

***“More About Jesus!”***  
***Jude 2***

**Introduction:**

1. Before We Fellowship Around The Lord’s Table This Morning:
  - I Would Like For Us To Return To:
    - The New Testament Letter Of Jude!
  - Where Already:
    - Jude Has Been Preparing Us For His Challenge To Us:
      - To “Earnestly Contend For The Faith!”
      - This Is Our Mission!
2. First - In Verse 1:
  - He Introduces Himself Simply As:
    - “Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James!”
  - He Believed That The Greatest Privilege He Had:
    - As A Christian - Was To Simply Be Known As:
      - The “Servant Of Jesus Christ!”
  - This Too Is What We Need To Remember About Ourselves!
    - We Are The “Servants” Of Jesus Christ!
      - And There Is No Greater Honor, No Greater Privilege & No Greater Title That We Could Ever Be Given!
  - And If We Are To Fulfill Our Mission:
    - We Must Remember That We Are:
      - The “Servants Of Jesus Christ!”
3. Next - Also In Verse 1:
  - Jude Introduces Who He Is Writing To As:
    - “Them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called!”
  - These Three Truths:
    - Will Provide The Strength:
      - We Will Need To Fulfill Our Mission!
  - Even When It Seems Like The Whole World Is Against You:
    - You Can Be Confident That:
      - God Is For You – If You Have Jesus As Your Savior!
    - Because God Himself:
      - Has Called You!
      - Has Sanctified You!
      - And Has Preserved You & Will Keep You!
  - And Noone Can Permanently Harm You!
    - Paul Tells Us Much The Same Thing In:
      - Romans 8:29-31 - “For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. / Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified. / What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?”
  - And If We Are To Fulfill Our Mission:
    - We Must Remember That All Our Strength:
      - Can Be Found In God – Our Lord Jesus Christ!
4. And Then - This Morning - We Come To:
  - Jude Verse 2 - Which Although It Is A Very Common Way:
    - To Start A Letter In The New Testament:
      - You Will Find Words Like These In Nearly Every Other New Testament Letter!
    - These Words Too Are Inspired And Are Important For Us In Our Mission To:
      - “Earnestly Contend For The Faith!”
  - What We Read In Jude Verse 2:
    - Is Really A Prayer To The Lord For The Readers!
      - And A Prayer From Jude For All Of Us As Well!
    - He Prays:
      - “Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied!”

- Let's Look At This Prayer More Closely Together This Morning!

\* First - We See:

**1. *The Prayer We Need!***

- All Of Verse 2 Is A Prayer!
  - A Desire For Us To Possess All Of These Good Things:
    - Mercy & Peace & Love!
  - And It Shows To Us That Jude Himself Had:
- A Personal Concern:
  - For Us!
  - Now This Is Much More Than A Wish!
    - Haven't We Ever Said To Someone:
      - "I Hope You Have A Good Day!"
    - Now - That's A Nice Thing To Want For Someone!
      - And A Nice Thing To Say To Someone!
    - But What If They Don't Have A Good Day?
      - Is That Your Fault? Might Be! But We Really Have No Way To Ensure That Someone Will Or Will Not Have A Good Day!
    - But Jude Is Not Just Saying Some Good Wish:
      - He Has For Us!
      - Because He Knows That He Is Powerless To Give Us These Things!
  - No - This Is A Personal Prayer To God For Us:
    - Because Only God Can Give Us The Things Mentioned In This Verse:
      - Mercy & Peace & Love!
    - And Jude Knew That Only The Lord:
      - Could Provide What We Need:
        - In Order To Face The Challenges To Our Faith & To Our Church!
  - Do You Have This Same Kind Of Concern:
    - For Your Brothers & Sisters In Christ?
      - A Personal Concern – That Leads You To Passionate Prayer For Them & For What They Really Need?
    - It Is A Nice Thing:
      - To Wish Someone To Have A Good Day!
    - It Is A Better Thing:
      - To Pray That The Lord Would Give Them The Help & Strength They Need:
        - For That Day & Every Day!
        - This Prayer Also Shows:
  - A Spiritual Concern!
    - The Three Things Jude Prays For:
      - Are Not What We Often Think Of:
        - When We Pray For Someone!
    - Our Greatest Concerns:
      - Are Often External Or Physical!
        - For Someone's Health!
        - Or For Someone's Material / Financial Need!
      - And We Do Need To Pray For Those Things!
        - But Through Jude's Example:
          - As Well As So Many Others:
    - Our Greatest Concern:
      - Should Be Internal Or Spiritual!
        - For A Person To Experience In A Greater Measure God's Own:
          - Mercy & Peace & Love!
    - Do You Have This Same Kind Of Concern:
      - For Your Brothers & Sisters In Christ?
        - A Spiritual Concern – That Leads You To Passionate Prayer For Them & For What They Really Need?
  - We All Need This Kind Of Prayer!
    - To Help Us With The Struggles We Will Face:

- As Christians & As A Church!
- In Ephesians 6:18, Paul Also Tells Us To Keep - "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints!"
- This Is The Prayer We Need!

\* Then - We Also See:

**2. *The Gifts We Need!***

- There Are Three Things Mentioned In Verse 2:
  - Three Gifts That Can Only Be Perfectly Found:
    - In The Lord Jesus Christ!
    - "Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied!"
- We Need Mercy!
  - From The Lord!
  - Matthew Henry Describes This Mercy As:
    - "The Spring And Fountain Of All The Good We Have Or Hope For!"
    - Some Of The Mercy God Gives Is:
  - The Goodness Of His Pardon!
    - Often, When We Think Of God's Mercy:
      - We Think Of His Pardon For Our Sin!
    - Nehemiah 9:17 - "But thou art a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness!"
      - God Is Full Of Mercy!
        - And Is Ready, Willing & Able To Show His Mercy & Pardon Us From All Of Our Sin!
    - But The Mercy Of God Also Includes:
  - The Goodness Of His Provision!
    - When God Shows His Kindness:
      - To Us More & More Each Day!
  - God Is A God Of Great Mercy!
    - Psalm 86:15 - "But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth!"
    - And If We Feel We Are Ever In Need Of Mercy:
      - Of God's Pardon Or Provision:
        - We Can Go To Him!
- We Need Peace!
  - From The Lord!
  - Again, Matthew Henry Describes This Peace As:
    - "The Condition Of Well-Being And Inner Tranquility That Comes To Those Who Have Been Reconciled To God!"
  - When We Think Of Peace:
    - We Often Think Of Peace With Others!
      - And That Is Certainly Something We Ought To Pray For!
    - But Peace In This World:
      - Will Always Be Elusive & Temporary!
  - So The Greatest Peace To Pray For:
    - Is Peace With God!
      - And Peace In Your Conscience & Heart!
    - The Kind Of Peace Described In:
      - Philippians 4:7 - "And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus!"
  - God Is A God Of Great Peace!
    - But This Peace Can Only Begin When You Have A Relationship With The Lord Jesus Christ!
      - John 14:27 - "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid!"
      - Romans 5:1 - "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ!"
        - And That Peace Is Available & Timeless!
    - And If We Feel We Are Ever In Need:

- Of God's Peace:
  - We Can Go To Him!
- We Need Love!
  - From The Lord!
  - The Love Described Here:
    - Is Not Just A Feeling, But A: "Deliberate Principle Of Mind And Heart Which Thoughtfully Seeks The Welfare Of Others!" (Matthew Henry)
  - The Truest Love:
    - Can Only Be Found In The Lord Jesus!
    - Have You Ever Tried To Compare Your Love:
      - For Someone With God's Description Of Love In 1 Corinthians 13?
      - Falls Short Every Time!
    - But Not God's!
      - His Love Is Perfect & Pure!
  - God Is A God Of Great Love!
    - And One Of Our Great Prayers:
      - For Ourselves & For Others Should Be:
        - As Paul Writes In Ephesians 3:18-19 - That We - "May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God!"
    - If You Feel You Are Ever In Need:
      - Of God's Love:
        - You Can Go To Him!
- Because Mercy & Peace & Love:
  - Are God's Gifts To His People!
    - And They Are Yours & Are Available To You In The Fullest Measure!
  - But Why Is It That We Often Don't Feel Like:
    - We Have These Gifts In Our Hearts & Lives?
      - Because Of Something Else We Need & Ought To Pray For!

\* We See:

### 3. ***The Experience We Need!***

- When Jude Prayed This Prayer:
  - He Understood That The Gifts Of God's:
    - Mercy & Peace & Love:
      - Where Already There For His People!
  - But He Still Prayed That They Would All:
    - "Be Multiplied!"
      - That There Would Be Further Growth In God's Mercy & Peace & Love!
  - How Can Something Be Multiplied To You:
    - If You Already Have It All?
  - When Believed In The Lord Jesus Christ As Your Savior:
    - How Much Of God's Mercy Did You Receive?
      - All Of It!
    - How Much Of God's Peace Did You Receive?
      - All Of It!
    - How Much Of God's Love Did You Receive?
      - All Of It!
  - So How Can It Be Multiplied To Us?
    - In Our Own Experience As We Walk With The Lord!
      - We Need:
- A Greater Awareness Of God's Gifts!
  - Of Mercy & Peace & Love!
  - In Our Minds!
    - Peter Begins His Letter In A Similar Way In 2 Peter 1:2 - "Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord!"
  - One Key For God's Gifts To Be "Multiplied" In Our Lives:

- Is Through A Greater Knowledge & Awareness Of These Gifts!
- The More You Know About God's Mercy / Peace / Love:
  - The More They Will Affect You & Impact You!
- Never Tire Of Learning About:
  - These Truths That We Find In Jesus!
  - We Also Need:
- A Greater Appreciation For God's Gifts!
  - Of Mercy & Peace & Love!
  - From Our Hearts!
    - Lamentations 3:21-23 - "This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. / It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. / They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness!"
  - So Many Times We Forget These Truths:
    - And Live Our Lives In Fear & Powerlessness!
  - But The More We Know Of God's Mercy / Peace / Love:
    - The More We Can Live With Hope!
    - And Be Thankful & Grateful To Him For The Abundance Of His Gifts To Us!
    - We Also Need:
- A Greater Application Of God's Gifts!
  - Of Mercy & Peace & Love!
  - In Our Lives!
    - For God's Gifts To Multiply, They Must Live Themselves Out Through Our Own Lives!
  - Because We Have Received God's Mercy:
    - We Are To Be Merciful!
  - Because We Have Received God's Peace:
    - We Are To Be Peacemakers!
  - Because We Have Received God's Love:
    - We Are To Be Loving!
  - And As We Respond To God's Gifts In These Ways:
    - They Will Continue To Multiply:
      - In And Through Us!
- "Nothing Less Than A Great Outpouring Of These Gifts On His Troubled Readers Will Satisfy Jude's Heart!" (Hiebert)

#### **Conclusion:**

1. The Mercy & Peace & Love Of God:
  - Is Like A Great Reservoir Of Water!
    - All Available & Stored Up:
      - To Be Poured Out Upon His Thirsty People!
2. But How Often Do We Go On Thirsting?
  - And We Forget About These Gifts?
    - Or We Are Not Grateful For These Gifts?
    - Or We Do Not Use These Gifts?
  - We Must Pray For Ourselves:
    - And For One Another That:
      - God's Mercy & Peace & Love May Be Multiplied!
  - That The Gates Of The Spillway May Be Opened:
    - And There Is A Fresh Manifestation Of All Of God's Gracious Gifts In Our Lives!
3. "Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied!"

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