

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

Jude

Jude

Six (6) different people in the New Testament are named Jude. But is not hard to discern which one wrote this book. Jude was the half-brother of the Lord Jesus, the brother of James, the leader of the early church in Jerusalem, and the writer of the New Testament Book of James. ***Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ*** (v.1) The book would have been written between 60-64 A.D.

Jude uses the number three (3) with remarkable skill for illustrative purposes, to show the completeness and trustworthiness of what he is expressing.

- V. 1) He addresses those to whom he is writing with a threefold identification **1**. Called **2**. Sanctified **3**. Preserved.
- V. 2) He salutes them with three blessings **1**. Mercy **2**. Peace **3**. Love
- Vv.5-7) He gives **three instances of God's judgment on sin in the Old Testament and the judgment that followed that sin.**
 - V. 5, The Lord saved the people of Israel from the land of Egypt, and afterward destroyed those who did not believe.
 - V. 6, The angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their dwelling place and came to earth and had forbidden relations with the daughters of men. They are kept in chains under darkness waiting for the coming judgment.
 - V. 7, Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, having given themselves to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh are set as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.
 - V. 8) Likewise these dreamers, probably those who claim they have a "word from God" and proceed with visions that did not originate with God. They are spoken of as those who **1**. Defile the flesh **2**. Reject authorities **3**. Those who speak evil of dignitaries.
 - V. 11) Those who follow the evil triad mentioned above will experience the woes that followed the sins of three people **1**. Those who follow the way of Cain **2**. Those who are greedy for gain like Balaam. **3**. Those who rebel as did Korah.
 - V. 12) Those who behave and follow after those mentioned above are likened unto three things, **1**. Clouds without water look promising but do not deliver what is naturally expected **2**. Late autumn trees that are expected to bear fruit but are barren **3**. Raging sea foam that is produced by waves, the foam has no power and dissipates much of the power of the force of the wave.

Prayer and Action Steps

Now to Him who can keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, Be glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever.

Amen. (vv.24-25)