

## Jude

"I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not." Jude 1:5

Jude begins by telling us he wishes to write on the subject of salvation. However, something transpired that caused him to change his mind; he writes instead to warn his readers of a new threat. James, the brother of Jude, seems to give instruction applicable for the present time, whereas Jude contains denunciations that seem to lose their force in the 21st century, in that the people of God are so confident they are the objects of God's grace they ignore His instructions.

When you do not oppose the will of the Lord, the distinction between slave and servant does not exist. It is when you do not want to obey that you remind yourself that you are His slave. The word "slave" for the Christian carries the idea of both humility and dignity. Humility in that you are His obedient servant in submission to His will. Anytime you consider His will unreasonable know that you are resisting being His slave. Dignity in that we have the privilege of being owned by the Creator God of the Universe. From being His slave you gain your significance and sense of worth.

Jude wants his readers to ponder the relationship between Israel and the church. God's first intervention saved Israel, followed by His judgment because of their disobedience/unbelief. Jesus came the first time to save, and comes the second time to judge. Grace promises a freedom that ungodly men turn into lasciviousness. Only a very few seem to grasp this truth.