

The New Testament Church
The Book of Jude #3 – Jude 1:5-7 – Continuing in the Faith
January 19, 2025 - Pastor Paul Jehle

I Introduction and review of Jude - called to contend as well as continue in the faith

A. The Book of Jude

1. It is a summary of key truths to prepare the early Church for the “test” of evil rising
2. Be calm and confident as God allows the collapse of evil to manifest His Kingdom

B. A review of lessons one and two – Jude 1:1-4

1. Family is first test in Kingdom manifestation – Jesus is our example with his own family
2. Opposition causes us to clarify our beliefs (apologetics) – original gospel affects culture

II Continuing in the Faith

A. Scriptural injunctions on “continuing in the Faith” – the perseverance of the saints

1. 2nd Tim. 4:7 – *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course... kept the faith*
2. Heb. 10:23 – *hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering... He is faithful...*
3. Mt. 24:12-13 – *love of many will grow cold... he that endures to the end shall be saved.*
4. Jn. 2:10 – *best wine at the end... Hag. 2:9 - the greater anointing on the last temple*
5. It is the perseverance of the saints (Holy Spirit), not “once saved, always saved”
6. We often consider quitting in many areas, but it is the Holy Spirit that carries us...

B. v. 5 – *But I want to remind you, though you once knew this, that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe.*

1. Jude is writing to the next generation in his day – who once knew this... now forgetting
2. **Example:** the **Israelites** – 3.2 million in exodus; 2nd generation about 1 million enter
3. Num. 14:29 – 1st generation died in wilderness (a million); only Joshua and Caleb enter
4. Ex. 20:5-6 – condition of one generation affects the next; yet both stand alone (Ex. 18)
5. 1st Cor. 10:7 – *the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play... pleasure*
6. True pleasure is contentment (Christ) - but shun – idolatry, immorality, complaining
7. **Perseverance of the generations** means it can start or re-start with you!

C. v. 6 – *And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day.*

1. Jude goes back to creation and the angels – ministering spirits – they have ranks
2. **Example:** they left their “domain” or sphere out of **pride** (Is. 14; Ez. 28)
3. Rev. 12:4,9 - A third of the angels rebelled with Lucifer before the fall of man
4. These angels are now demons and cannot repent – in chains of darkness...
5. Ro. 12:3 – *don't think more highly of yourself than you ought to think!* (humility)
6. **Perseverance** is finding your calling and and humbly **staying in your lane or place**

D. v. 7 – *as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.*

1. Jude rehearses the example of God's judgment on the sins of Sodom and Gomorrah
2. The sexual immorality, coupled with violence, produced a cultural identity of iniquity
3. **Example:** habitual sin unchecked increases to iniquity in a lust for **power**
4. Ge. 18:23-33 – The real lesson is that *a small remnant could have saved the cities!*
5. Ge. 19:26 - Lot's wife became in death what she could have been in life - salt
6. **Perseverance** is embracing God's mercy for others as an **influential remnant**