

**“Calling All Christians!”**  
**Jude 1**

**Introduction:**

1. Last Sunday:
  - We Started A New Series Of Messages:
    - Through One Of The Shortest Books Of The Bible:
      - The Letter Of Jude!
    - So Let’s Turn Back There This Morning!
  - Last Week We Learned More About:
    - The Author Of This Letter:
      - Who Simply Identified Himself In Verse 1 As:
        - “Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James!”
    - And Although Jude Was Very Likely:
      - The Half-Brother Of Jesus Himself:
        - He Thought It Was A Greater Honor & Privilege To Be Known As His Servant!
  - It Was A Profound Transformation & Change:
    - That Took Place In The Heart & The Life:
      - Of Jude!
        - Has This Kind Of Change Taken Place In Your Life?
2. Now, When Jude Wrote This Letter:
  - Under The Inspiration Of God:
    - It Was During A Very Difficult & Trying Time For The Church!
      - Verse 4 - “For there are certain men crept in unawares – turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ!”
    - What Was Happening Back Then:
      - Is Still Happening Today!
        - Professing Christians & Even Prominent Churches Are Trying To Change The Very Heart Of The Gospel!
  - So He Is Writing To *Us*:
    - To Warn *Us* & To Prepare *Us*:
      - For Part Of The Mission We Have As Christians:
        - Which We Find In Verse 3 - “That ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints!”
  - So The Battle Lines Are Drawn Up Before Us:
    - And Throughout This Letter:
      - Jude Tells Us How We Can “Earnestly Contend For The Faith!”
      - And Fulfill Our Mission As Christians!
3. But Before We Get Into The Rest Of The Letter:
  - Jude Knows Just How Difficult It Is:
    - To Fight This Battle For The Truth!
      - So, In Order To Encourage Us:
        - And To Equip Us For Our Mission:
  - He Identifies The Readers Of His Letter:
    - In A Very Special Way! Also In Verse 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!”
    - And With These Words:
      - He Describes Some Of The Greatest Privileges A True Christian Has!
  - So, No Matter What Comes Your Way:
    - To Try To Undermine The Truth Of Your Faith:
      - Whether It Is From The Outside:
        - Like Those Who Would Persecute Christians!
      - Or Whether It Is From The Inside:
        - Like Those We Find In This Letter!
  - Remember Who You Are:
    - As A Christian!
    - And Remember That These Great Privileges:
      - Are Yours As A Child Of God!

4. Tomorrow Is Memorial Day!
  - A Day We Remember The Hundreds Of Thousands:
    - Of Soldiers & Sailors Who Made The Ultimate Sacrifice:
      - To Preserve The Freedoms We Enjoy As Citizens Of The United States Of America!
  - Those Brave Men & Women:
    - Died As Heroes!
      - But What Was It That Put Them In Front Of Their Enemies Rifles?
        - What Was It That Caused Them To Join The Military In The First Place?
  - For Many Of Them:
    - It Was Because Of Who They Were!
      - They Were Americans! They Were Patriots!
        - And They Were Fighting For The Cause Of Freedom!
  - And In The Heat Of The Battle:
    - When It Seemed Like Everything Was Against Them:
      - They Kept Fighting! Why?
        - Because They Remembered Who They Were & The Privilege Of Being An American!
5. Today - The Spiritual Battles We Face:
  - Are More Real & More Dangerous:
    - Than We Realize!
      - And As We Feel The Heat & The Pressure Of Those Battles More & More:
  - We Too Need To Remember:
    - Just Who We Are – But As Christians!
      - And The Great Gifts & Privileges God Himself Has Given Us!
    - What Do We Need To Remember?

**1. Remember Your Call From The Lord!**

- The First Way Jude Describes Christians In Verse 1:
  - Is Actually The Last Word In Some Of Our English Translations!
    - He Tells Us That We:
      - Have Been Called!
    - **IE:** Now Some Of Those Who Were In Our Military, Did Not Join Because They Wanted To, But Because They Had To! They Were Drafted! During Most Of Our Nations Wars, Like The Vietnam War, World War 2 & Even The Revolutionary War, Men Were Chosen & Then **Called Up** To Serve! But How Were They Chosen? At Random! By A Lottery System!
  - But When You Are Called By God:
    - To Be A Christian:
      - It Is Everything **But** A Random Choice!
        - It Was A Special Selection By God Himself, By His Own Wisdom & For His Own Reason!
    - And This Truth Will Be A Great Encouragement:
      - When You Are In The Heat Of The Battle!
        - God Himself Has Called You To Be His Servant / His Soldier / His Child!
    - And If You Are A Christian:
      - Remember Your Call From The Lord!
  - You Were Called From Guilt!
    - Your Own Guilt!
    - Jesus Himself Said In Matthew 9:13 - “I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance!”
      - **IE:** During A Draft, The Government Chooses & Calls Those Who Are Citizens To Do Their Duty As A Citizen!
        - But When The Lord Calls You - It Is When You Are Still An Enemy!
        - Which Is Why Peter Reminds Us That God Has “Called you out of darkness into His marvelous light!” (1 Peter 2:9)
    - Jude Probably Had His Own Call In Mind:
      - When He Wrote This Word!
        - And Would Have Been Overwhelmed By What The Lord Had Called Him From!
  - Have You Heard This Call?
    - To Leave Your Sin & Your Guilt:
      - And To Believe & Follow The Lord Jesus?

- Have You Answered His Call?
- You Were Called By Grace!
  - God's Own Grace!
  - The Apostle Paul Understood This Truth:
    - Very Deeply - When He Was Sharing His Personal Testimony To The Galatians - He Wrote These Words - "But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace!" (Galatians 1:15)
  - God's Choice & God's Call:
    - Is Only By His Grace!
      - It Is Something We Did Not Deserve, Nor Is It Something We Could Ever Earn!
  - We Must Never Get Over God's Grace:
    - In Our Call!
    - Like John Newton - "Amazing Grace, How Sweet The Sound, That Saved A Wretch Like Me!"
  - Have You Heard This Call?
    - The Call Of God's Grace:
      - To You As An Undeserving Sinner?
      - Then Why Haven't You Answered His Call?
- You Were Called Through The Gospel!
  - 2 Timothy 1:9 - "Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, / But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel!"
    - When You Hear The Gospel:
      - You Are Hearing The Call Of God!
  - No Longer Do You Need To Fear Death:
    - But You Can Have Faith In A Savior!
      - The Lord Jesus Christ!
- And When You Hear This Call:
  - And Answer This Call By Faith:
    - This Word Will Forever Describe You:
      - "Called!"
  - In Revelation 17:14 - "They that are with Him (The Lord Jesus Christ) are called, and chosen, and faithful!"
    - And No Matter What You Face:
      - Never Forget Your Call From The Lord!
      - And Be Forever Grateful!

## 2. ***Remember Your Consecration To The Lord!***

- The Next Way Jude Describes Christians In Verse 1:
  - Results From Your Call:
    - "Sanctified By God The Father!"
      - In Some Translations, You Might Read "Loved" Or "Beloved" By God The Father!
      - And While This Is True:
        - The Best Preserved Readings:
          - Give Us This Powerful Truth:
  - If You Have Been Called To Be A Christian:
    - You Have Also Been Sanctified:
      - By God The Father!
    - **IE:** When You Own Something Special, You Will Often Set It Apart From Everything Else! I Have Always Had An Interest In Coins - Recently Started Going Through My Change Again, To "Select" Coins That Were More Valuable & More Interesting Than Others! I Would Take It Out Of My Change & Put It In A Container - Not Meant To Be Spent!
- And When You Are Sanctified By God:
  - As A Christian:
    - God Himself Sets You Apart:
      - For Himself!
    - You Are His Special Treasure!
      - Not For Anything He Found In You, But For Everything He Gave To You!

- And This Truth Will Also Be A Great Encouragement:
  - When You Are In The Heat Of The Battle!
    - God Himself Has Sanctified You & Set You Apart! You Belong To Him!
- And If You Are A Christian:
  - And You Have Answered God's Call:
    - Remember Your Consecration To The Lord As Well!
- You Have A Sanctified Position!
  - All Throughout The New Testament:
    - This Word Is Used To Describe Christians!
      - "Sanctified" & Even "Saints!"
  - In 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 - Paul Is Showing The Difference Between Those Who Are Unsaved & Those Who Have Been Saved - "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, / Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. / And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are *sanctified*, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God!"
    - No Matter What Sin Held You In Bondage, When You Are Called By The Lord & Saved Through Faith:
      - You Are Changed & Sanctified & Set Apart & Even Seen As Holy By The Lord!
  - Because Everything That Belongs To Jesus:
    - Now Belongs To You!
      - "They Are Here Called Sanctified; But Alas, How Imperfect Is Their Sanctification! Yet Their Father Looks Upon Them As They Would Be, Not As They Are Or Do!"  
(William Jenkyn)
- You Have A Sanctified Purpose!
  - God Has A Special Purpose For You!
    - 2 Timothy 2:21 - "If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work!"
  - God Has Set You Apart:
    - From Everyone & Everything Else In This World:
      - To Become More & More Holy!
    - And To Be More & More Useful:
      - In His Work As His Servant!
  - Are You Growing In Your Own:
    - Commitment To The Lord:
      - And Holiness?
- You Have A Sanctified Privilege!
  - Jude Describes Us As Being:
    - "Sanctified By God The Father!"
  - If You Have Jesus As Your Savior:
    - You Now Are Part Of The Family Of God!
      - And You Have God As Your Father!
  - What A Special Relationship That Is!
    - May The Lord Help Us To Remember That We Belong To Him!
      - That He Is Our Father!
- Never Forget Your Consecration To The Lord!
  - You Have Been Called!
  - You Have Been Sanctified!
    - And That Is Why You Can "Earnestly Contend For The Faith!"
      - Because The Battle Is Not Yours, But The Lord's!

### 3. ***Remember Your Care By The Lord!***

- A Third Way Jude Describes Christians In Verse 1:
  - Is This:
    - "And Preserved In Jesus Christ!"
  - To "Preserve" Here:
    - Means To "Keep" Safe & Secure, And To Watch Carefully Over Something Or Someone Special!

- It Is The Same Word Used In Matthew 27:54 - “Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, **watching** (guarding / keeping) Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God!”
  - The Centurion Recognized Jesus As Someone Very Special!
- And If You Have Been Called By The Lord:
  - You Too Are Someone Very Special!
    - You Are A Precious Treasure Who Belongs To God Himself!
  - And “He that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye!” (Zechariah 2:8)
- And He Will Keep You:
  - And “Preserve” You In Jesus Christ!
    - **IE:** How Do You Keep & Preserve Something Valuable & Special To You? A Special Box / Or A Safe / Or Even Safe-Deposit Box!
- How Much More Does The Lord Jesus:
  - Care For You!
  - And How Much More Will The Lord Jesus:
    - Keep & Preserve You!
  - And This Truth Will Also Be A Great Encouragement:
    - When You Are In The Heat Of The Battle!
      - Jesus Himself Has Preserved You & Will Never Let You Go!
      - How We Need This!
  - Remember Your Care By The Lord!
    - He Cares For You & Preserves You:
- By His Power!
  - Jesus Said In John 10:27-30 - “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: / And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. / My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father’s hand. / I and my Father are one!”
    - There Is Nothing More Powerful Than The Care Of The Lord!
      - And Jesus Keeps You Through:
  - The Power Of His Life!
    - The Power Of His Death!
      - And The Power OF His Resurrection!
  - In His Life:
    - Jesus Defeated The Devil On His Own Turf:
      - When He Was Tempted In Three Different Ways!
    - And His Life Now Preserves You:
      - From The Devil & His Devices!
  - In His Death:
    - Jesus Paid The Punishment You Deserved:
      - For Your Sin!
    - And His Death Now Preserves You:
      - From Any Further Judgment!
      - Romans 8:1 - “There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit!”
  - In His Resurrection:
    - Jesus Gave Us Hope:
      - For Eternal Life!
    - And His Resurrection Now Preserves You:
      - To Live For Him!
      - Romans 6:4 - “Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life!”
  - He Also Cares For You & Preserves You:
- By His Promises!
  - There Are Many Promises:
    - “Exceeding Great & Precious Promises!” (2 Peter 1:4)
      - That The Lord Gives To Us That Proves He Will Keep / Preserve His People Forever!
  - In John 6:37-39, We Find Just A Few - Jesus Himself Says: “All that the Father giveth me shall come to

- me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. / For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. / And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day!"
- As The Song Goes:
    - "Noone Ever Cared For Me Like Jesus!"
    - Never Forget Your Care By The Lord!
      - You Have Been Called!
      - You Have Been Sanctified!
      - You Have Been Preserved!
    - And He That "Keeps" You Will "Neither Slumber Nor Sleep!" (Psalm 121:4)

**Conclusion:**

1. If You Are A Christian:
  - Then These Words Describe You!
    - And Now You Are Prepared For The Mission God Has Given You To Perform!
      - To "Earnestly Contend For The Faith!"
  - All Of These Things:
    - Have Been Given To You By God Himself!
      - He Will Enable You!
      - He Will Equip You!
      - To Do His Work His Way!
2. So - Never Forget - As A Christian:
  - You Have Been Called!
  - You Have Been Sanctified – By God The Father!
  - You Have Been & Will Always Be Preserved – In Jesus Christ!
  - And Never Cease:
    - To Be Grateful To The Lord Whom You Serve!

***Grace Baptist Church  
Stephen Elmer, Pastor  
4245 North 200 West  
Greenfield, Indiana 46140  
317-326-2362  
www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace  
www.growatgrace.org  
pastor-elmer@hotmail.com***