



“For Me”  
Jude 1a

## **Typical business card – Name, position in organization, multiple ways to contact you**

- Some today use their business card in a more creative way with pictures, odd shapes, and other things to get your attention

## **Business card of Chen Guangbiao a Chinese tycoon and philanthropist**

- Most influential Person of China
- Most Prominent Philanthropist of China
- China Moral Leader
- China Earthquake Rescue Hero
- Most Well-Loved and Beloved Chinese Role Model
- This is only half of his list

**How would you respond if someone handed you a business card that simply read, “Jude, a slave or a servant of....”?**

- A simple little line of text that can tell us a lot about the author of the Book of Jude
- **Jude 1a** Jude, a servant (bondservant) of Jesus Christ and a brother of James

## Titus Purpose

- **Verse 3** tell us the reason for Jude writing this letter, “Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt compelled to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God’s holy people.”

## Titus Purpose

- I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share
- I felt compelled (*by the Holy Spirit*)
  - Compelled - bring about (something) using force or pressure
- I write and urge you to contend (*to struggle for as a wrestling match*) for the faith

## Titus Purpose

- Once for all entrusted to God's holy people
  - Entrusted - put (something) into someone's care or protection
- Jude wanted to warn his readers that the apostates were already on the scene
  - Apostate - 1: an act of refusing to continue to follow, obey, or recognize a religious faith. 2: abandonment of a previous loyalty: defection

## Titus Purpose

- Warren Wiersbe, “Jude wanted to write a devotional, but the Spirit led him to put down his harp and grab a trumpet. It is a call to arms.”



## **Jude's introduction speaks of his humility**

- There are so many ways Jude could have opened his letter
  - Jude a brother of Jesus
  - Jude an eyewitness to the glory of Jesus
  - Jude the more awesome brother of James

## **Jude's introduction speaks of his humility**

- Jude a simple servant of our awesome Savior Jesus
  - There is nothing great within me
  - I don't speak with from my great authority
  - I'm coming to you with the heart of a simple servant

## Jude's introduction speaks of his humility

- Jude, like the rest of Jesus' brothers, did not believe in Jesus while He ministered
- **John 7:3-5 NIV** 3 Jesus' brothers said to him, "Leave Galilee and go to Judea, so that your disciples there may see the works you do. 4 No one who wants to become a public figure acts in secret. Since you are doing these things, show yourself to the world." 5 For even his own brothers did not believe in him.

## Jude's introduction speaks of his humility

- Jude, like the rest of Jesus' brothers, did not believe in Jesus while He ministered
- **Mark 3:20-21 NIV** 20 Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered, so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. 21 When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, "He is out of his mind."

## Jude's introduction speaks of his humility

- Jude was present with the other believers waiting for the Holy Spirit at Pentecost
- **Acts 1:14-15 NIV** 14 They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

## Jude's introduction speaks of his humility

- The brothers of Jesus seem to be known and grouped with other leaders
- **1st Corinthians 9:5 NLT** Don't we have the right to bring a believing wife with us as the other apostles and the Lord's brothers do, and as Peter does?

## **Jude's introduction speaks of his humility**

- We live in a world where it seems we must louder than those who disagree with us
  - Notice me, I'm important and have a massive following
  - Notice me, I'm educated and have something really important to say to you
  - Jude said, "Notice Jesus, He has something really important to say to you."

## Jude's introduction speaks of his humility

- It seems like we are always in attack mode when contending for the gospel
- **1st Peter 3:15-16 NIV** But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, 16 keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.



## **Jude's introduction speaks of his humility**

- Rob Phillips, “The ultimate goal of a conversation with Jehovah’s Witnesses at our door, an atheist over the back fence, or a Muslim in the public square should not be to win an argument, speak more loudly than the other person or get in the last word. Rather, it should be to share a word of truth, leaving the results to the Holy Spirit.”

## **Jude's introduction speaks of his humility**

- Gregory Koukl, “All I want to do is put a stone of truth in someone’s shoe. I want to give them something worth thinking about, something he can’t ignore because it continues to poke at him in a good way.”

## Jude's introduction speaks of his identity

- I am the sold-out property of Jesus Christ
  - I am a bondservant of Jesus Christ
  - I belong to Jesus and Him alone
- You hear this from Paul in **Galatians 2:20 NIV**, “I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”

## **Jude's introduction speaks of his identity**

- Oswald Chambers, “These words mean the breaking and collapse of my independence brought about by my own hands, and the surrendering of my life to the supremacy of the Lord Jesus Christ. No one can do this for me, I must do it myself.”

## **Jude's introduction speaks of his identity**

- The servant was to listen closely to the master's voice and act accordingly
  - To bring praise to the Master by how they lived their lives
  - To speak the words of the Master
  - To do the work of the Master
  - Not following their own ideas or desires but the Master's

## **Jude's introduction speaks of his identity**

- To be so identified with the Master that when someone saw them, they saw the Master
  - They heard the Master
  - They might never have seen or spoken to the Master, but they knew the Master by observing his slave
- I/me/mine has been crucified with Christ
  - Now there is only Christ in me, the hope of glory

## **Jude's introduction speaks of his treasure**

- A radical change came into the life of Jude
  - Before He considered Jesus an embarrassment to the family, a fraud, maybe with a mental issue
  - But after the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus, Jude understood his great need to be forgiven for his rejection of Jesus as the Messiah

## **Jude's introduction speaks of his treasure**

- Today we would call it a Paradigm Shift in his thinking
  - An important change that happens when the usual way of thinking about or doing something is replaced by a new and different way
  - Jude now saw himself not a brother of Jesus, or an equal of Jesus, but as a bondservant of Jesus Christ
  - No longer, “What can you do for me Jesus, but what do you have for me to do for you today, Master?”



## **Jude's introduction speaks of his treasure**

- He understood the great gift of life given him when he accepted Jesus as his Savior
  - The greatest treasure in the heart of Jude was to be a slave, a bondservant for Jesus Christ
  - The greatest joy in the life of Jude was to know he was a willing bondservant of Jesus

## Jude's introduction speaks of his treasure

- **Matthew 6:21 NIV** For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
- After seeing the glory of the Lord Isaiah responded to God's call to servanthood in **Isaiah 6:8 NIV** Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

## Jude's introduction speaks of his treasure

- Let me give up what I think are my treasures so I can receive what cannot be purchased – it sounds like:
  - Oh! Oh! – Let me work in VBS, please Jesus
  - Oh! Oh! – Let me work in the nursery, please Jesus
  - Oh! Oh! – Let me wash some dirty old feet
  - Oh! Oh! – Let me be the one to speak words of encouragement
  - Oh! Oh! – Let me hurt for You so others can see You in me

## **Jude's introduction speaks of his treasure**

- Let me give up me so I can do you, Jesus
- Being a servant of Jesus is not so much of what I'm giving up, but rather all the wonders I'm receiving
- Chorus - Jesus, all for Jesus
  - All I have and am and ever hope to be
  - For its only in Your will that I am free

## Jude's introduction speaks of his treasure

- **Matthew 5:11 NKJV** “Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake (for Me).”
- Picture Jesus on the cross for you and hear him whisper the words to you, “For you, going forward, for Me”

# **The Roman world was changed dramatically by the Gospel of Jesus Christ**

- Not so much because of the spoken word
- But because of spoken lives, living out the spoken words for the glory of their Master

## The Roman world was changed dramatically by the Gospel of Jesus Christ

- **Acts 16:22-25 NIV** 22 The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods. 23 After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. 24 When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

# The Roman world was changed dramatically by the Gospel of Jesus Christ

- This doesn't seem fair, does it?
  - **25** About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them.
- After what Jesus experienced for us physically, spiritually and mentally, can we really ask Him not to use us any way he can to reach others for Him?





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