



Jude

Strongly worded advice on the dangers of selfish, critical leaders.

Jude is a very short book, only 24 verses long, written to an early Christian community about the dangers that selfish, immoral, false leaders posed to them as a community. Using examples from Israel's history, Jude urges the community to beware of these kinds of leaders and to rest in confidence in the faithfulness and love of God.



How long will it take?

Reading time: about 4 mins
Short of time? It's only 24 verses – read it all!



Genre

Letter



Anything tricky?

It quotes 1 Enoch 1.9 which is neither in the canon of 66 books accepted by all Christians as the Bible text, nor in the additional texts



Inspiring quotes

But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. And have mercy on those who doubt. *(Jude 1.20-22)*



About the times

The letter is written to a group of early Christians in the second half of the first century ad, maybe around ad 60-70 but it could be later.

What were people feeling?

The Christian community was finding its feet and confidence but was struggling with unreliable leaders who were knocking them off course and causing divisions. So they were probably feeling quite confused and bewildered.

Other books set around this time

2 Peter

What kind of Book is it?

Jude is a letter or epistle written to community of Christians expressing concern about their leaders.

As with all letters, the epistle of Jude is writing into a situation that they all knew about and we don't. There is not much evidence about their situation.



How is it structured?

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| 1-2 | Introduction |
| 3-4 | A plea to contend for the faith |
| 5-16 | Arguments against false teachers |
| 17-23 | How to stand firm against false teachers |
| 24-25 | Look to Jesus who is the source of our strength |

