“Introduction to Jude”

Intro: Having completed a lengthy study of the Book of Hebrews this last November, we followed with teachings concerning the Birth of Christ and the Ordinances of the Church and then, when I was with you last, a sermon concerning repentance. At that we move forward today by entering into a _______ of the Book of _______.

I. An _________________ to the Book of Jude.

A. The ________________.

1. ______ the ______ _______ is the sole and Divine Author of His own Word and this truth is what makes the Book of Jude inerrant, infallible, authoritative and all-sufficient.

B. Jude is a _____ _________________ book written during the days of the New Testament writings.

C. Jude is ______________ “_____ those who are the called, ____________ in God the Father, and kept for Jesus Christ”.

D. Lastly then, as a matter of introduction, let us consider the ________________ of this writing.

1. As the false teachers of which Jude spoke were antinomians we understand their _______ and the reason for which Jude wrote the church, encouraging us to ___ ___ ________ against such “mockers” (v. 18).

2. MacArthur writes, “… Jude did not focus on the nuances of their false doctrine. Instead, he _____________ their godless lifestyle – condemning them as ‘___________’ a total of six times (vv. 4, 15, 18). That alone marked them as false teachers, since as Jesus said, ‘you will know them by their fruits’ (Matt. 7:16, 20). Having _____________ their corrupt ________, there was no need for Jude to refute their specific heretical teachings, since (and here MacArthur quotes Thomas Schreiner) ‘by revealing their character Jude stripped them of any authority in the congregation. No thinking Christian would follow people who are fundamentally selfish. Jude did not merely revile them. He unveiled who they truly were, removing any grounds for their influence in the church.’”

II. The ________________.

A. The penman to whom the ______________ breathed out these few but potent Words of God identified himself by name just as the Spirit led him. He is ________.

1. With ______ being the younger brother of James and as is established in Matthew 13 and Mark 6, also the brother of our Lord Jesus (his mother being Mary), we understand who he is and why his writing is _______________ - as canonical (or Scripture).
2. As the grace of God efficaciously came to Jude so did he come to believe, identifying himself then as a bond-servant, or more literally as the Greek *doulos* should be translated, “___________________ Christ”.

B. Upon identifying himself Jude then identified the Spirit’s intended _________________ as "those who are _________, beloved in God the Father, and kept for Jesus Christ:"

1. “Unspeakably _________ is the ___________ thus conferred. For who is it He calls? Those who have some goodness to plead? Some merit to commend? No, but those who know themselves utterly vile and corrupt, and own their lost estate. All such are 'called unto the fellowship of His Son' (I Cor. 1:9). ‘And who he called, them he also justified; and whom he justified, them he also glorified’ (Rom. 8:30). There can be no failure here. He who called has justified and will have every ______________ in the glory of eternity.” (H. A. Ironside)

2. Romans 9:25-26, “As He says also in Hosea, 'I will call those who were not My people, 'My people,' And her who was not beloved, '______________.'” 26 "And it shall be that in the place where it was said to them, 'you are not My people,' There they shall be called _______ of the living God."

3. We rejoice and say the “amen” to the Apostle Peter as he wrote, 1 Peter 1:3-5, “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 who are ______________ ____ the power of ______ through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.”

C. Well did Jude understand the believer’s total dependence upon ______ desiring that God’s mercy, peace and love would be ______________________ to them, which is among the reasons this letter was written.

Closing: As we come to study this wonderful book of Jude, so has the ______ through him been so very careful and sure to assure us in Christ our Salvation, _______________ His mercy, peace and love to us as we consider the awful fate of false teachers while through this Word “building ourselves up on our most holy ________; praying in the Holy Spirit; keeping ourselves in the love of God, waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.”

Let us this week seek God, praying that we will _______________ ______ _ good ________ as breathed out by the Holy Spirit penned by Jude, a slave of Jesus Christ.

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