

unfoldingWord® Simplified Text

v92

Jude

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Chapter 1 1

Jude

1 *I,* Jude, serve Jesus the Messiah, and I am a brother
of James. *I am writing* to you whom God has called, to
you whom God the Father loves, to you whom Jesus the
Messiah is keeping *for himself*. 2 I pray that God will increase
his merciful acts toward you and make you more peaceful
and make you experience more of his love.

3 *Fellow believers* whom I love, I tried my best to write *a*
letter to you about how God has saved all of us *who believe*.
However, I needed to write *this letter instead* in order to
urge you to defend the true things that we believe. *These*
are things that God has given for all time to all those whom
he has made holy. 4 *I am urging you to do this* because some
men have crept stealthily *into your meetings*. *They are men*
whom God has chosen to condemn a long time ago. They
do ungodly things. They think that our God permits people
to be sexually immoral because he is kind. *They also* oppose
what is true about Jesus the Messiah, who alone owns us
and rules over us.

5 Although you previously knew all these things, I desire
to remind you *of them*. *Remember* that after Jesus rescued the
people *of Israel* from the country of Egypt, he destroyed those
people *among them* who did not trust him. 6 Also, *some* angels
did not continue to remain in their proper places where they
had authority but abandoned them. *Because they did this* God
has imprisoned them forever in darkness *in hell*. *God did*
this in order to judge them on the important day *when he*
judges everything. 7 The same is true of *the people who lived in*
the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities near them.
They acted in a sexually immoral way in the same way as
those angels did. They participated in all kinds of improper
sexual acts. By causing these *angels and people* to suffer for
eternity in the fire of hell, God is making them an example
of those who reject him. 8 Similarly, these *false teachers* are
dreamers who not only make their own bodies dirty by living
immorally, but also reject the Lord's commands. They even
insult God's glorious angels.

9 Even the archangel Michael was not so bold as to speak
slanderous accusations against Satan when he argued with
him concerning the dead body of Moses. Instead, he *merely*
said, "May the Lord reprove you!" 10 By contrast, these *false*
teachers speak evil words about spiritual things that they
do not understand. They are just like animals that cannot
think rationally. The things that they are naturally able to
understand are destroying them.

11 How sad it is for them! They act like Cain, *who murdered*
his brother. They have dedicated themselves to committing
the same sin that Balaam committed in order to get money.
God will certainly destroy them like he destroyed Korah and
those who rebelled *against Moses with him*. 12 These people
are shamelessly eating with you. At your fellowship meals
they are like rocks hidden under the water that ships crash
against. They only take care of themselves. They are *useless,*
like clouds that the wind carries away before they can give
rain. They are *useless,* like trees that do not bear fruit at
harvest time. *They are like trees* that will die twice because
God will uproot them. 13 They are *uncontrollable,* like the
sea's thrashing waves. They display their disgraceful acts
just like the waves bring up foam. *They are like* stars that do
not stay where they should in the sky. God is reserving the
dark gloom *of hell* for them forever.

14 Even Enoch, the seventh person in the line of people
who descended from Adam, spoke about these false teachers
when he said: "Listen carefully to this: The Lord will certainly
come with a countless number of his holy *angels*. 15 *They will*
come to judge everyone and rebuke everyone for all their
ungodly deeds that they have done in ungodly ways, and for
all the harsh insults that these people, who sin and dishonor
God, spoke against Jesus." 16 These *false teachers* grumble
to themselves and complain *to others*. They live according to
their sinful desires and brag about themselves. They flatter
people in order to get what they want *from them*.

17 But you *fellow believers* whom I love, remember what
the apostles of our Lord Jesus the Messiah said long ago.
18 *Remember* that they told you, "In the last days *before Jesus*
returns, there will be people who mock *the true things that*
God has told us. *They will* live according to their own sinful
desires that dishonor God." 19 These *mockers* are the people
who are making believers angry with each other. *They live*
according to their natural instincts. The *Holy* Spirit does not
dwell within them.

20 However, you *fellow believers* whom I love, by increasing
your trust in God and by praying with the Holy Spirit's help,
21 keep living in a way that enables you to experience God's
love. *Do this* while expecting the merciful return of our Lord
Jesus the Messiah, *which will result in* living eternally *with*
him.

22 And be merciful to those who are confused *about what*
they should believe. 23 But rescue other people urgently, as if
you are pulling them out of the fire of hell. And be merciful
to some other people, but be cautious with them, as if just
touching their clothing could make you sinful.

24 God is able to prevent you from returning to a sinful
life. *He is also able* to take you without sin into his glorious
presence. *You will stand there* with great joy. 25 There is only
one God. He has saved us as a result of what our Lord Jesus
the Messiah *did for us*. I pray that everyone will recognize
that God is glorious, majestic, powerful, and rules with great
authority. *He was like that* before time began. *He is like that*
today, and *he will remain like that* forever! May it truly be so!