



## Bible Teaching Resources

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# Biblical Postcards

## Ruth, Philemon & Jude

### STUDY NUMBER ONE – [RUTH 1:1-22](#)

#### QUESTIONS:

1. Read [Ruth 1:1-22](#) and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

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2. According to [verse 1](#), when did the events of the [Book of Ruth](#) take place? What caused the Bethlehem family to move to Moab?

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3. When Elimelech, Naomi's husband died, what did her two sons do?

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4. What happened to Naomi's two sons, according to [verse 5](#)?

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5. What caused Naomi, Ruth, and Orpah to make plans to go to Bethlehem, according to [verse 6](#)?

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6. How does Naomi describe her relationship with the Lord, according to verse 13?

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7. Outline the eight things that Ruth says to Naomi in verses 16 & 17.

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8. Summarize Naomi's relationship to the Lord, according to verses 20 & 21.

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9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

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10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

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**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: The experience of Elimelech, his wife and two sons going to Moab reminds me of the great wisdom of Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight" (NIV).

LESSON #2: God often uses famine to bring judgment upon His people. ". . . whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Galatians 6:7 KJV).

LESSON #3: Sorrow upon sorrow often comes upon His children in the training process. Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.

LESSON #4: When we come to our senses with the prodigal in the pig pen in the far country and we're ready to go home, God is ready once again to be Jehovah Jireh—the Lord who provides.

LESSON #5: Is there someone you need to pray for right now that the Lord would show kindness to them?

LESSON #6: Naomi in her grief says: “It is more bitter for me than for you, because the Lord's hand has gone out against me!” (verse 13).

LESSON #7: Orpah made a choice and went home. “Ruth clung” to Naomi (verse 14). She stayed. She was steadfast. She was singing “I shall not be moved!”

LESSON #8: Can you say with Ruth: “Don’t urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried” (verses 16 & 17)?

LESSON #9: Can you affirm that commitment by the words: “May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if anything but death separates you and me” (verse 17)?

LESSON #10: Reality has been blurred by Naomi’s grief and that’s the reason she makes these five statements: (1) “the Lord’s hand has gone out against me!” (verse 13); (2) “the Almighty has made my life very bitter” (verse 20); (3) “the Lord has brought me back empty” (verse 21); (4) “The Lord has afflicted me”(verse 21); and (5) “the Almighty has brought misfortune upon me” (verse 21).

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

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**STUDY NUMBER TWO – [RUTH 2:1-23](#)**

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Ruth 2:1-23 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

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2. According to verses 2 & 3, what does Ruth the Moabitess do in these verses?

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3. How does Boaz greet the harvesters and the harvesters greet Boaz, according to verse 4?

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4. Outline the five things that Boaz says to Ruth in verses 8 & 9.

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5. How does Boaz describe Ruth, according to verse 11?

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6. What two things does Boaz pray for Ruth, according to verse 12?

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7. What did Boaz do for Ruth at meal time, according to verse 14?

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8. What does Naomi say about Boaz, according to verse 20?

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9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

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10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

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## **LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: What a difference a day makes. As chapter 1 concluded, Naomi said: “I went away full, but the Lord has brought me back empty. Why call me Naomi? The Lord has afflicted me; the Almighty has brought misfortune upon me” (Ruth 1:21). And from Naomi’s lips here in chapter 2 she says so much: “Where did you glean today? Where did you work? Blessed be the man who took notice of you!” (verse 19).

LESSON #2: When the Lord’s involved in it, He always does exceeding abundant above all we could ask or think.

LESSON #3: The Lord’s sovereign providential direction is seen in verse 3: “So she went out and began to glean in the fields behind the harvesters. As it turned out, she found herself working in a field belonging to Boaz, who was from the clan of Elimelech.”

LESSON #4: Verse 4 also contains a providential circumstance: “Just then Boaz arrived from Bethlehem and greeted the harvesters. ‘The Lord be with you!’ ‘The Lord bless you!’ they called back.”

LESSON #5: Ruth comes before us as proactive and also a hard worker. The manager said “She went into the field and has worked steadily from morning till now, except for a short rest in the shelter” (verse 7).

LESSON #6: Colossians 3:23: “Work hard and cheerfully at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people.”

LESSON #7: Boaz is such a sensitive servant. He said to the harvesters: “The Lord be with you!” And those employees returned the blessing: “The Lord bless you!” (verse 4).

LESSON #8: Boaz, in answering Ruth’s question in verse 10, “Why have I found such favor in your eyes that you notice me—a foreigner?” says it’s payback time: “I’ve been told all about what you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband.” Then he lists three things that she has done (verse 11).

LESSON #9: Boaz tells Ruth that he has two prayers that he says for her: (1) “May the Lord repay you for what you have done” and (2) “May you be richly rewarded by the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge” (verse 12).

LESSON #10: Boaz provides three extra things for Ruth in her work: (1) he provides lunch for her; (2) he gives instructions to his men to “pull out [on purpose] some stalks” of grain for her; and (3) he gives her the potential for job security for her when he says “Stay with my workers until they finish harvesting all my grain” (verses 14, 16 & 21).

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

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**STUDY NUMBER THREE – RUTH 3:1-18**

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Ruth 3:1-18 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

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2. Outline Naomi's plan for Ruth's future in verses 1-4.

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3. How does Ruth respond to Naomi's proposal, according to verse 5?

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4. How does Boaz respond to Ruth's proposal, according to verse 10?

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5. Summarize Boaz's promise to Ruth in verses 11-13.

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6. What did Boaz do for Ruth, according to verse 15?

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7. Summarize Ruth's report to her mother-in-law Naomi about the trip to the threshing floor and the meeting with Boaz, according to verses 16 & 17.

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8. What does Naomi tell Ruth to do, according to verse 18?

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9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

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10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

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### **LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: The Lord really does make all things beautiful in His time.

LESSON #2: Naomi is a good, gracious, godly woman.

LESSON #3: Naomi is a woman of courage, conviction, commitment, and caring.

LESSON #4: Ruth, her disciple, is a woman of courage, conviction, commitment, and caring.

LESSON #5: Every decision a person makes has eternal consequences.

LESSON #6: Discouragement is the illegitimate child of false expectations.

LESSON #7: Ruth expresses the obedient heart by saying, "I will do whatever you say" (verse 5).

LESSON #8: Boaz is a good, gracious, and godly gentleman.

LESSON #9: It is better to prepare for an opportunity and not have one than to have an opportunity and not be prepared.

LESSON #10: True love is pure, unselfish, loyal, and courageous.

LESSON #11: True love is displayed in beautiful ways through sacrificial servanthood.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

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**STUDY NUMBER FOUR – [RUTH 4:1-22](#)**

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Read [Ruth 4:1-22](#) and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

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2. Describe the activity of Boaz in [verses 1 & 2](#).

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3. How does the nearer kinsman-redeemer respond to the announcement by Boaz of the sale of the land that belonged to Elimelech, according to [verse 14](#)?

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4. What additional factor does Boaz outline for the nearer kinsman to consider as part of the proposal, according to [verse 5](#)?

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5. How does the nearer kinsman-redeemer respond to these new conditions, according to [verse 6](#)?

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6. Summarize the Boaz transaction, according to verse 10.

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7. Outline the four prayer wishes of the elders and the witnesses at the gate to this transaction (each of the four wishes begin with the word “May” recorded in verses 11, 12 & 14).

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8. Describe what happens in verse 13.

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9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

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10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

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### **LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: When Boaz makes a promise it’s as good as done. He goes immediately to the gate to begin all the transactions to keep his word.

LESSON #2: In God’s perfect time, He orders the life of the nearer kinsman-redeemer to come through the gate right at the exact time.

LESSON #3: Boaz acts with great patience in dealing with the nearer kinsman to allow him to have the first chance at redeeming the land and Ruth.

LESSON #4: Boaz is transparent and honest when he says: “If you will redeem it, do so. But if you will not, tell me, so I will know. For no one has the right to do it except you, and I am next in line” (verse 4).

LESSON #5: Boaz’s response is beautiful when initially the nearer kinsman says “I will redeem it.” Boaz says: “On the day you buy the land from Naomi and from Ruth the Moabitess, you acquire the dead man’s widow, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property” (verse 5).

LESSON #6: Boaz is focused upon the blessings that can be Naomi's and Ruth's. The nearer kinsman is focused upon "I cannot . . . I might endanger my own estate. You redeem it yourself. I cannot do it" (verse 6).

LESSON #7: Boaz takes action immediately before the elders and says: "Today you are witnesses that I have bought from Naomi all the property of Elimelech, Kilion and Mahlon. I have also acquired Ruth the Moabitess, Mahlon's widow, as my wife" (verses 9 & 10).

LESSON #8: God said it. I believe it. I will do it. And that settles it.

LESSON #9: The elders and citizens of Bethlehem are very enthusiastic about Boaz's proposal.

LESSON #10: There are four special wishes that the people have for Boaz and Ruth: (1) "May the Lord make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel"; (2) "May you have standing in Ephrathah and be famous in Bethlehem"; (3) "may your family be like that of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah"; and (4) "May he [the child] become famous throughout Israel!" (verses 11, 12 & 14).

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

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**STUDY NUMBER FIVE – [PHILEMON 1:1-25](#)**

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Philemon 1:1-25 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

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2. Describe the family of God in verses 1-3.

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3. Outline Paul's feelings toward Philemon, according to verses 4-7.

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4. What is Paul begging Philemon for, according to verses 10 & 11?

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5. Outline God's greater purpose, according to verses 15 & 16.

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6. How does Paul want Philemon to treat Onesimus, according to verse 17?

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7. What does Paul promise to do for Onesimus, according to verses 18 & 19?

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8. What two things is Paul asking of Philemon in verse 20?

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9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

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10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

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**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: When the Lord is at work in a situation, He truly does make all things beautiful in His time and in His way.

LESSON #2: Paul was a prisoner of Jesus Christ because everything that happened to Paul was permitted by Jesus Christ. His whole life centered in Jesus Christ.

LESSON #3: When you come into God's family by the new birth, then other Christians become your brothers and sisters and God becomes our Father. This is what Paul meant when He called Timothy His brother and Apphia his sister.

LESSON #4: Because we are members of the same family, there is a love that God gives us one for the other.

LESSON #5: Paul shared his faith with others even while he was in prison. This was how Onesimus became a believer. Nothing could stop him from sharing his Savior with men.

LESSON #6: Behold the hand of God in this happening. God's grand design, His marvelous plan. Onesimus might have run away because he was tired of his master's religion—a wild young man trying to ruin himself. He ran away a criminal and came back a Christian.

LESSON #7: God can and does use the things which we do to accomplish His purpose. In this situation He used a crime to change a criminal into a Christian.

LESSON #8: What a beautiful picture this is of our acceptance by Christ. According to verse 17: "If therefore you are having me as a partner, receive him as me."

LESSON #9: Wonder of wonders, how can it be, that God should accept me as He does His only Son?

LESSON #10: God in His grace, because of His love, has paid our debt and brought us into the family of God. We have been forgiven and accepted in the Beloved.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

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**STUDY NUMBER SIX – JUDE 1:1-25 (DAV)****NOTES****I. Caption (vv. 1-2)**

v. 1 Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and a brother of James, to those who have been called, who are loved by God the Father and kept by Jesus Christ.

v. 2 May mercy and peace and love be multiplied to you.

**II. Contention (vv. 3-4)**

v. 3 Beloved, while I was making every effort to write to you concerning our common salvation, I felt I had to write to you urging you to contend earnestly for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints.

v. 4 For certain men have secretly slipped in, who for a long time have been marked out for this judgment, ungodly persons who are turning the grace of our God into a license for immorality and denying our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

**III. Condemnation (vv. 5-16)**

v. 5 Now I am desiring to remind you, though you know all things once for all, that the Lord having saved a people out of the land of Egypt, subsequently destroyed those who did not believe.

v. 6 And angels who did not keep their own domain, but abandoned their proper abode He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day.

v. 7 Just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, since they in the same way as these indulged in gross immorality and went after strange flesh, are being set forth as an example in undergoing the punishment of everlasting fire.

v. 8 Yet in the same manner these men also by dreaming are defiling the flesh, and rejecting authority and defaming pre-eminence.

v. 9 But Michael the Archangel, when he was disputing with the devil, and arguing about the body of Moses did not dare pronounce against him a sentence of judgment, but said: "The Lord rebuke you!"

v. 10 But these men are reviling the things which they do not understand; and the things which they know by instinct, like unreasoning animals, by these they are being brought to ruin.

v. 11 Woe to them! For they have taken the way of Cain, and for pay they have poured themselves out into the error of Balaam, and perished in the rebellion of Korah.

v. 12 These men are those who are hidden rocks in your love-feasts, feasting with you without fear, as shepherds leading themselves to pasture, waterless clouds, carried along by winds, autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, uprooted;

v. 13 wild waves of the sea, foaming up their shame; wandering stars for whom the blackness of the darkness has been reserved forever.

v. 14 And about these also Enoch, the seventh from Adam prophesied saying, "Behold! the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones,

v. 15 to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way, and all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."

v. 16 These are grumblers, finding fault, following after their own desires, and their mouth is speaking arrogantly, flattering people for the sake of advantage.

**IV. Contemplation (vv. 17-23)**

v. 17 But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken beforehand by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ;

v.18 that they were saying to you, "In the last time there shall be mockers, following after their own ungodly desires."

v. 19 These are the ones who are causing division, worldly-minded, not having the Spirit.

v. 20 But you beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit;

v. 21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, expectantly looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.

v. 22 And have mercy on those who are doubting.

v. 23 Save others, snatching them out of the fire; and on some have mercy with fear, hating even the garment polluted by the flesh.

**V. Culmination (vv. 24-25)**

v. 24 Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy,

v. 25 to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time, both now and forever.  
Amen.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Jude 1:1-25 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

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2. In what two ways is Jude described in verse 1?

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3. What three prayer wishes are outlined for us in verse 2?

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4. Describe what happened to Jude as he was preparing to write this letter, according to verse 3.

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5. Outline the reason why Jude changes his message, according to verse 4.

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6. Outline what happened to the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, according to verse 7.

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7. Describe the ungodly, according to verse 16.

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8. What is the Lord going to do for each of us who know Christ as Savior, according to verses 24 & 25?

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9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

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10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

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**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Each of us must be adorned with a spirit of sensitivity that we might know the mind of the Lord before we begin pursuing His plan.

LESSON #2: In verse 5 we read: “Now I am desiring to remind you, though you know all things once for all, that the Lord having saved a people out of the land of Egypt, subsequently destroyed those who did not believe.”

LESSON #3: “And angels who did not keep their own domain, but abandoned their proper abode He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day” (verse 6).

LESSON #4: Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed as they “indulged in gross immorality and went after strange flesh, [and] are being set forth as an example in undergoing the punishment of everlasting fire” (verse 7).

LESSON #5: “Woe to them! For they have taken the way of Cain, and for pay they have poured themselves out into the error of Balaam, and perished in the rebellion of Korah” (verse 11).

LESSON #6: According to verse 15 God is certainly coming “to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way, and all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.”

LESSON #7: The conduct of the sinners is described in verse 16: “These are grumblers, finding fault, following after their own desires, and their mouth is speaking arrogantly, flattering people for the sake of advantage.”

LESSON #8: Jude commands the believers in verse 17: “But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken beforehand by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

LESSON #9: “‘In the last time there shall be mockers, following after their own ungodly desires.’ These are the ones who are causing division, worldly-minded, not having the Spirit” (verses 18 & 19).

LESSON #10: Jude commands the believers again: “But you beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit; Keep yourselves in the love of God, expectantly looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life” (verses 20 & 21).

LESSON #11: How are we supposed to be living in times of apostasy? We are to: (1) be building ourselves up through the Word; (2) be praying in the Spirit; (3) be staying in the sunshine of His love by walking in fellowship with Him; (4) be expectantly anticipating the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ; (5) be patient with those who are doubting; (6) evangelize those who are perishing; and (7) be challenging those who are walking in carnality as children of God after the things of the flesh. Recognizing the fact that everything points to him, the Lord Jesus Christ, who is able to keep us from stumbling. And who will one day make us stand in the presence of His glory, blameless, with great joy.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

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