**The General Epistle of Jude**

**Jude**

1Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ[[1]](#footnote-25935) and brother of James, to the called ones, loved by God the Father and kept by Jesus Christ: 2may mercy and peace and love be multiplied to you.

3Beloved, while being very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you urging you to contend earnestly for the faith[[2]](#footnote-25550) that was delivered to the holy ones once for all *time*. 4For certain people have crept in unnoticed, those who were written about long ago for this condemnation; *they are* ungodly, perverting the grace of our God into immoral indulgence and denying our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

5Now I want to remind you, though you have known all *these* things, that the Lord, who at one time saved a people out of the land of Egypt, later destroyed those who did not believe. 6And likewise, the angels who did not keep within their *own* domain but abandoned their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains in gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day. 7Likewise, Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, having indulged in sexual immorality in a similar way as these *angels* and gone after unnatural[[3]](#footnote-13275) flesh, are set forward as an example, suffering the punishment of the fire of the age *to come*.

8Also, in a similar way, these people—because of their dreams—defile the flesh, reject authority, and slander the glorious ones. 9But when Michael, a ruling angel, was disputing with the Devil[[4]](#footnote-32669) *and* arguing about the body of Moses, he did not dare pronounce against him a charge of defamation, but said, “The Lord rebuke you!” 10But these people slander whatever things they do not understand; and whatever things they know by instinct, like unreasoning animals, they are destroyed by *following* these things. 11How terrible it will be for them! Because they walked in the way of Cain; and for the sake of profit, they have committed themselves to the error of Balaam; and they were destroyed in the rebellion of Korah. 12These people are hidden reefs[[5]](#footnote-17718) at your love feasts, feasting together with you without fear, shepherding *only* themselves. *They are* clouds without water carried along by the wind; autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, uprooted; 13wild waves of the sea, casting up their own shameful deeds like foam; wandering stars—for whom the deep gloom of darkness has been reserved until the age *to come*.[[6]](#footnote-27060)

14And Enoch, the seventh from Adam, also prophesied about these people, saying, “Look! The Lord will come with many thousands of his holy ones 15to execute judgment upon all and to convict every soul concerning all of their ungodly works that they have committed in an ungodly way, and concerning all the harsh things that ungodly sinners have spoken against him.” 16These people are grumblers *and* complainers, walking after their own *ungodly* desires, and their mouth speaks grandiose things, flattering people for *their own* advantage.

17But you, beloved, remember the message that was foretold by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. 18They said to you, “In the last time there will be mockers, walking after their own ungodly desires.” 19These people cause divisions and are worldly-minded,[[7]](#footnote-18455) not having the spirit.

20But you, beloved, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith[[8]](#footnote-13241) *and* by praying in the holy spirit, 21keep yourselves in the love of God while you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that results in life in the age *to come*.

22And have mercy on those who are doubting, 23and save others by snatching them out of the fire, and on others have mercy with fear, hating even the clothing stained by the flesh.

24Now to him who is able to guard you from stumbling and cause you to stand in the presence of his glory without blemish *and* with great joy, 25to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all the ages, and now, and for all the ages *to come*. Amen.

1. Lit. “the Anointed One” [↑](#footnote-ref-25935)
2. “Faith” refers to the Christian Faith. [↑](#footnote-ref-25550)
3. Lit. “other” [↑](#footnote-ref-13275)
4. “Devil” is a transliteration of the Greek word diabolos, which literally means “Slanderer.” [↑](#footnote-ref-32669)
5. Or “blemishes” [↑](#footnote-ref-17718)
6. Or “forever” [↑](#footnote-ref-27060)
7. Greek refers to a “soul-oriented” person, meaning “carnal,” the opposite of “spiritual.” [↑](#footnote-ref-18455)
8. “Faith” refers to the Christian Faith. [↑](#footnote-ref-13241)