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The Chapters of Jude

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Jude

SECTION OUTLINE ONE (JUDE 1)

Jude writes about apostasy.

- I. THE BURDEN TO WARN AGAINST APOSTASY (1:1-3)
 - A. **Jude's prayer** (1:1-2): He asks God to grant his readers mercy, peace, and love.
 - B. **Jude's plan** (1:3a): He originally planned to write concerning God's wonderful salvation.
 - C. **Jude's perception** (1:3b): He then realized that the Spirit wanted him to warn against apostasy.

- II. THE NEED TO WARN AGAINST APOSTASY (1:4a): Wicked apostates have secretly slipped in among the believers.

- III. THE HISTORICAL EXAMPLES OF APOSTASY (1:5-6, 7b, 11): Jude lists six such examples.
 - A. **The nation of Israel** (1:5): Apostasy caused by unbelief.
 - B. **Fallen angels** (1:6): Apostasy caused by rebellion.
 - C. **Sodom and Gomorrah** (1:7b): Apostasy caused by sexual immorality.
 - D. **Cain** (1:11a): Apostasy caused by religious perversion.
 - E. **Balaam** (1:11b): Apostasy caused by financial greed.
 - F. **Korah** (1:11c): Apostasy caused by rejection of divine authority.

- IV. THE CHARACTERISTICS OF APOSTASY (1:4b-4c, 8-10, 16-19)
 - A. **Changing God's grace into a license for immorality** (1:4b)
 - B. **Denying the deity of Jesus Christ** (1:4c)
 - C. **Degrading the human body** (1:8a)
 - D. **Rejecting authority** (1:8b)
 - E. **Slandering celestial beings** (1:8c-9): Here Jude gives a classic example underlining the seriousness of this particular sin.
 - 1. The background (1:8c-9a): The archangel Michael was disputing with Satan about the body of Moses.
 - 2. The back-down (1:9b): Michael refused to level a slanderous accusation against the Devil, leaving that to God himself.
 - F. **Degenerating into brute unreasoning animals** (1:10)
 - G. **Faultfinding** (1:16a)
 - H. **Flattering others only for their own advantage** (1:16b)
 - I. **Scoffing and divisive, following their own evil instincts, which are totally devoid of God** (1:17-19)

- V. THE METAPHORS FOR APOSTASY (1:12-13)
 - A. **Dangerous reefs that can cause shipwrecks** (1:12a)
 - B. **Self-centered shepherds** (1:12b)
 - C. **Waterless clouds** (1:12c)
 - D. **Dead autumn trees** (1:12d)
 - E. **Wild waves of the sea** (1:13a)
 - F. **Wandering stars** (1:13b)

- VI. THE DIVINE JUDGMENT ON APOSTASY (1:7b, 14-15)
 - A. **Past judgment** (1:7a): Jude reminds his readers of the fiery judgment rained down upon the wicked cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.
 - B. **Future judgment** (1:7b, 14-15): Jude predicts God's fire judgment on apostasy and reminds his

readers of Enoch's prophecy concerning Christ's second coming.

VII. THE SAFEGUARDS AGAINST APOSTASY (1:20-25)

A. The believer and self (1:20-21)

1. Believers are to build on the Word of God (1:20a).
2. Believers are to pray in the power of God (1:20b).
3. Believers are to remain in the love of God (1:21).

B. The believer and sinners (1:22-23): Jude instructs on how to deal with three types of sinners.

1. Those who are in great doubt (1:22)
2. Those who are in great danger (1:23a)
3. Those who are in great depravity (1:23b)

C. The believer and the Savior (1:24-25)

1. Jesus' ministry (1:24)
 - a. His current ministry (1:24a): Preventing us from falling down here.
 - b. His coming ministry (1:24b): Presenting us faultless up there.
2. Jesus' magnificence (1:25): "Glory, majesty, power, and authority belong to him, in the beginning, now, and forevermore. Amen."