



Adult Bible Teacher

For Teachers of Adults Ages 18 and Up

“Let him
take
the water
of life
freely”

Revelation 22:17

Spring Quarter

March | April | May

2025

Large-Print Edition

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SPRING QUARTER

March, April, May 2025

Daily Bible Readings	2
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The Climax of History UNIT I: Challenges to the Faith

Mar. 2—Beware of False Teachers—Jude 1:1-13	3
Mar. 9—Build Up Your Faith—Jude 1:17-25	9

UNIT II: The Revelation of Jesus

Mar. 16—Jesus Is Coming—II Pet. 3:3-15a	15
Mar. 23—Worship Before the Throne—Rev. 4:1-11	21
Mar. 30—Worthy Is the Lamb—Rev. 5:1-5, 11-14	27
Apr. 6—The Great Multitude—Rev. 7:9-17	33
Apr. 13—Babylon Is Fallen—Rev. 14:6-13	39
Apr. 20—Jesus Fulfills the Scriptures (Easter)—Luke 24:32-49	45

UNIT III: The Final Victory

Apr. 27—The Wedding Feast of the Lamb—Rev. 19:5-10	51
May 4—A New Heaven and a New Earth—Rev. 21:1-8	57
May 11—The Holy New Jerusalem—Rev. 21:9-14, 22-27	63
May 18—The River of Life—Rev. 22:1-9	69
May 25—Come, Lord Jesus—Rev. 22:12-21	75



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Daily Bible Readings for Home Study and Worship

(Readings are for the week previous to the lesson topics.)

1. March 2. Beware of False Teachers

M — Perilous Times Coming. II Tim. 3:1-9.
T — False Prophets Among You. II Pet. 2:1-8.
W — Brute Beasts. II Pet. 2:9-16.
T — Empty Promises. II Pet. 2:17-22.
F — Rebellion of Korah. Num. 16:1-35.
S — Judgment on the Wicked. II Thess. 1:1-10.
S — Contend for the Faith. Jude 1:1-13.

2. March 9. Build Up Your Faith

M — All We Need for Godliness. II Pet. 1:3-11.
T — Watch Out for Wolves. Acts 20:28-31.
W — Some Will Depart. I Tim. 4:1-5.
T — Built Up in Christ. Col. 2:6-12.
F — Saying No to Worldly Passions. Titus 2:11-14.
S — Abide in Christ's Love. John 15:9-17.
S — Remain in God's Love. Jude 1:17-25.

3. March 16. Jesus Is Coming

M — Sinners Doubt God's Coming Judgment. Isa. 5:18-23.
T — The First Four Days of Creation. Gen. 1:1-19.
W — Creation Work Completed. Gen. 1:20-31.
T — Repopulation of Creation. Gen. 8:15-22.
F — The Everlasting Lord. Ps. 90:1-4.
S — The Earth Will Be Destroyed. Isa. 24:1-13.
S — Looking Toward Christ's Coming. II Pet. 3:3-15a.

4. March 23. Worship Before the Throne

M — The Trumpet of God. I Thess. 4:13-18.
T — The Last Trumpet. I Cor. 15:50-58.
W — An Awesome Display. Ex. 19:16-25.
T — God's Glory Departs. Ezek. 10:1-22.
F — The Four Living Creatures. Ezek. 1:4-28.
S — The Elders' Worship. Rev. 11:15-19.
S — Worthy of Praise. Rev. 4:1-11.

5. March 30. Worthy Is the Lamb

M — First Six Seals. Rev. 6:1-17.
T — The Seventh Seal. Rev. 8:1-5.
W — The Lion of Judah. Gen. 49:8-12.
T — The Root of Jesse. Isa. 11:1-10.
F — The Lamb of God. John 1:19-34.
S — A New Song. Rev. 5:6-10.
S — Praise for the Lamb. Rev. 5:1-5, 11-14.

6. April 6. The Great Multitude

M — Shouts of "Hosanna." John 12:12-16.
T — God Will Be Among His People. Lev. 26:9-13.
W — The Time of God's Favor. Isa. 49:8-12.
T — The Lord Is Perfectly Faithful. Isa. 25:1-8.
F — The Accuser Is Cast Down. Rev. 12:7-12.
S — The Multitude Celebrates. Rev. 19:1-4.
S — Washed by the Blood of the Lamb. Rev. 7:9-17.

7. April 13. Babylon Is Fallen

M — The 144,000 Sealed. Rev. 7:1-8.
T — The Song of the 144,000. Rev. 14:1-5.
W — A New Song of Praise. Ps. 96:1-13.

T — Babylon Destroyed. Rev. 18:1-19.
F — Rejoicing over Babylon's Fall. Rev. 18:20-24.
S — Two Evil Beasts. Rev. 13:1-18.
S — Fall of the Great City. Rev. 14:6-13.

8. April 20. Jesus Fulfills the Scriptures (Easter)

M — Jesus Foretells His Suffering. Matt. 16:21-28.
T — Resurrection Power in Believers. Eph. 1:17-23.
W — Resurrection Witnesses. I Cor. 15:1-11.
T — All Things Put in Subjection. I Cor. 15:20-28.
F — The Empty Tomb. Luke 24:1-12.
S — On the Emmaus Road. Luke 24:13-35.
S — All That Was Written Now Fulfilled. Luke 24:32-49.

9. April 27. The Wedding Feast of the Lamb

M — The Maker of Heaven and Earth. Ps. 134:1-3.
T — Praise in the Great Congregation. Ps. 22:22-31.
W — God Gives a Robe of Righteousness. Isa. 61:8-11.
T — Your Maker Is Your Husband. Isa. 54:4-10.
F — The Lord Reigns. Ps. 97:1-12.
S — Wedding Banquet Parable. Matt. 22:1-14.
S — Honoring the Living Lord. Rev. 19:5-10.

10. May 4. A New Heaven and a New Earth

M — Jerusalem Transformed. Isa. 65:17-25.
T — The First and the Last. Isa. 44:6-8.
W — The Sure Mercies of David. Isa. 55:1-5.
T — Victory That Overcomes the World. I John 5:1-6.
F — Permanent Restoration. Isa. 66:22-24.
S — A Place Prepared for Us. John 14:1-7.
S — Our New Home. Rev. 21:1-8.

11. May 11. The Holy New Jerusalem

M — City of the Living God. Heb. 12:22-24.
T — Jerusalem's Gates Are Named. Ezek. 48:31-34.
W — Christ the Cornerstone. Eph. 2:19-22.
T — The Lord Is the Light. Isa. 60:19-21.
F — No Darkness in God. I John 1:5-7.
S — The City Is Measured. Rev. 21:15-21.
S — Vision of the Holy City. Rev. 21:9-14, 22-27.

12. May 18. The River of Life

M — Life-giving Water. Ezek. 47:1-12.
T — Come and Drink. John 7:37-39.
W — The Tree of Life. Gen. 2:4-9; 3:22-24.
T — Face to Face. I John 2:28—3:3.
F — We Shall Reign with Him. II Tim. 2:1-13.
S — Living Water from Jerusalem. Zech. 14:6-9.
S — A Glorious Future. Rev. 22:1-9.

13. May 25. Come, Lord Jesus

M — A Crown of Righteousness. II Tim. 4:6-8.
T — Behold Your God! Isa. 40:9-11.
W — Behold, Your Salvation Comes. Isa. 62:10-12.
T — God's Wrath Poured Out. Isa. 63:1-6.
F — Eternal Redemption by His Blood. Heb. 9:11-14.
S — Shout for Joy! Ps. 118:15-21.
S — The Spirit and the Bride Beckon. Rev. 22:12-21.

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).

Preparing to Teach the Lesson

TODAY’S AIM

Facts: to point out that false teaching is a threat to Christ’s church.

Principle: to show that we need to be steadfast in the faith in order to avoid the influence of false teaching.

Application: to warn believers to be on guard against false teaching.

INTRODUCING THE LESSON

All kinds of teachings are creeping into the church. People are looking for emotional experiences to validate their faith and their relationship with God. Not everything we hear in church is necessarily scriptural. We must be careful that we do not fall prey to false teaching.

DEVELOPING THE LESSON

1. Jude, servant of Jesus (Jude 1:1-2). As the half brother of Christ, Jude could have relied upon his special relationship to Jesus as a source of uncontested authority. Yet he chose instead to identify as the servant of Christ. Emphasize to your students that true leadership in the church is not dependent upon special relationships. Instead, faithful church leaders are marked by

their submission and service to Christ and the Word of God.

2. Beware of false teachers in the church (Jude 1:3-4). Jude warns us that false teaching can infiltrate even God’s church.

The truth of the gospel is unchanging. We are therefore called to defend that good news. Ask the students to discuss various false teachings that have affected the church.

3. False teachers described (Jude 1:5-13). How can we identify false teachers today? Jude provides some answers in verses 8-13. False teachers imagine themselves to be above others and thus not subject to the same laws. They stand in judgment of other people, even of those in authority.

False teachers often live immoral lives and defy authority. They also ridicule and mock things they do not understand, and they do not understand spiritual things. They live by their animal-like instincts and destroy themselves because they live without restraint.

Jude used several images to describe the false teachers. Dangerous reefs, or “spots” (Jude 1:12), can ship-

wreck a boat, and in Jude's time, they could not be detected under the water until it was too late. A second image is that of clouds that blow over dry land, promising rain but not producing any.

They are also like trees that do not produce fruit at harvesttime. They are like white, wild waves of the sea that produce nothing but foam. They are also like wandering stars that are headed for destruction.

Jude went on to describe them as

complainers and grumblers who are never content with anything. They follow the desires of their evil hearts without any concern for the outcome. They are proud, boastful, and deceptive. They win others by flattery in order to get what they want.

ANTICIPATING THE NEXT LESSON

Our next lesson covers the second half of Jude's letter: verses 17-25.

—A. Koshy Muthalaly

Studying the Text

INTRODUCTION—Jude 1:1-2

Resembling many of the letters found in the New Testament, the book of Jude begins by identifying the letter's sender: "Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James." That Jude identifies himself simply as the "brother of James" is of particular interest. Both names were extremely common in first-century Judea. Referring to oneself as "Jude, . . . the brother of James" in the first century is like calling oneself "Bob, the brother of Bill" in the twenty-first century. Thus, we may assume that both figures in verse 1—Jude and James—were so well known in the early church that such basic designations would be sufficient.

{Considering what the New Testament informs us about figures with these names, it is likely that these are the half brothers of Jesus, children of Mary and Joseph.} ^{Q1}

Why, then, would Jude, with his unique relationship to Jesus, not identify first as *Jesus'* half brother? Although we cannot say anything definitively, Jude's decision was certainly impactful. He clearly does not consider his familial relationship to Jesus as something to use to his advantage. Rather, he counts

himself a "servant of Jesus Christ." In what follows, Jude warns against false teachers not as Jesus' half brother but as a fellow servant of Christ.

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH—Jude 1:3-4

A common salvation (Jude 1:3). Jude referred to God's people with the affectionate term "Beloved." It seems that his original intention was to pen a letter in which he would speak of the "common salvation" they had in Christ (Jude 1:3). The word for "common" denotes something that is shared in common. In this case, it is the salvation we share through Jesus Christ.

{Though he would have preferred to write about this common salvation, Jude felt it necessary to deal with a more pressing problem. It seems that false teachers were infiltrating the ranks of the faithful and were attempting to lead people astray.} ^{Q2}

{The phrase "earnestly contend" in verse 3 depicts combat or a contest. Those defending the true gospel are involved in spiritual warfare against the forces of the evil one (Eph. 6:10-17). Since Jude spoke of "the faith" as something delivered to the saints, we