

JUDE | FOR THE FAITH

SESSION 2

BELOVED BEWARE

THE NATURE OF FALSE TEACHERS (JUDE 5-16)

WATCH

backtothebible.ca/jude/2

READ

Jude 1-16 | 2 Peter 2:1-22

REFLECT

Jude goes into detail about the false teachers. Looking to Scripture, other works, and the scenery around him, Jude helps his readers understand the nature of these false leaders. It's easy to read what Jude says and think "Whoa Jude, why so harsh?" The reality is that Jude's not being *harsh*, he's being *clear*. Our culture has blurred the lines between harsh and clear.

Think about it this way: say you were a soldier and were sent on a secret mission where you had to spy out the enemy's camp. Upon arrival, you discover that three of your fellow comrades are actually the enemy - they've been deceiving you and the entire military as double-agents. When arrived back at base, what do you do? Do you forget the issue based on the fact that you don't want to scare people? Of course not. You would do everything in your power to convince your leaders and fellow soldiers everything you know about these spies. That's what

we see Jude doing here. He's giving us everything he knows about false teachers to protect and warn us.

God, through Jude (which includes Jude's knowledge of the Scriptures, artistic abilities, and frank tone), is warning us for the preservation of the gospel and the protection of His church.

RESPOND

- 1** God, through Jude, goes into great detail explaining to us the nature of false teachers. What does this tell you about God's view of the gospel? More specifically, what does this tell you about God's view of grace and His Son Jesus? (Jude 4)
- 2** The false teachers' core sins were unbelief, pride, and sexual immorality. Because they didn't confess and repent to God, it led them to pervert the grace of God and deny Jesus. What are some things in your life that you can confess and repent to God?
- 3** Based on the calling he had in Christ, Jude preserved the gospel by speaking out against false teachers. How is God calling you to preserve the gospel? What gifts, talents, and/or knowledge has God given you to help protect and uplift the church?
- 4** We often think love is advanced through acceptance and compassion only. Jude, on the other hand, shows his love for Christ and the church through healthy criticism and true judgement. How does this stretch your understanding of godly love?
- 5** Notice how Jude isn't afraid to address the real issues in the church. How can you, through godly love and respect, address the real issues in your church?