

HOME STUDY

“Let him
take
the water
of life
freely”

Revelation 22:17

Spring Quarter
March | April | May 2025

Large-Print Edition

Home Study

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SPRING QUARTER

March, April, May 2025

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Fight for Your Faith Until the Final Victory

LYNDA KOPACZ

As you open this booklet, I pray that your heart will also be open to all that God has for you as you study His truths at home. You may feel far away from Him and even a bit isolated from the body of believers, but the fact is that He never leaves you, and His Holy Spirit wants to guide you in all wisdom and truth. God sees you, and He knows every detail of your situation. He indeed has given you and me everything we need for life and godliness. He has also given you hope that will not disappoint. Let His presence and purpose grow in you through your problems and pain, for He desires an intimate fellowship with you. Be encouraged, and then go encourage someone else! Let's take a moment to pray before we begin this unit.

Father God, thank You for this opportunity to delve into Your word. Please open my eyes to see Your truth and enable me to apply what I read. Draw me closer to You and build up my faith as I take time to study Your words. Holy Spirit, teach me and fill me. Thank You for Your Living Word and for loving me enough to send Jesus. It is in His name we pray. Amen.

Do you sometimes feel like life is one big struggle and it takes effort just to breathe? Maybe you are home because you are taking care of someone who is sick, or even dying. Does your work keep you from attending a local church? Maybe you are dealing with your own chronic illness. Whatever

prevents you from going to church does not need to keep you from seeking the Lord and worshipping Him.

In the first lesson of this study, Jude exhorts believers to fight for their faith, which was handed to them by Christ. We must not become passive in our faith, but with all the strength we can muster, we must fight. Jude warns believers to recognize false teachers and doctrine. Make sure what you are taking in lines up with Scripture. We don't want to be duped into believing lies.

In lesson 2, Jude reminds us to remember the words of Jesus and build ourselves up in our most holy faith. How do we do this? Focus on Jesus. Pray with people and read Scripture. Thank God and sing to Him. We are to keep ourselves in the irresistible and infinite love of God that is ours through Jesus Christ. Nothing and no one can separate us from God's unconditional love. May God open your understanding to how deep and wide and intense His perfect love is toward you. Ask Him to make you more aware of His love for you.

The second unit, covering lessons 3-8, brings us to study the Revelation of Jesus Christ.

In lesson 3 we learn that God's judgment is coming, but we do not know when. He is patient toward unbelievers and does not want anyone to miss the opportunity to repent and receive salvation. It is His will that all would follow and worship Christ our Lord. Lesson 4 then

PLEASE NOTE: Fundamental, sound doctrine is the objective of LifeStone Ministries, Union Gospel Press. The writers are prayerfully selected for their Bible knowledge and willingness to submit to the Spirit of Truth, each writing in his own style as enlightened by the Holy Spirit. At best we know in part only. "They received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11).

introduces John's heavenly vision complete with God's throne, angelic hosts, victorious elders dressed in white, and flying beasts who constantly cry out "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come" (Rev. 4:8). We see worship continuing to build in lesson 5 as we witness the Lamb of God sitting upon the throne. He alone is worthy of the worship, for He alone redeems a people for God. Every single creature in heaven, on earth, in the seas, and on the land worships Him.

Momentum builds in lesson 6 as people from all around the world stand as victors dressed in white robes and carrying palms in their hand, giving more praise and blessing to the Lord.

In lesson 7 we see John's vision of angelic messengers. The first one told people to fear God and give Him glory, for judgment was coming. The second angel said that Babylon was fallen because of God's wrath. A third angelic messenger warns people about the eternal wrath of God being poured out on those who receive the mark of the beast on their forehead or hand. They never rest from their torment. Those, however, who are faithful to follow Jesus and endure the hardships of that time period by obeying the Lord will have proven their faith to be authentic. They will die in the Lord and be blessed and receive rest from all their work. We can be encouraged to keep our faith genuine no matter how difficult life becomes.

In lesson 8 Jesus had just surprised the disciples after He rose from the dead. He asked them why they doubted, and then He asked them for some food. After eating some fish, He told them that everything written about Him throughout the entire Bible had to be fulfilled. Then once again, He began to teach them and gave them the understanding and the charge to share the gospel with all people. He also told them to wait for the power from on high. God gives strength and power as we wait on Him.



The third unit, titled the Final Victory, begins with lesson 9, covering Revelation 19 where a voice like thunder came from the throne. God had destroyed Babylon and avenged the blood of the martyrs. Following this Hallelujah Chorus, John writes that the marriage of the Lamb had come, and the bride had made herself ready. A fabulous wedding feast was prepared and all who follow Jesus have been invited.

Lessons 10-13 excite us as they describe the new heaven, the new earth, and the New Jerusalem. With God dwelling among His people, everything changes. There is no more death, sorrow, aches, pain, or crying because God wipes away all tears. All the former things pass away, and everything is made new. We will drink from the fountain of the water of life and thirst no more as we enjoy unhindered fellowship with Almighty God.

Lesson 11 reinforces that God does not live in a temple in the New Jerusalem because He is the temple and His glory is the light, so there will be no need of any sun or moon. Lesson 12 tells us that curses cannot be present in the perfect city of the New Jerusalem. Our final lesson 13 shines the light on the words of Jesus as He declares He is the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End.

SCRIPTURE LESSON TEXT

JUDE 1:1 Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, *and* called:

2 Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied.

3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort *you* that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

5 I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not.

6 And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.

7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to forni-

cation, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

8 Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities.

9 Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.

10 But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves.

11 Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.

12 These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds *they are* without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots;

13 Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.

NOTES

Beware of False Teachers

Lesson Text: Jude 1:1-13

Related Scriptures: II Thessalonians 1:1-10; II Timothy 3:1-9; II Peter 2:1-22

TIME: about A.D. 70

PLACE: unknown

GOLDEN TEXT—“It was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 1:3b).

Lesson Exposition

Our first lesson of the quarter powerfully calls for steadfastness of faith in Christ Jesus. Although it was written many years ago, around A.D. 70, it is critical and pertinent today when much of society pushes relative truth instead of absolute truth and plenty of false teachers promote perilous doctrines along with unbiblical personal narratives. Our lesson comes from the short, and often overlooked, book of Jude. Jude wrote to the early Christians warning them about God’s judgment on the false teachers who taught dangerous doctrines to allow for their sinful lifestyles.

DEVELOPING IDENTITY—Jude 1:1-2

As the brother of James (and half-brother of Jesus) Jude first introduced himself as a bond servant of Jesus. Bond servants were basically slaves for life. In identifying as a bond servant to Christ, Jude defined his relationship with Christ as subservient. Jude was showing the depth of his dedication to God as he considered Jesus Christ his master. As a slave, Jude had given up his rights and his own will and lived to please his Master. Bond

servants were to obey their masters in everything. Jude was living to do whatever his Master wanted. Jude’s first statement of identity as one belonging to Christ set Christ as Lord over his life and provided an example for others to follow.

After introducing and identifying himself, Jude then identified his readers. He began this letter to fellow believers with a reminder that God had sanctified them. God had started the sanctification process and only in Him would it continue. In sanctifying them, God made them holy. Only God can make someone holy. God purified them from sin and freed them from its bondage in order to live their lives in obedience to Him. God had permanently set them apart from the world as a holy people to reflect His glory for a holy purpose.

Jude then pointed out that Jesus preserved or kept them. Jesus was watching over them and carefully attending to their needs, even as a devoted mother watches over her children. He was always mindful of them and guarded them so that they would be secure and safe.