

STUDIES IN THE BOOK OF JUDE

By Ray DeCarlo

READING ASSIGNMENTS

- SDA BIBLE COMMENTARY, VOL.7 - PGS 701-711
- 2 PETER 2
- ST, NOV. 11, 1886

HISTORICAL SETTING

- AUTHOR - JUDE, THE BROTHER OF OUR LORD
- THE LETTER WAS WRITTEN AROUND AD 69,70
- APOSTASY WAS COMING INTO THE CHURCH

THE CHRONOLOGY OF APOSTASY

- AD 52 - 2 THESS. 2:1-7 - THE MYSTERY OF INIQUITY DOETH ALREADY WORK
- AD 58 - ACTS 20:17-30 - PAUL CHARGES THE ELDERS OF EPHESUS
- AD 62 - COL. 1,2 - PAUL ATTACKS GNOSTICISM
- AD 64 - 1 TIMOTHY 4:1-5 - THE FALLING AWAY
- AD 64 - 1 TIMOTHY 3:1-13 - QUALIFICATIONS OF ELDERS & DEACONS
- AD 65 - TITUS 1:5-9 - QUALIFICATIONS OF ELDERS
- AD 67 - 2 PETER 2 - PETER ATTACKS THE NICOLAITANS
- AD 69,70 - JUDE - EXPOSES THE DOCTRINE OF THE NICOLAITANS - LASCIVIOUSNESS
- AD 90-95 - 1 JOHN 4:1-3 - THE SPIRIT OF ANTI-CHRIST
- AD 90-95 - 2 JOHN 1:7-11 - GNOSTIC HERESY
- AD 90-95 - 3 JOHN 1:9-11 - DIOTREPHES LOVES PRE-EMINENCE - REFUSES TO READ JOHN'S LETTER TO THE CHURCH
- AD 90-100 - REV.2:1-7 - THE CHURCH OF EPHESUS / AD 34-100 - "THOU HATEST THE DEEDS OF THE NICOLAITANS"

NICOLAITANS

- ORIGIN UNKNOWN
- IT IS BELIEVED BY SOME THAT NICOLAS, ONE OF THE 7 DEACONS OF THE CHURCH OF JERUSALEM (ACTS 6:5), WAS THE FOUNDER OF THE NICOLAITANS
- THE BEGINNINGS OF THE NICOLAITANS ARE APOSTOLIC
- REV.2:1-7 - THE CHURCH OF EPHESUS / AD 34-100 - "THOU HATEST THE DEEDS OF THE NICOLAITANS"
- REV.2:12-17 - THE CHURCH OF PERGAMOS / AD 323-538 - "SO HAST THOU ALSO THEM THAT HOLD THE DOCTRINE OF THE NICOLAITANS"
- REV. 2:18-29 - THE CHURCH OF THYATIRA / AD 538-1798 "THOU SUFFEREST THAT WOMAN JEZEBEL, WHICH CALLETH HERSELF A PROPHETESS, TO TEACH & TO SEDUCE MY SERVANTS TO COMMIT FORNICATION, & TO EAT THINGS SACRIFICED UNTO IDOLS"
- 2 PETER - AD 67 - NICOLAITANS
- JUDE - AD 69,70 - NICOLAITANS

PARALLELS BETWEEN 2 PETER & JUDE

- JUDE 10 / 2 PETER 2:12
- JUDE 8 / 2 PETER 2:10
- JUDE 16 / 2 PETER 2:18
- JUDE 4 / 2 PETER 2:1
- JUDE 7 / 2 PETER 2:6
- JUDE 9 / 2 PETER 2:11

THEME

JUDE'S LETTER IS DESIGNED TO WARN US AGAINST FALSE BROTHERN & THEIR TEACHINGS. IT IS TO INSPIRE US TO LOVE THE TRUTH, SO THAT WE MAY "EARNESTLY CONTEND FOR THE FAITH WHICH WAS ONCE DELIVERED UNTO THE SAINTS."

THE LETTER CLOSES WITH A REMINDER THAT IN THE ACT OF CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH, WE MUST NOT FORGET WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT TO GOD, NAMELY THAT HIS CHILDREN SHOULD NOT ONLY LOVE THE TRUTH, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY PRACTICE WHAT THEY PREACH. AND THEY ARE TO CONSTANTLY REMEMBER THAT THE POWER OF GOD "IS ABLE TO KEEP YOU FROM FALLING, AND PRESENT YOU FAULTLESS BEFORE THE PRESENCE OF HIS GLORY WITH EXCEEDING JOY." UNTIL THE DAY OF HIS GLORIOUS APPEARING.

SUMMARY

- **JUDE - 3 POINTS ARE MADE:**
 - 1) **WE SHOULD EARNESTLY CONTEND FOR THE FAITH**
 - 2) **BEWARE OF FALSE BRETHERN, (NICOLATIANS) & THEIR TEACHINGS**
 - 3) **IN OUR EFFORT TO LEAD OTHERS TO CHRIST, WE MUST REMEMBER TO DO IT GOD'S WAY & IN THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST**

ANALYSIS

JUDE

- VS.1-2 - SALUTATION
- VS.3-4 - PURPOSE FOR WRITING
- VS.5-7 - THE JUDGMENTS OF GOD - 3 EXAMPLES
- VS.8-11 - DEFYING AUTHORITY, CAIN, BALAAM & KORAH
- VS.12-13 - 5 CHARACTERISTICS
- VS.14-16 - ENOCH'S PROPHECY

THE PROPHECY OF ENOCH

"Enoch was the first prophet among mankind. He foretold by prophecy the second coming of Christ to our world, and his work at that time... His prophecy is not found in the writings of the Old Testament. We may never find any books which relate to the works of Enoch, but Jude, a prophet of God, mentions the work of Enoch." - *IBC 1088*

"The Lord opened more fully to Enoch the plan of salvation, and by the spirit of prophecy carried him down through the generations which should live after the flood, and showed him the great events connected with the second coming of Christ and the end of the world.

"Enoch was troubled in regard to the dead. It seemed to him that the righteous and the wicked would go to the dust together, and that would be their end. He could not clearly see the life of the just beyond the grave. In prophetic vision he was instructed in regard to the Son of God, who was to die man's sacrifice, and was shown the coming of Christ in the clouds of Heaven, attended by the angelic host, to give life to the righteous dead, and ransom them from their graves. He also saw the corrupt state of the world at the time when Christ should appear the second time--that there would be a boastful, presumptuous, self-willed generation arrayed in rebellion against the law of God, and denying the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ, and trampling upon his blood, and despising his atonement. He saw the righteous crowned with glory and honor, while the wicked were separated from the presence of the Lord, and consumed with fire.

"Enoch faithfully rehearsed to the people all that God had revealed to him by the spirit of prophecy. . ." - *3SG 55,56*

JUDE

- **VS.17-19 - THE CRISIS FORETOLD BY THE APOSTLES**
- **VS.20-23 - THE NATURE OF OUR WARFARE**

"The instruction given by Jude from verse twenty to the close of the chapter, will make our work a complete whole, teaching us how to conduct the warfare in the service of Christ. No one-sided extravagance is to be revealed, no indolence of shiftlessness is to be indulged. We are not to ignore any man's individuality, or in any way to justify cold-hearted criticism or selfish practice.

"This scripture brings to view the fact that there is most earnest work to be done, and we need divine intuition that we may know how to work for souls ready to perish. There are souls to be plucked out of the fire, there are souls who are to be treated with the tenderest compassion. Workers are needed who have learned in the school of Christ His method of saving souls." - Letter 7, 1895 - *7BC 953*

JUDE

- **VS.24-25 - DOXOLOGY - ASCRIBING PRAISE TO GOD**