

# What lie do you believe?

Sermon Outline: What lie do you believe? (Jude) - John Longwell- Teaching Pastor - Revive Church  
[Listen to sermon online at JohnLongwell.com](http://JohnLongwell.com)



Lies we may believe:

- Gum if swallowed takes 7 years to digest, not true, although slower to digest, it will be gone in 7 days.
- Cracking your knuckles gives you arthritis, nope, a harvard study proved no difference in knuckle crackers as non-crackers in development of arthritis, it may weaken grip strength over time but won't cause arthritis.
- You only use 10% of your brain, not true, not all synapses fire at the same time (that would be crazy chaos!) but our entire brain is actively working to keep us and our bodily systems alive.

**Jude** (pronounced Judah), **a servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James,**

- Half-brother of Jesus, (out of reverence and humility) only identifies himself as brother of the Apostle James (Jesus' other half-brother).
- He became a disciple of Jesus after he saw his resurrected brother
- Later became a leader, teacher and traveling missionary.

**To those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ:**

**2 May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.**

**3 Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.**

- Written 70 A.D.ish.
- Audience is the general church of Gentile believers and Jewish Christians.
- 2nd Peter prophesied false teachers would come, Jude's urgently warns (They're here!)

**4 For certain people have *crept in unnoticed* who long ago were designated for this condemnation, *ungodly* people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.**

Twisted grace:

- You are forgiven and have the Holy Spirit.
- So live however you'd like, especially regarding money and sex.
- They deny the authority of Christ
- This is contrary to God's teaching, but ascribes God as the author

**5 Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe. 6 And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day— 7 just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.**

Jude warns to stay away from false teachers, citing 3 OT examples of what happens to the rebellious::

1. The grumbling unbelieving Israelites who died in the wilderness.
2. Rebelling angels who had relations with women and who are imprisoned until judgment.
3. The evil men of Sodom & Gomorrah who tried to have sex with angels and were judged by fire.

*Jude gives examples to his audience they would relate to and understand from known important Jewish writings (like 1st Enoch & the Testament of Moses) about biblical accounts that were recognized in that day (much like our bible commentaries are today).*

**8 Yet in like manner these people also, relying on their dreams (evil teachings from their depraved thinking), defile the flesh, reject authority, and blaspheme the glorious ones.**

**9 But when the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, was disputing about the body of Moses, he did not presume to pronounce a blasphemous judgment, but said, "The Lord rebuke you." (Michael knew it would be rebellious to rebuke the devil, so he deferred the rebuke to God.)**

**10 But these people blaspheme all that they do not understand, and they are destroyed by all that they, like unreasoning animals, understand instinctively. 11 Woe to them! For they walked in the way of Cain and abandoned themselves for the sake of gain to Balaam's error and perished in Korah's rebellion.**

Jude then cites what happens when those who rebel go on and corrupt others.

1. Cain murdered Abel then built the city of Nod known for violence & theft
2. Balaam enticed the Israelites into sexual immorality & food sacrifices to idols.
3. Korah despised his position as a servant and wanted to be a priest so led a rebellion against Moses.

**12 These are hidden reefs at your love feasts, as they feast with you without fear, shepherds feeding themselves; waterless clouds, swept along by winds; fruitless trees in late autumn, twice dead, uprooted; 13 wild waves of the sea, casting up the foam of their own shame; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved forever.**

Jude uses illustrative speech and examples to paint the picture of the ungodly ones deeds and their awaiting judgment. He says the OT warned us about them.

**14 It was also about these that Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied, saying, “Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of his holy ones, 15 to execute judgment on all and to convict all the **ungodly** of all their deeds of **ungodliness** that they have committed in such an **ungodly** way, and of all the harsh things that **ungodly** sinners have spoken against him.”**

This is what they are truly like:

**16 These are grumblers, malcontents, following their own sinful desires; they are loud-mouthed boasters, showing favoritism to gain advantage.**

The NT writers also warned us about them, including Jesus himself.

**17 But you must remember, beloved, the predictions of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. 18 They said to you, “In the last time there will be scoffers, following their own **ungodly** passions.” 19 It is these who cause divisions, worldly people, devoid of the Spirit.**

In contrast this is what believers are like:

**20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, 21 keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. 22 And have mercy on those who doubt; 23 save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh (don’t be seduced by the lies of sin while trying to save them from the fire).**

What lies do Christians believe?

- “God helps those who help themselves.” (Not in the bible) and contrary to the Bible. (Proverbs 3:5-6 ESV): **Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.**

In Summary:

- Jude’s warning - watch for supposed Christian teachers with false doctrines of selfishness, sinfulness and division.
- The danger isn’t the teaching but whom they claim to represent (Christ).
  - If their doctrine was solid then it should be able to stand on its own.
  - But it’s crap and the only way to give it any credibility is to ascribe it to God.

- Modern example: People have changed the biblical definition of marriage to now include whatever.
- Reality is people are going to believe and do whatever they want and create teachings to explain and defend their ways.
- My problem (like Jude) is that you can't change the Author's words or meanings to support their variation.

What if we changed William Shakespeare's poem **Sonnet 18**?

Change just 3 words but still claim this is a work of Shakespeare.	(summer ~ rainy) (lovely ~ repulsive) (temperate ~ violent)
Shall I compare thee to a summer's day? Thou art more lovely and more temperate.	Shall I compare thee to a rainy day? Thou art more repulsive and more violent.

Shakespeare lovers would lose their minds? As Jude did, and why he told believers to "Contend (withstand the opposition and maintain your hold) for the faith."

- Expose the lies and more so those who would claim these lies are from God.
- You will recognize them not only by what they say, but more by how they live.

Another lie Christians may believe:

- "God knows my heart." Meaning it doesn't matter what I do because deep down God knows I'm really a good person and will judge me based upon the goodness He knows is there and not according to my actions.
  - False! Matthew 3:8 (ESV) says, "**Bear fruit in keeping with repentance.**"
  - We aren't by our actions but our belief in Christ, our actions simply bear witness to this truth.

Jude's main warning is that how you live is an indicator of what you actually believe and you should judge your teacher accordingly.

**24 Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, 25 to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.**