

REFLECTION (10-04-26 Bible Notes) - The Lord is in charge of His Word, inspiring its composition and preserving the integrity of that Word and even guiding the *thoughts* of the authors who wrote it. The first exhibit that proves to us that the Lord Himself is in charge of the writing of the book of Jude is to see how the Lord *changed the direction of this book*.

Think of it. Jude was deliberate and worked hard in focusing on the initial goal of his book. The King James version describes his laser focus in Jude v.3, “Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation...”

The idea is that Jude was earnest to apply himself to write a book that sought to build up the faith of those who would read his book. He viewed their faith as one with his own – equally precious and vital. I believe that Jude viewed what he had to say as a matter of a singular focus on Christ in His person and work. Just as Paul resolved to know “nothing but Christ and Him crucified” (1 Corinthians 2:2), so Jude was determined to write about matters that would both glorify his Savior and encourage his readers’ faith.

But the Lord had other plans. Of course, nothing that the Lord would direct Jude to write was in any way *contradictory* to the salvation he shared with them. But the church to whom he wrote was under threat, hence the Lord directed Jude to change the direction of his book from positive encouragement to earnest warning. As my father said about Jude 1:3:

In the pastor-prophet’s role as watchman, the need to write a letter such as Jude sometimes is unavoidable. Jude’s love for these brothers and sisters in Christ stems from true conviction. Hence, the key to the letter is found in Jude’s words that the saints are to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to them ... Note that this faith has been given or entrusted by God Himself; it has been given once for all and is not to be added to or subtracted from, and it has been entrusted to all the saints. It is not an elitist faith! It is ultimately simple, yet eternally profound. And we are reminded that this faith is not universal; It was not once for all entrusted to everybody. It has been entrusted to those who are called by God.

So, later, at the end of the letter (Jude 1:20-21) when Jude tells his friends to build themselves up in their most holy faith, he means that all of them are to be built up in that faith. This is the saints’ response to God’s love, calling and keeping mentioned in the salutation. As Michael Green puts it in his Tyndale Series Commentary on 2 Peter and Jude, “The Christian Apostolic tradition is normative for the people of God.”

(Stanton Durham, *Salutary Warnings out of Jude, Banner of Truth*, Nov. 1988)

LORD’S DAY MORNING WORSHIP
October 11, 2026



GOD GATHERS HIS PEOPLE

Prelude, Silent Reflection & Salutation

Call to Worship

Lord, you have been our dwelling place
in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God. **(Psalm 90:1-2)**

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

*** Opening Hymn**
Him

Praise The Savior, Ye Who Know

#677 *Trinity Hymnal (all verses)*

- 1 Praise the Savior, ye who know him! Who can tell how much we owe him?
Gladly let us render to him, All we are and have.
- 2 Jesus is the name that charms us, he for conflict fits and arms us;
nothing moves and nothing harms us while we trust in him.
- 3 Trust in him, ye saints, forever, he is faithful, changing never;
neither force nor guile can sever those he loves from him.
- 4 Keep us, Lord, O keep us cleaving to thyself and still believing,
till the hour of our receiving promised joys with thee.
- 5 Then we shall be where we would be, then we shall be what we should be;
things that are not now, nor could be, soon shall be our own. **

God’s Law & Confession of Sin (Unison)
13

Psalm 19:7-

(p 538 pew Bible)

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 19:12

(p 577 pew Bible)

Offering and Hymn

I Love To Tell The Story
478 *Trinity Hymnal* (verses 1,

4)
1 I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory, of
Jesus and his love. I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

Refrain: I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

4 I love to tell the story; for those who know it best seem hungering and
thirsting to hear it, like the rest, And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new,
new song, 'twill be the old, old story, that I have loved so long. **[Refrain]**

* **Gloria Patri** #735 *Trinity Hymnal*

* **Prayer of Dedication**

GOD SPEAKS HIS WORD TO HIS PEOPLE

* **Hymn of Preparation** *We Will Feast in the House of*
Zion
(see insert)

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Reading John 5:39-46
(p 1058 pew Bible)

Sermon Scripture Jude 1:3-5 & Jude 1:17-19
(p 1216 pew Bible)

Sermon Christ In Judgment & Mercy: How Scripture Grabs Attention

Prayer of Application

Communion Hymn *We Rest on Thee*
#449 *Trinity Hymnal* (verses 1, 3)

1 We rest on thee - our shield and our defender!
We go not forth alone against the foe;
strong in thy strength, safe in thy keeping tender,
"We rest on thee, and in thy name we go."
Strong in thy strength, safe in thy keeping tender,

2

"We rest on thee, and in thy name we go."

3 "We go" in faith, our own great weakness feeling,
and needing more each day thy grace to know:
yet from our hearts a song of triumph pealing,
"We rest on thee, and in thy name we go."
Yet from our hearts a song of triumph pealing,
"We rest on thee, and in thy name we go." **

Instruction on The Lord's Supper

Reception of the Elements & Prayer

* **Closing Hymn** *We Rest on Thee*
#449 *Trinity Hymnal* (verses 2, 4)

2 Yea, "in thy name," O Captain of salvation!
In thy dear name, all other names above;
Jesus our righteousness, our sure foundation,
our Prince of glory and our King of love.
Jesus our righteousness, our sure foundation,
our Prince of glory and our King of love.

4 "We rest on thee" - our shield and our defender!
Thine is the battle, thine shall be the praise;
when passing through the gates of pearly splendor,
victors - we rest with thee, through endless days.
When passing through the gates of pearly splendor,
victors - we rest with thee, through endless days. **

* **Benediction**

* **Doxology** #731 *Trinity Hymnal*

* Please stand if able

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3