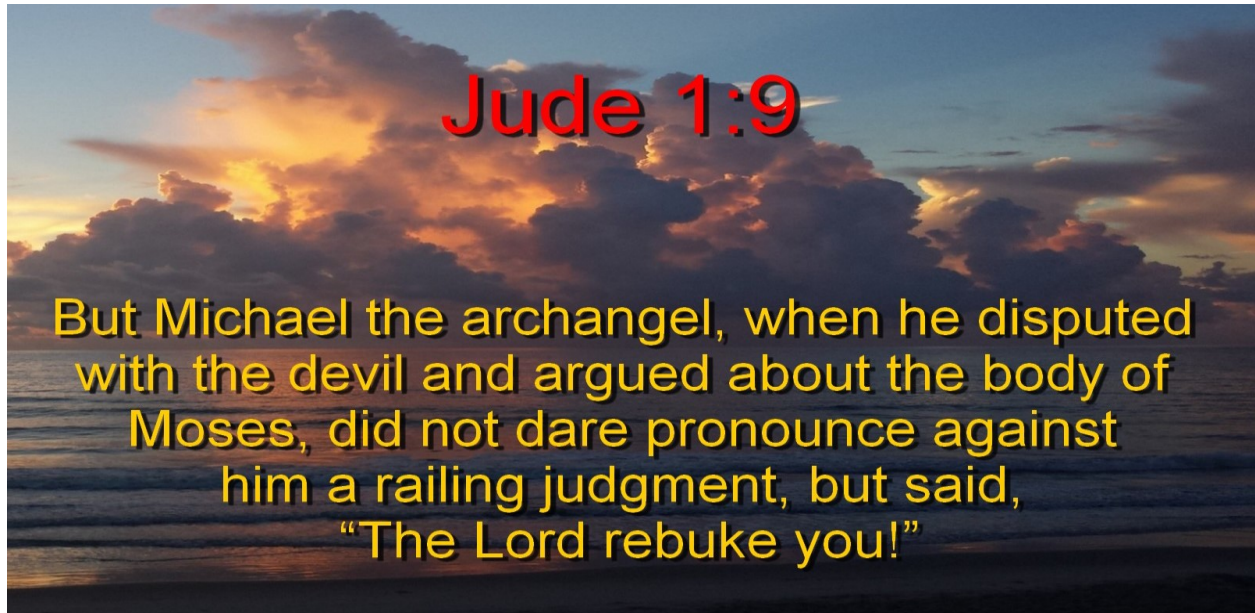
Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by keeping an eye out for revilers in the local assembly. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending against revilers who reject authority, defile the flesh, and revile angelic majesties?

HALLELUJAH !

Day 9

Michael Today



What did Michael the Archangel say to the devil about the body of Moses? Michael said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

Jude wrote about the creepers who had crept into the local assembly unnoticed. Those evil men reviled angelic majesties. They lived by instinct and face ultimate destruction. Jude recalled how God did not spare the people of Israel nor angels who left their proper abode. He imposed righteous judgments upon them.

Michael the Archangel did not presume to act upon his own authority in dealing with the devil. They had some argument about the body of Moses, but Michael relied upon the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ. Michael realized that the devil had great power and was an angelic majesty.

The revilers, also known as the creepers, did not respect any authority but their own. Jude warned the saints about the evil revilers among them. They turn the grace of God into licentiousness. God marked them out

beforehand for destruction. They deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Jude wrote to encourage the saints to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints. Jude outlined the traits of the enemy so that the saints could identify them and confront them by the power of God.

Railing Judgment

1. **The Devil**. What did Michael say to the devil about the body of Moses? Michael said, "The Lord rebuke you."
2. **Angelic Majesties**. The revilers revile angelic majesties.
3. **Michael**. Yet, Michael the archangel did not revile the devil.
4. **The Lord Rebukes**. Michael called upon the Lord to rebuke the devil.
5. **Be Careful**. In our lives, we should be careful not to revile angelic majesties.
6. **Do Not Revile**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that we should not revile angelic majesties.
7. **Jesus Reigns**. We rejoice today because Jesus reigns as God over all angelic majesties.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by remembering how Michael the Archangel confronted the devil.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by never reviling angelic majesties, but saying “The Lord rebuke you!”**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by encouraging one another to avoid the errors of the revilers who revile angelic majesties.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by acting upon the authority of Jesus Christ and not reviling angelic majesties. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending according to the example of Michael who said to the devil, “The Lord rebuke you!”?

HALLELUJAH !

Day 10

Instinct Today



What things do the revilers revile? The revilers revile things they do not understand.

The revilers act by instinct. They act like unreasoning animals. The things they know by instinct actually destroy them.

Jude explained that the revilers revile the things they do not understand. They lack spiritual insight and humility. They turn the grace of God into licentiousness. They deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Jude also revealed that the revilers defiled the flesh and indulged in gross immorality, going after strange flesh. They acted like the people of Sodom and Gomorrah. Just as the people of Sodom and Gomorrah are presently exhibited as an example and are undergoing the punishment of eternal fire in Hades, so also the revilers will be punished.

Unreasoning

1. **Revile**. What do the revilers do with things they do not understand? The revilers revile things they do not understand.
2. **Unreasoning Animals**. The revilers are like unreasoning animals.
3. **Instinctual Knowledge**. The revilers know some things by instinct.
4. **Destroyed by Instinct**. The revilers are destroyed by things they know by instinct.
5. **No Saving Knowledge**. The revilers have no saving knowledge of God.
6. **Understanding**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that we should never revile things we do not understand.
7. **Faith**. We rejoice today because we no longer live by instinct, as unreasoning animals, but by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by living not according to instinct and without reason, but by the revelation from God contained in the Bible.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by understanding how the revilers think and act.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by soberly contending for the faith against those marked out for destruction.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by understanding the revilers and their instincts. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending against the revilers and their unreasoning ways?

HALLELUJAH !

Day 11

Woe Today



How did Jude describe the errors of the revilers? Jude described the revilers as following the way of Cain, rushing headlong into the error of Balaam, and perished in the rebellion of Korah.

Jude knew about and cited some of the most notorious sinners in the Old Testament. Cain was the first murderer, and he slew his brother Abel. Jude said that the revilers have gone the way of Cain. God set a mark upon the forehead of Cain so that people would not kill him. He became an outcast.

Jude also described the error of Balaam. A king enticed Balaam to prophesy in his favor and offered a large reward for favorable prophecies against his enemies. Balaam succumbed to the temptation of money and so sinned against God.

Jude described too the rebellion of Korah, who opposed the leadership of Moses, the man appointed by God. God pronounced immediate judgment upon Korah for the rebellion against Moses. The earth opened up and swallowed Korah and his family and others.

Cain, Balaam, Korah

1. **Woe**. Why did Jude pronounce woe upon the revilers? Because they fell into the notorious sins of the Old Testament.
2. **Cain**. Cain slew his brother Abel and the revilers have fallen into such sin.
3. **Balaam**. Balaam sought payment for his prophecy and the revilers have fallen into such sin.
4. **Korah**. Korah rebelled against God and the earth swallowed him and the revilers have fallen into such sin.
5. **Sin and Judgment**. Jude explained that the revilers have fallen into very serious sins with serious judgment to follow.
6. **We Contend**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that we contend against notorious sinners who creep into the local assembly unnoticed.
7. **Jesus Empowers**. We rejoice today because Jesus triumphs over all enemies and empowers us to triumph through our faith in Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by remembering the sins of Cain, Balaam and Korah.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by understanding that some sins from long ago may be repeated today.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by learning to avoid the sins plaguing mankind for millennia.**

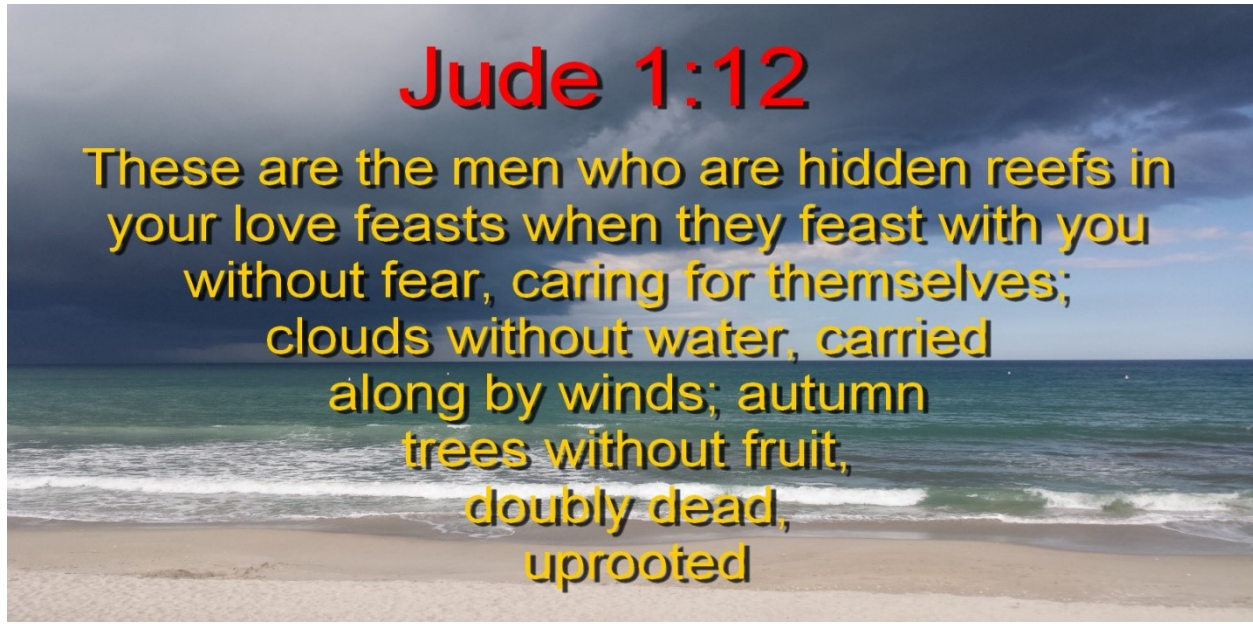
Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by learning from the negative examples of Cain, Balaam, and Korah. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending against the sins of Cain, Balaam, and Korah?

HALLELUJAH !

Day 12

Hidden Reefs



How did Jude describe the revilers? Jude described the revilers as hidden reefs, clouds without water, and autumn trees. They only care about themselves and feast with the saints without fear.

Jude urged the saints to contend earnestly for the faith. He warned against the revilers who came unnoticed into the local assemblies. Jude described the revilers using many different illustrations.

Jude described the revilers as hidden reefs. Captains and navigators take great care to avoid hidden reefs because they can rip open the hulls of vessels. Often you cannot see the hidden reefs because they are slightly submerged below the surface. Likewise, the creepers lie low in the assembly, but pose a risk of evil to the congregation.

Jude also described the revilers as clouds without water. The wind carries the clouds along wherever it desires. So also the revilers bring no blessings of rain and wander according to the prevailing wind. They oppose

sound doctrine and entice saints to wander away from Christ with licentious living.

Jude also described the revilers as autumn trees. They lack fruit and are doubly dead. They are uprooted, because they are not of Christ, but dead trees of evil.

Autumn Trees

1. **Creepers**. Who are the hidden reefs at your love feasts? They are the revilers who came unnoticed into the local assembly.

2. **Feast**. Jude described the revilers as feasting among the saints without fear, caring for themselves.

3. **Spiritually Empty**. Jude likened the revilers to clouds without water, carried along by winds, meaning that they were spiritually empty of good.

4. **Doubly Dead**. Jude also called the revilers autumn trees without fruit, doubly dead, uprooted. Jude meant that they did not bear good spiritual fruit because they were dead on the outside and on the inside, uprooted from Christ.

5. **Exposed**. Jude urged the saints to contend earnestly for the faith and so exposed the revilers in detail.

6. **We Understand**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that we understand what the revilers are like as they sit beside us during our love feasts in the local assembly.

7. **We Contend**. We rejoice today because Jude warned us about the revilers and encouraged us to contend for the faith earnestly.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by remembering that the revilers are like hidden reefs, clouds without water, and the autumn trees.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by identifying the revilers who infest the local assembly.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by opposing the revilers by avoiding the reefs, not wandering with the clouds, and not being uprooted with the autumn trees.**

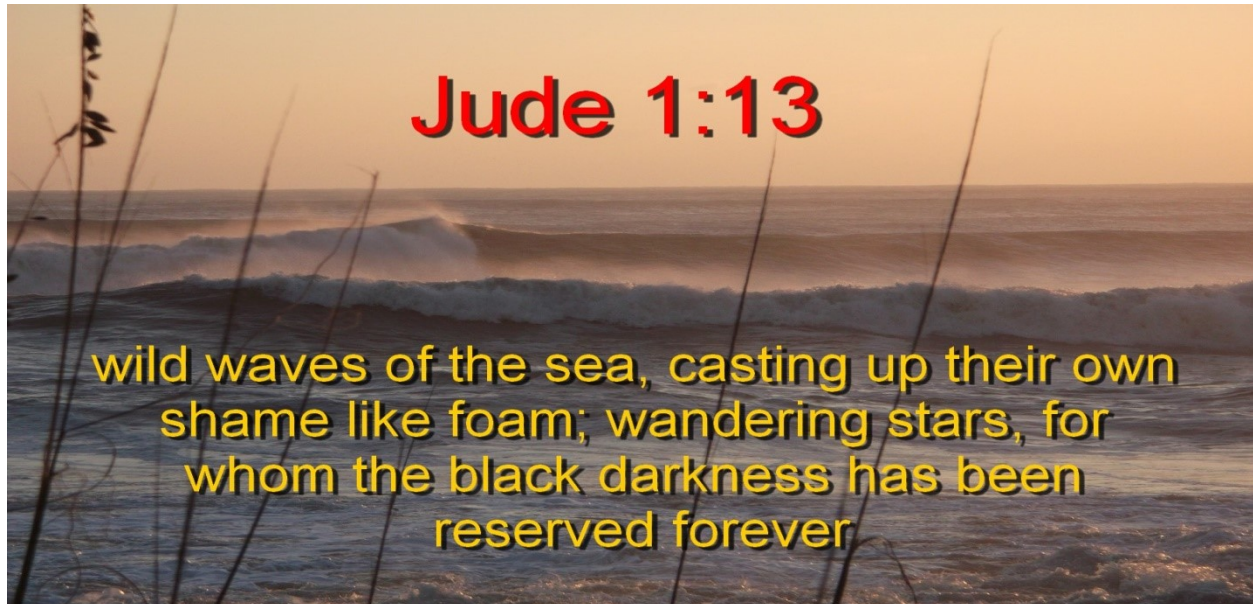
Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by avoiding the errors of the revilers with their hidden reefs, wandering clouds, and uprooted autumn trees. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending against the revilers and their evil ways?

HALLELUJAH !

Day 13

Black Darkness Today



What graphic images did Jude use to describe the revilers? Jude described the revilers as wild waves and wandering stars.

Jude commanded the saints to contend earnestly for the faith. He described the revilers who came unnoticed into the local assembly. They brought licentiousness with them.

Writing under the inspiration of God, Jude explained the destiny of the revilers. He did so to emphasize how their evil today brings eternal judgment for eternity. Jude meant the revilers should not be tolerated, but converted by the power of Jesus Christ.

Jude described the revilers as wild waves of the sea. Just as the waves crash against the rocks, casting up their foam, so also the revilers cast their own shame like foam. This graphic image described the lack of care and concern that the revilers show for their own shameful acts. The revilers do not care about their own evil acts and invite others to join them in their shame obvious to every saint.

Jude also described the revilers as wandering stars, for whom the black darkness has been reserved. The revilers may seduce people today, but the black darkness awaits them where they will wander for eternity.

Wild Waves

1. **Shame**. How did Jude describe the shame of the revilers? Jude described their shame as the foam cast up by the wild waves of the sea.

2. **Black Darkness**. Jude also described the revilers as wandering stars for whom the black darkness has been reserved forever.

3. **Unflattering Description**. Jude used very picturesque language to describe the revilers, none of it flattering.

4. **Foamy**. Wild waves explode when they break, shooting foam into the air. So also the revilers cast their shame like foam from wild waves.

5. **Evil**. Darkness in Scripture often indicates evil; in this case the revilers are like wandering stars and they will go to the black darkness which has been reserved for them forever.

6. **Without Regard**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that we understand the revilers have no regard for their shame and the eternal darkness awaits them.

7. **Jesus Bore our Shame**. We rejoice today because Jesus took our shame as His own upon the cross and delivered us from the domain of darkness.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by remembering that the revilers spread their shame like foam of the sea waves.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by remembering what Jude taught us about shame and black darkness.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by trusting God to guard us from the attacks of the revilers.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by remembering the black darkness today. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending against the revilers and their shameful acts?

HALLELUJAH !

4

Contending against the Grumblers Today

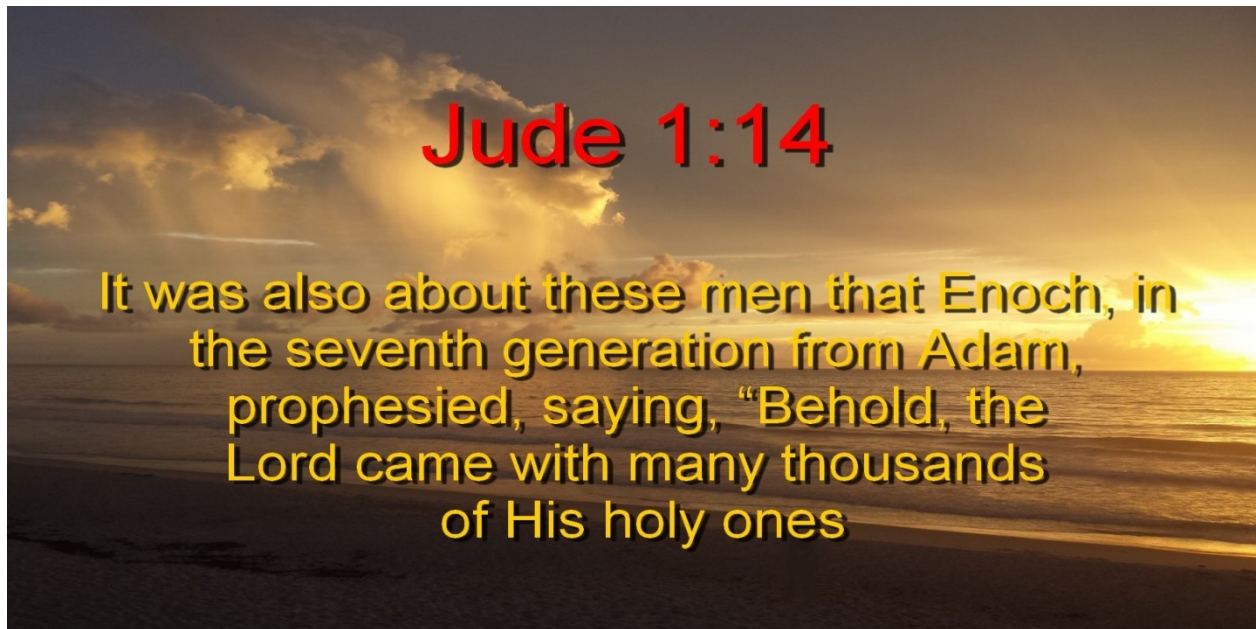
Jude wrote that the creepers were also grumblers. Enoch prophesied: “Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones, to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the irreverent of all their irreverent deeds which they have done in an irreverent way, and of all the harsh things which irreverent sinners have spoken against Him.” The grumblers do not render proper reverence due to God. In particular, they show no reverence towards the Lord Jesus, but do irreverent deeds in irreverent ways as irreverent sinners speaking harsh things against Jesus.

The grumblers find fault while following after their own lusts. They speak arrogantly, flattering people for the sake of obtaining an advantage. These people speak harshly against the Lord Jesus, but flatteringly towards other people. They have evil motives, seeking to gain an advantage over them.

HALLELUJAH !

Day 14

Enoch Today



How does our knowledge of the future influence how we contend today? Because we know that the Lord will come with many thousands of His holy ones, we await the day with that bright hope in our lives.

Jude looked back to Enoch and his prophecy. Jude identified Enoch as the one who lived in the seventh generation from Adam. Under the inspiration of God, Jude knew things that are not recorded in the sixty-six books of the Bible. God knows all things and remembers all things. Because He is gracious and kind, He does not take into account our sins and in that sense He does not remember them. Because God remembers the words of Enoch, He revealed them to Jude for our benefit today.

God wanted us to remember that the Lord Jesus will return with many thousands of His holy ones. In the Old Testament, the term “holy ones” referred to saints. Therefore, Jude encouraged the saints to live with hope that Jesus would return with many thousands of His holy ones, just as Paul wrote about in First Thessalonians.

God frequently encourages the saints to live today according to their knowledge of the future. God revealed the future to build hope and strength for daily living today so that we would not lose hope, but walk in His strength. We contend earnestly for the faith, because we are certain of our blessed future in Christ.

Holy Ones

1. **Prophecy**. What did Enoch prophesy? Enoch prophesied that the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones.

2. **Enoch**. After Jude reviewed the history of Israel, he then cited Enoch as a means of pivoting to the future.

3. **Judgment**. Enoch revealed that God would bring intense judgment up on the earth.

4. **Past**. God had already brought judgment upon the people in the wilderness, and the angels, and the people of Sodom and Gomorrah.

5. **Future**. Jude harkened back to Enoch and his prophecy that the Lord would come with many thousands of His holy ones, indicating a time of fierce judgment.

6. **Jesus' Return**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that we look forward to the day when Jesus will return with thousands of His holy ones.

7. **Certain and Swift**. We rejoice today because Jesus will return and bring certain and swift judgment upon all the people who oppose Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by remembering the words of Enoch and his prophecy about the Lord coming.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by living today according to our hope of the return of Jesus Christ with many thousands of His holy ones.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by remembering that we are the holy ones of God and will return with Jesus in the future.**

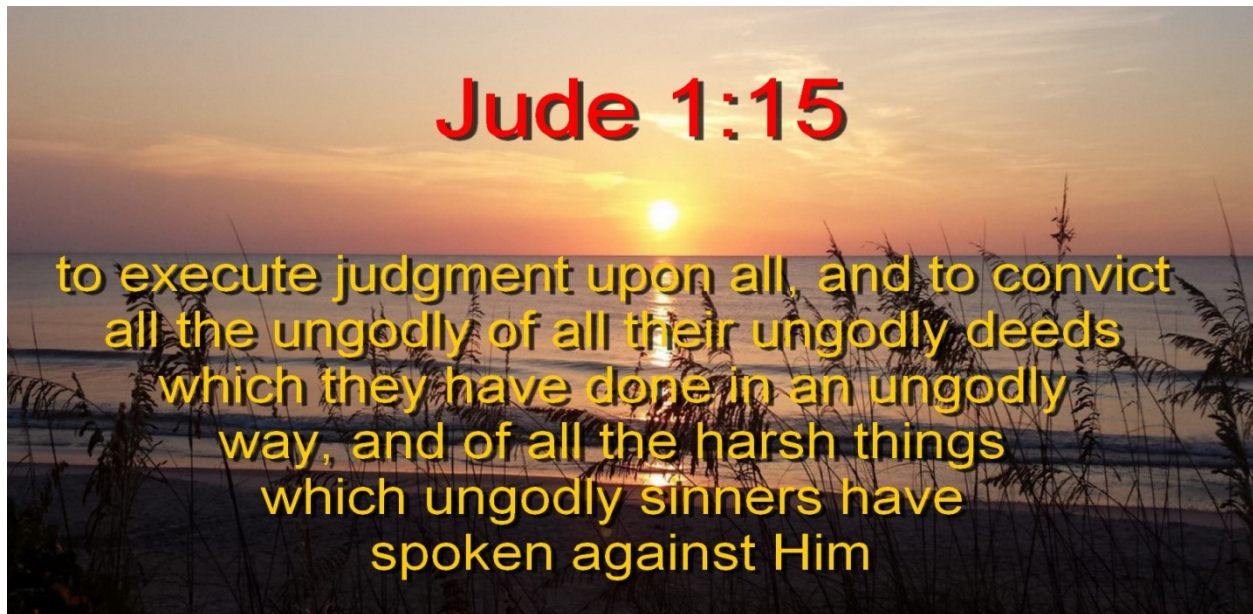
Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by remembering the prophecy of Enoch about Jesus and the holy ones. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending according to the hope that Jesus will return with many thousands of His holy ones?

HALLELUJAH !

Day 15

Judgment Today



When Jesus returns with His holy ones, what will He do with the creepers? Jude explained that Jesus will deal with the irreverent ones for all their irreverent deeds, ways, and words.

Jude explained that Jesus will come and execute judgment upon all. Jesus will judge with righteous judgment. Jesus said that the Father had delivered all judgment into His hands.

Jude revealed that Jesus will convict all the irreverent ones. Jesus will specifically convict them of all their irreverent deeds, which they have done in an irreverent way.

Jude also revealed that God notices all the harsh things the irreverent have spoken against Him. The Psalmist told us that many people ignore God and imagine His silence signals His approval. When Jesus returns with His holy ones, then the irreverent ones will know that Jesus heard every word and will judge them for the harsh words they spoke against Him.

The saints will look forward to the return of Jesus with His holy ones. We will rejoice because He will reward us according to our deeds. In bright contrast, the irreverent ones will know the judgment of God upon their irreverent deeds, ways and words.

Irreverent Sinners

1. **Judgment**. When Jesus returns with His holy ones, what will He do? He will execute judgment upon all.
2. **Conviction**. Jesus will also convict the irreverent of all their irreverent deeds.
3. **Without Regard**. Many irreverent people live today with no regard for God and His ways.
4. **Irreverent**. Jesus will also convict the irreverent of all the irreverent they have done in irreverent ways.
5. **Harsh**. Jesus will also convict the irreverent of all the harsh things which they have spoken against Him.
6. **Jesus' Return**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that we know Jesus will bring judgment and conviction upon the irreverent when He returns with His holy ones.
7. **Godly Ones**. We rejoice today because Jesus has delivered us from our irreverent ways and adopted us into His beloved family.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus will judge and convict the irreverent for their deeds, ways, and words.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by looking forward to Jesus bringing all righteousness with Him as He comes to reign upon the earth with His holy ones.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by loving Jesus because we were once irreverent, but now He has made us alive in Him by His grace through faith.**

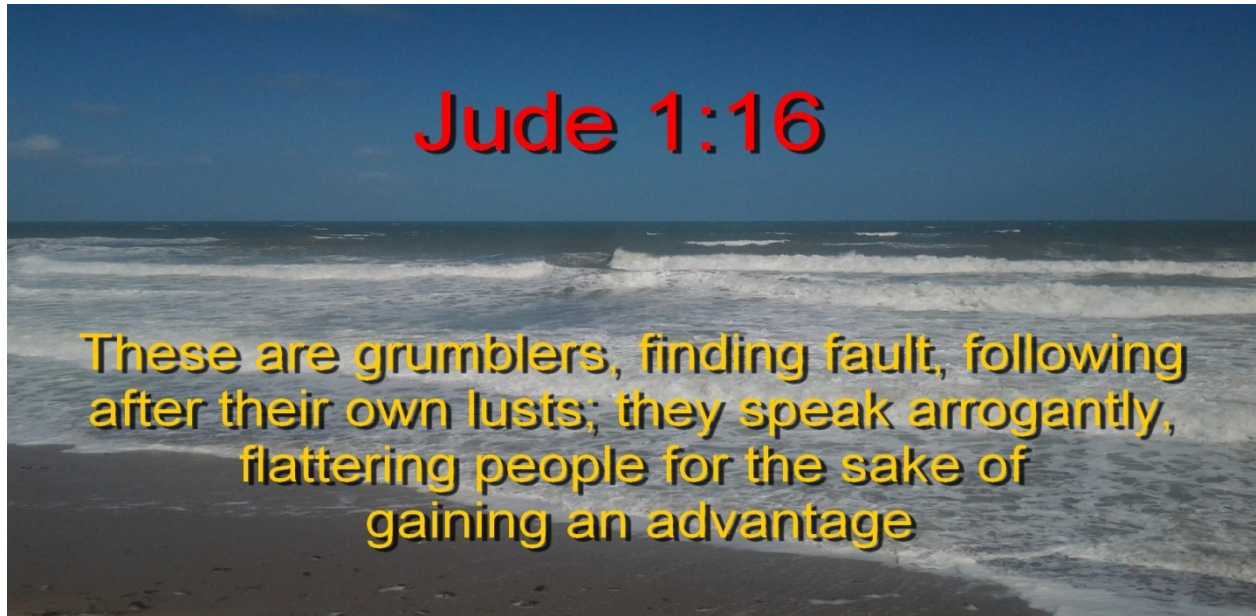
Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus will judge and convict the irreverent when He returns with His holy ones. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by thanking Jesus that He has prepared a place for you in heaven and you will reign with Him upon the earth?

HALLELUJAH !

Day 16

Grumblers Today



Who finds fault with the saints? The grumblers find fault with the saints.

Jude commanded the saints to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to them. Contending for the faith meant that the saints opposed the people who crept unnoticed into the local assembly. Jude described them as clouds without water and autumn trees, doubly dead and uprooted.

Jude then described the creepers as grumblers. The grumblers find fault and follow after their own lusts. Previously, Jude had described the creepers as licentious individuals. He then explained that they follow after their own lusts.

The grumblers speak arrogantly. Although they crept in unnoticed, they find fault and do so with arrogant words. They also

used arrogant words to follow after their own lusts. The grumblers were arrogant against God and the saints. The grumblers also flattered people with their arrogant words so that they could gain an advantage. Therefore, the grumblers found fault, followed their own lusts, and flattered with their tongue.

Finding Fault

1. **Grumblers**. Who are the grumblers? They are also known as the creepers.
2. **Hidden Reefs**. The grumblers are hidden reefs in your love feasts and clouds without water.
3. **Coming Judgment**. When Jesus comes with many thousands of His holy ones, He will judge and convict the grumblers.
4. **Follow Lusts**. The grumblers find fault and follow after their own lusts.
5. **Arrogant**. The grumblers also speak arrogantly, flattering people for the sake of gaining and advantage.
6. **We Contend**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that we contend for the faith by recognizing and opposing the grumblers.
7. **Jesus Triumphs**. We rejoice today because Jesus will triumph over all the grumblers when He returns with many thousands of His holy ones.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by understanding the grumblers always find fault.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by remembering that the grumblers speak arrogant words, flattering the people to gain an advantage.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by contending earnestly for the faith by opposing the grumblers and their flattering words.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by remembering that the grumblers find fault, follow their own lusts, and flatter to gain an advantage. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending against the grumblers in the power of the Holy Spirit?

HALLELUJAH !

5

Contending against the Mockers Today

The creepers, also known as grumblers and mockers, attacked the local assemblies. Jude described this same group of evil people with different terms, with each term emphasizing a particular evil characteristic of the group.

The apostles of Jesus Christ prophesied that in the last time mockers will come, following after their own irreverent lusts. Because of their licentious motives, they cause divisions in the local assembly. They are “soulish ones.” The New American Standard translators chose to translate the plural noun “psuchikoi” as worldly-minded. The word for “world” (“cosmos”) does not appear in the original term. The term comes from the root word for “soul” (“psuchos”). Therefore, I prefer the translation “soul ones or soulish ones” to preserve the original term “soul” in the translation. The “soulish ones” are the ones not having the Spirit. By preserving the term soul, the contrast with the lack of Spirit becomes much clearer in the translation.

The saints contend against the mockers by building themselves up in the most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit. Again, the contrast between the soulish ones and the saints praying in the Holy Spirit becomes clearer.

The saints also contend against the mockers by keeping themselves in the love of God, awaiting the mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ, to age life.

The saints also contend against the mockers by having mercy on some who are doubting and snatching others out of the fire and showing mercy with fear upon others, hating the garment stained by the flesh.

HALLELUJAH !

Day 17

Beloved Today



How did Jude feel about the saints? Jude called the saints “beloved.”

Jude loved the saints and commanded them to contend earnestly for the faith against the creepers, also known as the grumblers. The creepers had crept in unnoticed. The grumblers found fault. Jude used different names for the same people, but he emphasized different qualities of the same people.

Because Jude loved the saints, he commanded them to remember the words of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. People today tend to ignore the Bible and the words of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. They do not read the Bible nor listen to the Bible. They tend to trust their feelings to find the truth.

Jude pointed to the words of the apostles as the way to know the truth. Jude did not point to their feelings as a reliable way finding the truth. The

apostles spoke beforehand about the Lord Jesus Christ. They did not craft clever fables, but provided eyewitness testimony of the things they saw and heard from Jesus Christ.

Today we can read about the words of the apostles because they are recorded in the New Testament. We must remember those words.

The Apostles

1. **Remember**. What did Jude command the saints to remember? Jude commanded them to remember the words spoken beforehand by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. **Contend**. Jude also commanded the saints to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints.

3. **Teachings**. The apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ spoke about the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.

4. **Apostles**. Those apostles of Jesus Christ spoke before Jude wrote his letter.

5. **Jesus**. Jude confirms the value of the apostolic words about Jesus.

6. **Words**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that we remember the words spoken beforehand by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ.

7. **Testimony**. We rejoice today because the apostles spoke the truth about our Lord Jesus Christ and we have their testimony in the New Testament.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by remembering the words of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by reminding the saints of the words of Jude.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by contending for the faith by standing with Jude and the apostles and their testimony about the Lord Jesus Christ.**

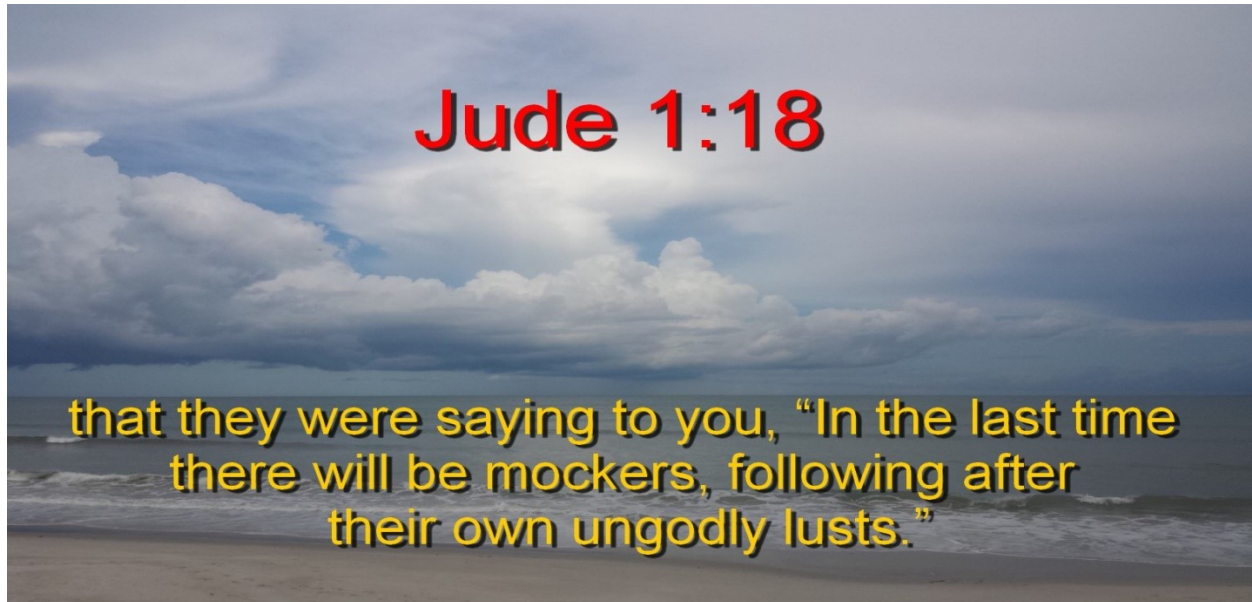
Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by remembering the words of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending for the faith delivered to us through the words of the apostles of Jesus Christ our Lord?

HALLELUJAH !

Day 18

Mockers Today



What did the apostles tell us about the mockers? The apostles prophesied that the mockers will come and follow their own irreverent lusts.

Jude described the creepers as licentious men, following after their own lusts. The mockers, the revilers, the grumblers, and the creepers all share the same characteristics. They all use evil methods to oppose the work of Jesus Christ and to disrupt the local assembly.

At Pentecost following the resurrection of Jesus Christ, Peter proclaimed that the prophecy of Joel was fulfilled and the last days have begun. Therefore, the last days of Joel's prophecy span thousands of years because we live in the last days right now.

Notice that Jude talked about mockers, plural. Many mockers will come and creep into the local assembly unnoticed. They thrive on licentiousness and indulge their own lusts, corrupting others in the local assembly. Jude understood the prophecy and urged the saints to contend earnestly for the faith by opposing the mockers through the power of Jesus Christ.

Irreverent Lusts

1. **Future**. What did the apostles say about the future? The apostles prophesied that in the last days mockers will come.
2. **Mockers**. The mockers will follow after their own irreverent lusts.
3. **Last Days**. Peter indicated that the last days began at Pentecost.
4. **Prophecy**. Jude built upon the apostles' prophecy, indicating that the creepers fulfilled that prophecy.
5. **Irreverent**. Jesus knows everything about the future and the judgment and conviction of the creepers for their irreverent behavior and words.
6. **Present**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that the revelation concerning mockers and lusts was fulfilled in the days of Jude and continues into the present.
7. **No Fear**. We rejoice today because we are eternally secure in Jesus and have nothing to fear from creepers and mockers.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by remembering that mockers will come.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by remembering the words of Jude to contend earnestly for the faith by opposing and exposing the mockers who have crept in among us.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by noting the people of the local assembly who follow their own lusts and oppose them earnestly by contending for the faith.**

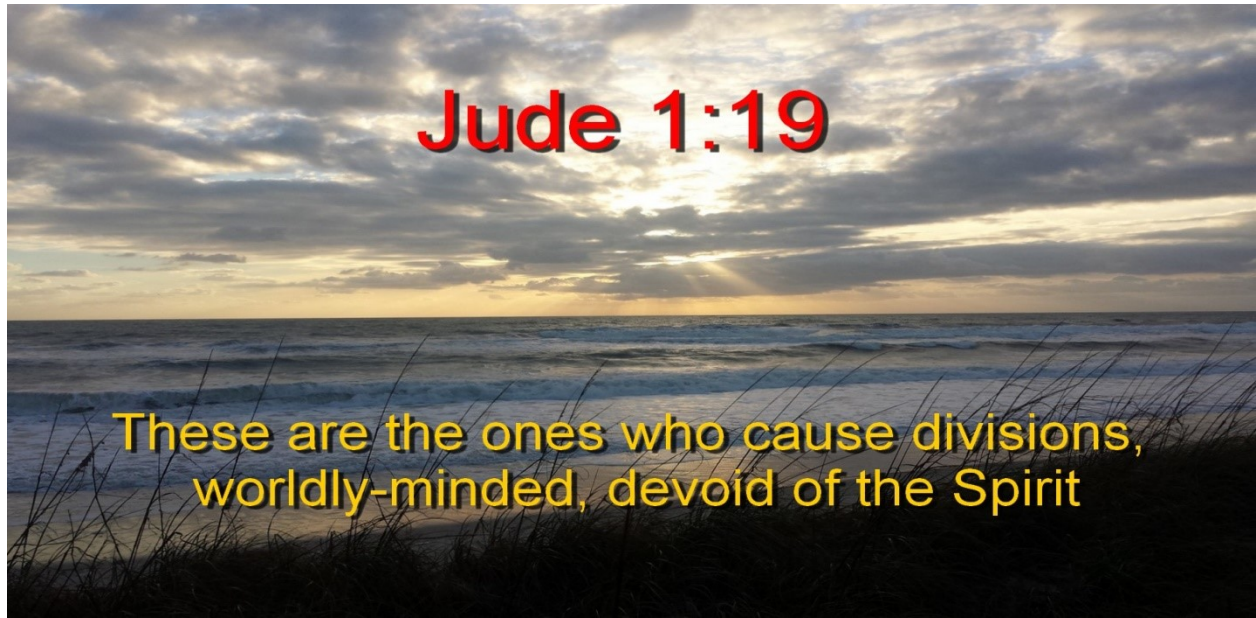
Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by exposing the mockers who follow their own lusts. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending against the mockers who follow their own lusts?

HALLELUJAH !

Day 19

Divisions Today



Who causes divisions in the local assembly? The mockers cause the divisions of the local assembly.

Jude described three characteristics of the mockers in just one verse. He said the grumblers cause divisions and are soulless ones and lacking the Holy Spirit.

The mockers crept unnoticed into the local assembly. Jude also described them as the creepers and the grumblers. Writing under the inspiration of God, Jude used very picturesque language to describe the people who divide the assembly.

The devil loves to divide the saints from one another. He often uses methods which go unnoticed at first. The saints may not even understand why they are divided. In fact, the saints are divided because the creepers, also known as the mockers and grumblers, have divided them.

The mockers are soulless ones. They do not have the interest of Jesus Christ at heart, but follow their own evil desires.

The mockers also lack the Holy Spirit. Just as they follow their own desires and live in licentiousness, so also they oppose the work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the saints.

Soulsh Ones

1. **Mockers**. What do the mockers do in the local assembly? The mockers cause divisions.

2. **Worldly**. The mockers cause divisions based on soulsh ones creating fault lines.

3. **Unregenerate**. The mockers are also without the Holy Spirit.

4. **Dividers**. Also known as the creepers, the grumblers and mockers seek to divide the saints.

5. **Immoral, Licentious**. The mockers promote immorality and licentiousness.

6. **We Contend Against**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that we contend against the mockers with their divisive ways, soulsh efforts, and activities opposing the Holy Spirit.

7. **Holy Spirit Unites Us**. We rejoice today because we are no longer soulsh ones because the Holy Spirit indwells us and unites us in Christ.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by recognizing that the mockers divide the saints.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by remembering to contend against the mockers and their soulish ones ways.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by being filled with the Holy Spirit and the opposing the mockers who lack the Holy Spirit.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by contending against the mockers who divide the assembly with their soulish ones ways, lacking the Holy Spirit. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending against the mockers?

HALLELUJAH !

Day 20

Holy Faith Today



What should saints do with their faith? They should build themselves up in their most holy faith.

Jude commanded us to build ourselves up constantly in our most holy faith. We do that by contending for the faith earnestly. Our faith comes from God as a free gift, part of our salvation. We should treasure our most holy faith. Our faith strengthens us to serve God, for without faith we cannot please God.

As we build ourselves up in our most holy faith, we also constantly pray in the Holy Spirit. We do not know how to pray as we should, but the Holy Spirit intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

God loves our obedience to Him. As we believe God, building ourselves up in our most holy faith and praying without ceasing, only then can we contend earnestly for the faith against the mockers, the revilers, the grumblers, and the creepers. They have crept in unnoticed and make their

presence felt through licentiousness, divisions, and attacking the faith with flattering words to gain an advantage.

We strengthen our faith by praying in the Holy Spirit. He always helps us pray according to the will of God. He will help us contend for the faith every day and to do so earnestly.

Praying

1. **Faith**. What do saints build their lives upon? The saints build their lives upon their most holy faith.

2. **Build Up**. In contrast to the mockers who lack the Holy Spirit, the saints build themselves up on their most holy faith.

3. **Contend For**. Jude began his letter by commanding saints to contend earnestly for the faith once for all handed down to the saints.

4. **Command**. Jude understood the priority of faith in our lives and commanded us, in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, to build upon that faith.

5. **Pray**. Jude also commanded the saints to pray in the Holy Spirit as they build up on their most holy faith.

6. **Saints**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that the saints build themselves up on their most holy faith.

7. **Holy Spirit**. We rejoice today because we pray in the Holy Spirit as we build up ourselves in our most holy faith.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by building ourselves up in our most holy faith.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by praying in the Holy Spirit.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by standing together and contending together by building ourselves up together in our most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit together.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by building ourselves up in our most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending against the mockers by praying in the Holy Spirit and building yourself up in your most holy faith?

HALLELUJAH !

Day 21

Waiting Today



How should we wait for Jesus Christ to return to earth? We should keep ourselves in the love of God as we wait for Jesus to return.

Jude provided concrete details about waiting for the Lord Jesus to return. Jude put a high priority upon the love of God. He commanded the saints to keep themselves in the love of God. Sin causes us to venture away from the love of God, but ultimately, nothing can separate us from the love of God.

Jude linked the love of God with waiting eagerly for Jesus to return. Jude focused upon the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ. Jude wrote that we should be waiting eagerly for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.

At the moment of salvation God's mercy becomes effective in our life for salvation. At that same moment we have eternal life as a free gift from our Lord Jesus Christ. John told us that eternal life is to know God and Him Whom God has sent.

Jude talked about eternal life in the context of the return of Jesus Christ to earth. When Jesus returns with many thousands of His holy ones, the promise of eternal life will be fulfilled in us. We will reign with Christ and enjoy the fruit of eternal life given to us as a free gift by the mercy of God.

Keep

1. **Waiting**. What are the saints waiting for? The saints are waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.
2. **Eternal Life**. At the moment of salvation by faith in Christ, we received eternal life as a free gift.
3. **Jesus' Return**. We keep ourselves in the love of God by looking forward to seeing Jesus when He returns to earth.
4. **Eagerly**. We eagerly look forward to the day when Christ will return with many thousands of His holy ones.
5. **Love of God**. As we wait for the return of Christ, we keep ourselves in the love of God.
6. **Mercy**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that we look forward eagerly to seeing Jesus and His mercy manifested.
7. **Fulfillment**. We rejoice today because Jesus will return and the promise of resurrected eternal life will be fulfilled in Him through His mercy.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by keeping in the love of God and waiting eagerly for Jesus Christ.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by understanding that our love for God keeps us looking forward eagerly to the mercy of God being revealed for eternal life.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by reminding one another of the mercy of God bringing us eternal life through the appearing of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

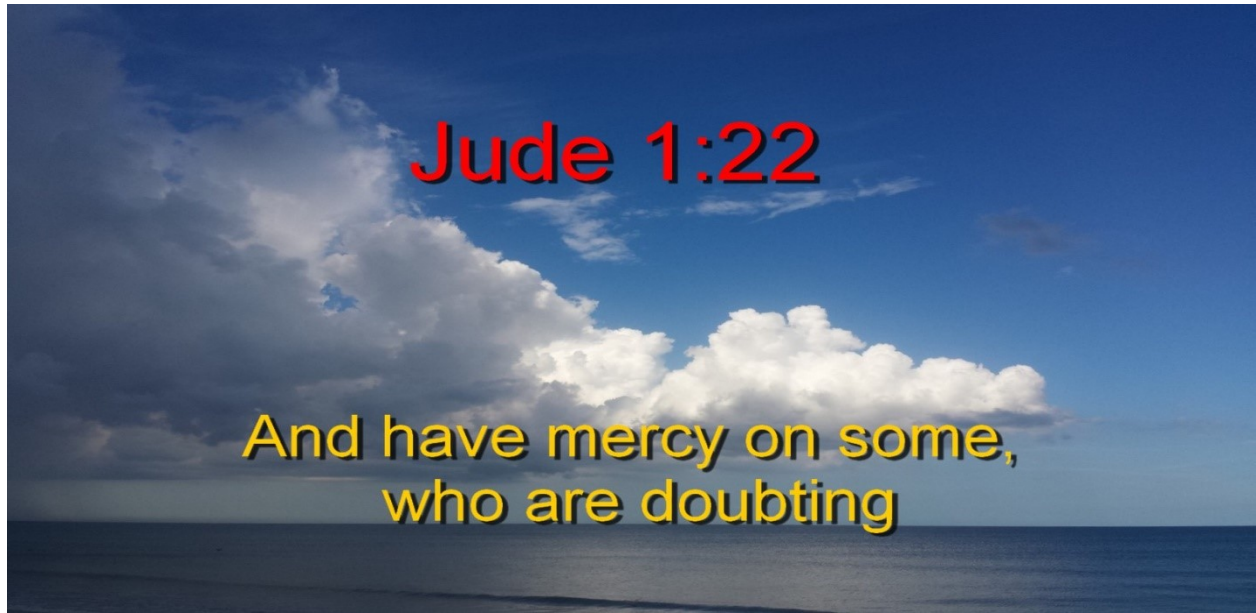
Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by keeping ourselves in the love of God and looking forward to the mercy of God. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending for the mercy of God in Christ Jesus our Lord to eternal life?

HALLELUJAH !

Day 22

Mercy Today



What does God command us to do for doubters? God commands us to have mercy on them.

Being rich in mercy, God saved us by grace through faith. Without the mercy of God we could not be saved from the death penalty we all deserve. Jesus reminded us that God had mercy upon us and we should have mercy upon one another.

James told us that if we ask with doubts, we should expect to receive nothing from God. Even so, God has great compassion upon doubters and commands His children to have mercy on one another.

If faith and doubt are opposites, then we all doubt God to some degree because we do not have perfect faith all the time. God told us that without faith it is impossible to please Him. He also said whatever is not of faith is sin.

God seeks to build our faith at every turn. He grows our faith through good times and tough times. At all times He showers us with His mercy. He

expects every saint to share His mercy with the doubters among us. God understands the pressures that the mockers put upon us and the weight of affliction bearing down upon us. As our doubts rise, His grace and mercy abound.

Doubting

1. **Doubt**. How does mercy relate to doubting? We have mercy on some people who are doubting.

2. **Mercy Defined**. Mercy means that God withholds what we deserve.

3. **Grace**. Grace means that God gives us what we cannot earn or deserve.

4. **Afflictions**. Under the afflictions and attacks from the mockers, some people fall into sin and doubting.

5. **God's Command**. Jude commanded us to have mercy on the doubters.

6. **Mercy in Action**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that we have mercy upon the doubters.

7. **God's Activity**. We rejoice today because the mercy of God moves Him to move us to have mercy on the doubters.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by sharing the mercy of God with one another.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by extending the mercy of God to the doubters.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by lifting the doubters to faith by sharing the mercy of God with them.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by having mercy upon those who doubt. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending for the faith and have mercy upon the doubters ?

HALLELUJAH !

Day 23

Save Others Today



How should saints treat one another? Saints need to save one another.

Jude wrote to people struggling with sin. Creepers had come unnoticed into the local assembly, spreading licentiousness, mocking the ways of God, and grumbling. Some saints had fallen into the snares of evil.

When saints see other saints struggling with sin, they should save them, snatching them out of the fire. Jude used the same term for snatching as Paul used to describe believers being snatched away from Earth to meet Jesus in the clouds for resurrection. Likewise, the devil snatches away the seed sown in the hearts that do not understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Jude also commanded saints to have mercy on some saints. Those saints had polluted their garments by the flesh. They had given into licentious behavior spread by the creepers. Acting out of mercy with fear, the saints seek to restore those saints living in the flesh and polluting their garments.

Jude, writing under the inspiration of God, commanded the saints to contend earnestly for the faith. He warned against the creepers, the revilers, the mockers, and the grumblers. He understood how sexual sin can infect the local assembly. The saints must act in mercy with haste and snatching some from the fire. At all times the saints must be careful to keep their garments unpolluted by the flesh.

Snatching

1. **Fire**. Who do we snatch out of the fire? We snatch saints out of the fire.
2. **Suffering**. Some saints fall into the deep fires of pain and suffering in the midst of prolonged persecution and tribulations.
3. **Saints**. Jude may have been talking about snatching unbelievers out of the fires of unbelief, but the context appears to be saints looking after saints.
4. **Mercy**. Jude also commanded the saints to have mercy with fear on some.
5. **Fear**. Saints have mercy with fear on some, while hating even the garment polluted by the flesh.
6. **Take Care**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that saints take care of one another, demonstrating love, fear, and mercy.
7. **Love**. We rejoice today because Jesus demonstrates His love and mercy upon those who fear Him in love.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by snatching some saints out of the fire.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by having mercy upon some saints with fear, hating the garment polluted by the flesh.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by looking after other saints fallen into sin, polluting the garment by sexual sin.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by snatching some saints out of the fire and having mercy on others. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending against the flesh and snatching believers out of licentious living in the fires of evil?

HALLELUJAH !

6

Stand in Glory Today

Jude described very evil people corrupting the local assembly, and then directed the saints to help one another overcome the sexual problems at work in the local assemblies. Those problems with sexual sins characterize many local assemblies today, which need the same kind of help today.

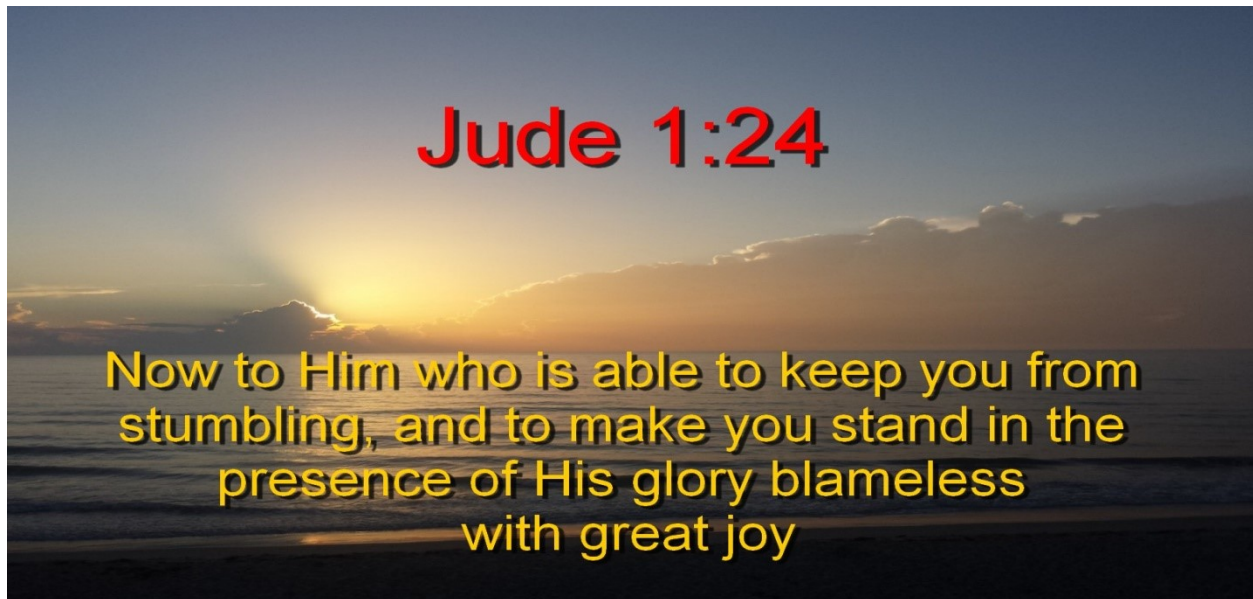
God did not want to close the Book of Jude without emphasizing our glorious future, both on earth and in heaven in the presence of God. Jude wrote that God keeps us from stumbling now by the power of God through the Lord Jesus Christ. That same power causes to stand in the presence of the glory of God blameless with great joy.

Jude then presented the doxology directed toward our only God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord. To Him we ascribe glory, majesty, dominion, and authority before all ages and now and to all the ages. Amen.

HALLELUJAH !

Day 24

Keep You Today



How do stumbling and standing go together? Jesus keeps us from stumbling and makes us stand in the presence of His glory blameless and with great joy.

Jude described the creepers, the revilers, the mockers and the grumblers who enticed saints to sin. Against that backdrop of persecution, affliction and sin, Jude concluded his letter with wonderful statements about the power and love of Jesus Christ for every saint.

Jude wrote that Jesus keeps us from stumbling. In fact, He makes us stand in the presence of His glory blameless and with great joy. When Jude looked at the future, he saw every saint standing in the presence of God. Every saint stood in the presence of the glory of God blameless. The saints who had been snatched out of the fire and those whose garments had been polluted by the flesh all stood blameless in the presence of the glory of God.

Jude brought hope to every saint who had fallen into sin after salvation. We all must care for one another with the love and mercy of God. We live in

holy fear of God, but we abide in His love and count upon His mercy and love for us.

Only because of Jesus can we stand blameless in the presence of the glory of God. As we stand there one day, we will be full of His joy.

Standing Blameless

1. **We Stand**. Will I dance for Jesus or to my knees will I fall? Jude told us that God makes us blameless to stand in His glorious presence.

2. **Great Joy**. One day we will stand in the glorious presence of Jesus blameless and with great joy.

3. **His Presence**. As Christmas draws near, we hear Jude reminding us that Jesus took flesh and was born of a virgin to make us blameless in His presence.

4. **Present**. Today Jesus keeps us from stumbling.

5. **Future**. Our future in Jesus could not look brighter, happier, and more glorious.

6. **Jesus Keeps Us**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that we thank Jesus that He keeps us from stumbling.

7. **Glorious**. We rejoice today as we look to the future when we will stand in the glorious presence of the Lord Jesus Christ blameless and with great joy.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by looking forward to standing in the presence of the glory of God.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by looking forward to the joy of stumbling no more.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by looking upon each other as holy and blameless before God, because Jesus keeps us from stumbling and has prepared us to stand in the glory of God with great joy.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by meditating upon Jesus who keeps us from stumbling. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending for the faith in the promise of God that we will stand in the presence of the glory of God blameless and with great joy?

HALLELUJAH !

Day 25

God Our Savior Today



How did Jude picture our relationship to God the Father? Jude pictured the saints ascribing all glory, majesty, dominion and authority to God our Savior through the Lord Jesus Christ.

Jude meant that all glory, majesty, dominion and authority belong to God our Savior. Through the Lord Jesus Christ, we ascribe that glory to God our Savior. Jesus serves as the single mediator between God and man, as the man Christ Jesus. No one comes to the Father, but through Jesus. He opened and provided the new and living way to the throne of God.

Jude received the revelation about the creepers, revilers, mockers and grumblers so that we would understand the clandestine enemy infiltrating the local assemblies. He wanted us to contend earnestly for the faith by recognizing and opposing those evil people.

Jude also wanted us to understand that God did not spare His own people or angels who sinned against Him. Jude warned the saints against the

perils of unbelief. Therefore, when Jude commanded us to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints, he contrasted that with unbelief.

Jude understood that some saints needed to be rescued from evil, snatched from the fire, with mercy and love poured upon them. Saints must always care for other saints with the love, mercy and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. One day we will all stand in the presence of God holy and blameless with great joy.

Our Savior

1. **Praise**. How did Jude close his epistle? Jude praised God our Savior.
2. **Savior**. We often think of Jesus Christ as our Savior, and so He is.
3. **Reminder**. Jude reminds us that God is our Savior.
4. **Attribution**. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, we ascribe glory, majesty, dominion and authority to God our Savior.
5. **Worship**. In other words, we worship God for His glory, majesty, dominion and authority.
6. **Worthy**. Living earnestly in the family of God means that we recognize God our Savior as worthy of all glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever.
7. **Now and Forever**. Jude closed his epistle by drawing our attention to God our Savior to worship Him now and forever as we join those who worshiped Him from creation until now.

Summary for Today

- **We live earnestly in the family of God by ascribing glory, majesty, dominion and authority to God our Savior, through our Lord Jesus Christ.**
- **We live more earnestly in the family of God by loving God through our Lord Jesus Christ for His grace, mercy and kindness towards us.**
- **We live together earnestly in the family of God by remembering that God our Savior deserves our worship before all time, now and forever. Amen.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live earnestly in the family of God by ascribing to God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, glory, majesty, dominion and authority. Will you live earnestly in the family of God today by contending earnestly for the faith while worshiping God through our Lord Jesus Christ?

HALLELUJAH !

Conclusion

Jude reminded saints to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints. They must contend against the creepers were also known as the grumblers and mockers. Those evil people lived irreverent, licentious, reviling, grumbling and mocking lives. They were soulless ones, without the Holy Spirit. They gave themselves to sexual pleasures, turning the grace of God into licentiousness. They were stealthy, dishonoring God and reviling angelic majesties, and flattering people for gaining an advantage.

Jesus will come with thousands of His holy ones and judge the irreverent who disobeyed Him and corrupted the saints. Until then, the saints contend earnestly for the faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, having mercy on some, and snatching others out of the fire. Saints love saints and help them to stand with Jesus and contend earnestly for the faith.

Judge also looks into the future. God keeps us from stumbling today, and secures our future where we will stand blameless with great joy in the presence of His glory. To God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, belong majesty, dominion, and authority before all the ages and now and to all the ages. Amen.

HALLELUJAH !