**“LEARNING FROM JUDE”**

**INTRODUCTION:**

1. scripture – Jude verses 1-4…

 -a. although a short book in length,

 -b. the content speaks of *our overall* Christian life,

 reasonability’s to up hold

 punishment for the ungodly

 blessed future for the faithful

2. Jude, originally sought to write an encouraging, devotional letter

 to those in Christ, but the Holy Spirit led him to ***“sound an alarm”*** for their salvation.

3. This *brotherly letter* turned out to be ***“a call to arms”***

4. For us today, we are as well ***“reminded”*** and ***“taught”*** all that they were granted

 thru the inspired writer, Jude.

**THOUGHTS:**

**(I) “CALLED”…**

 1. Jude verse 1…

 -a. Christians are those who have responded to a “call”

 -b. II Tim.1:8-9..

 *“…according to the power of God;**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..”*

 -1-. God is the originator of this “call” – I Pet.1:15

 -2-. call comes thru the gospel message – II Thess.2:14

 *“…called you by our gospel…”*

 -1-. ***“by”*** introduces the source, point of origin

 called by what?

 -2-. ***“gospel”*** was the means instituted to achieve the purpose

 -3-. Rom.1:16 – power of God for man’s salvation

 -a-. Mk. 16:15… “go into all the world..”

 -b-. “into all the world” was this message sent – Matt.28:18-19

 *NOTE;*

 *Contrary to the religious world, there is no*

 *mysterious inward spiritual call directly from God*

***no example*** *found within the scriptures*

***no scriptures*** *teach this concept*

 -4-. This call is consistent with the thoughts of:

 -a-. God’s will for ***all*** to be saved – I Tim.2:3-4

 -b-. for the Son was a ransom for ***all*** – I Tim. 2:5-6

 -c-. God’s desire for ***none to perish*** – II Pet.3:9

 2. “our call” unto salvation was for a purpose:

 -a. “sanctification” – I Thess.4:7

 -b. “endurance of difficulties” presently by the world – I Pet.2:21

 -c. I Pet.2:9… “called out of darkness, and into light…”

 3. and this “call”, as we respond faithfully ***results*** in our eternal salvation – Heb.9:15

 -a. I Tim.6:12

 -b. called to share in His eternal glory – I Pet.5:10

 4. Sadly, there will be many who reject the call of the gospel – Acts 13:46

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**(II) “OUR COMMON SALVATION:**

 1. Jude verse 3…

 -a. as this letter began

 -b. originally a letter of their “common likes”/traits

 2.These Christians “HAVE” many things in common

 -a. although in “this world”

 -b. they have “items” which bring forth ***a common bond among themselves***

 -c. although spread over this whole world, we possess “common traits” as others

 -1-. a like faith – II Peter 1:1

 -a. acceptance of the gospel truths

 -b. a willingness to continue onward

 -2-. All looked to the savior –

 Titus 1:4

 II Tim.1:10

 -3-. an aim or goal – II Cor.5:9..

 -a. to be found acceptable

 -b.Matt.24:46… parable of the master and his servants

 -4-. struggles in daily life to overcome –

 -a. Heb.10:32-33

 -b. Phil.1:28-30..we will have “opponents”

 “conflicts”

 3. eternal outcome – I Pet.1:9

 -a. a looking forward to the outcome

 -b. a “waiting for the Son from heaven” – I Thess.1:10

 -c. Heb.10:39

 -d. II Tim.4:8… a crown of righteousness to be awarded

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**(III) “CONTEND FOR THE FAITH”…**

 1. Jude verse 3…

 2. Those called will hold to and promote the “revealed truth”

 3. The faith HAS BEEN REVEALED:

 -a. it is complete – II Timothy 3:16-17…... II Pet.1:3

 -b. it is not going to change, no new revelation coming – II Tim.1:13

 ***“no new revelations/teachings are going to come forth”***

 God has spoken

 It’s all over

 -c. as time passes, many will seek to add to, change, “improve upon” -Gal.1:6-9

 -1-. II Tim.4:3-4

 -2-. The world’s ideas, thoughts, beliefs ***Will*** be added – Col.2:8

 -d. as Jude states in verse 4..

 *“certain persons have crept in unnoticed...”*

 -1-. having beliefs contrary to the gospel truth

 -2-. seek to slowly sway others to their thoughts

 -3-. *“crept in”* -Gr. = come in along side….

 “slipped in the side door” we would say

 4. They/we are to contend---***why?--*** *for some will-*

 -a. pervert the doctrine – Jude vs.4 – *“turn the grace into lasciviousness”*

 -1-.”lasciviousness” – immorality, filthy deeds, actions, and words

 -2-. teaching these things are “acceptable unto God”

 -b. deny God’s authority – Jude vs.4 – *“deny our Master and Lord”*

 -1-. some denying Jesus authority

 (some religions today question/deny Christ is actually God)

 -2-. even denying that Jesus was real –

 therefore John states in I John 1:1..we have heard

 1:1.. seen with our eyes

 1:1.. our hands have touched

 -3-. As another/false “doctrine was being taught” in Galatia,

 Gal.5:8-10..this teaching is not from God

 I have confidence that you will not “give in”

 those teaching will have a judgment to bear

5. There will always be a ***“reason to contend for the faith”***

 -a. what is right in acceptable worship

 -b. teachings affecting the Christian life

 -c. the coming future/eternity to come

 -d. it seems that from one year to the next, a “new doctrine” is promoted,

 and must be “fought against” **IF** the faith is to be maintained!

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**(IV) “GOD’S RIGHTEOUS CONDEMNATION” …**

 1. Jude verse 5,6, and 7

 2. It is a “righteous action” to punish to ungodly – II Thess.1:5

 -a. just as it is a righteous(just) action to reward the faithful

 -b. it is a “just” action to punish the guilty Rom.2:5

 -c. for those disobedient to God’s will,

 seeking to mis-lead/draw away the faithful, ***punishment and for sure!***

 -1- Jude verse 5 – ***Israel*** headed towards the Promised Lands,

 *unfaithful and perished* – I Cor.10:5

 -2-. Jude verse 6 – ***angels*** who rejected positions “God given”,

 *kept in bonds for the judgment*- II Pet.2:4

 -3-. Jude verse 7 – ***Sodom and Gomorrah***, their sins of immorality

 which prevailed openly among the people

 *undergoing punishment of eternal fire* – II Pet.2:6

 -d. Therefore, those coming among the Christians,

 creeping in secretly, to corrupt/sway to unrighteousness/mis-lead

 “are promised” a coming punishment!

 3. God has given us a “CHOICE”

 -a. specifically TOLD what the outcomes are –

 -b. Rom.6:23……….. wages of sin is death

 free gift of God is eternal life

 -c. after pointing out the sins of the Gentiles in Rom.1: 21-31

 Rom.1:32 states:

 *“…who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are*

 *worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.*

 NOTE: if we know we are doing wrong

 and we continue onward

 then don’t complain about the coming punishment!

 Lam.3:39

 *“Wherefore doth a living man complain,*

 *a man for the punishment of his sins?*

 4. God’s wrath to come forth – Rom.1:18

 -a. Col.3:6

 -b. Eph.5:6

 5. For those “rejecting” what God has offered- Rom.2:5,9

 6. Heb.10:29 .. *“do you think he deserves…”*

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**CONCLUSION:**

1. Jude wrote, not just for those of his day, for all that is contained

 so much pertains for US TODAY…let us not ignore what is “penned” – I Cor.14:37