

# WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

## THE EPISTLES OF THE DISCIPLES

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### *Epistle of Jude*

*(Conclusion)*

*Jude 1:1, 2*

*Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and the brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called:*

*Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied.*

The Epistle is addressed to an inner group, to those who have been called and preserved in Jesus Christ. The Master told His Disciples that no one came unto Him unless His Father had called him, meaning that no one could tread the Path of Initiation until he had served a long apprenticeship, a preparatory period that covers many lives.

*Jude 1:4*

*For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*Jude 1:6*

*And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.*

This verse has reference to the Lucifer Spirits who lost their own high estate and later were instrumental in causing the fall of the human race.

*Jude 1:9*

*Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.*

This is the only mention given in the entire Bible of the disposition of the body of Moses. A body of such purity and power is a priceless possession in the hands of practitioners of black magic, as evidenced also in the case of the wicked Herodias demanding the head of John the Baptist.

*Jude 1:10, 11*

*But these speak, evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute, in those things they corrupt themselves.*

*Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.*

Jude is here warning against the temptation of the Lucifers. These are the Fire Spirits who taught man prematurely the use of the creative fire within the body. Its misuse resulted in the Fall; its right use is the one essential for the redemption of the race. It is only as man *lives the life* that he comes to *know Truth*. Jude describes those who do not live the life. "These be they who

separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit” (Jude 1:19).

*Jude 1:14*

*And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints.*

Jude here speaks of the glorious second coming of Christ Jesus.

*Jude 1:20-23*

*But ye, beloved building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,*

*Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.*

*And of some have compassion, making a difference:*

*And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.*

This passage describes the work of those who have prepared themselves for conscious Invisible Helpership.

The Epistle of Jude may well be termed a summary of occultism. It traces the fall of man and the reason for it. It also outlines the path of regeneration or redemption and points the difference between the regenerate and the unregenerate. The Epistle closes with the prayer that those of the inner group to whom the Epistle is written, may be found able to present themselves “faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy.”

## *Saul of Tarsus*

### BACKGROUND AND YOUTH OF SAUL

“Paul was one of the greatest voices that the world has ever heard. For forty years after the Transfiguration his life was a sublimed and terrible adventure.”

The life of Paul is a kaleidoscopic picture of stirring events. We know him first as Saul, guarding the cloaks of Stephen’s stoners. This was his first encounter with the Disciple Peter. Then we note his miraculous illumination on the way to Damascus. Later, as Paul the Apostle, he is stoned and scourged on the one hand and worshipped as a god in the other. We hear him pleading with the Athenians on Mars Hill and then rise with him on the wings of his inspiration as he sings that immortal song wherein love takes precedence over both faith and hope — a truly ecstatic communion translating for us the songs of the Angels. It is charged with such beauty and power as to assure it a place in the hearts of men for all time to come.

Afterward we follow Paul to the Sanhedrin, beholding him cast the viper into the fire. And, finally, in the dim purple shadows of towering pine trees, we see his noble head laid beneath the headsman’s axe.

Thus comes to a close the physical life of Paul the intrepid, the courageous, the victorious, whose maxim — adopted hundreds of years later by a great occult fraternity as the sesame into its temple — was expressed in the words “I desire nothing but Christ Jesus and him crucified.”

Someone has said that “Peter has ever been regarded as the main pillar of the early Church. John, on the other hand, is the apostle of love, the favorite apostle of the mystic. A third type of apostolate was necessary. Beside the apostle of works and the apostle of love, the Church of Christ needed the apostle of progress.”

*(To be continued)*