Jude & Revelation

Breakdown

- Jude was written by Judas who was not one of Jesus' disciples but was, in fact, His brother along with James who wrote the epistle of James.
- Revelation was written by the apostle John who also wrote the three epistles of John and the Gospel of John.
- Jude was probably written in the mid-60s A.D. John wrote Revelation while exiled on the isle of Patmos in the mid-90s A.D.

Main Points

- God's redemption plan has been and continues to come to pass in Jesus from the beginning of time and into the future. Jude even said that it was Jesus who brought God's people out of Egypt which happened centuries before He was born on the earth. His ministry was not an isolated event – it has always been and will continue now and through eternity.
- Throughout the entire book of Revelation, we see references to the Old Testament which demonstrate that Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of God's salvation for us. Though we may suffer some now, we can be filled with hope for Jesus' future, victorious return. The entire book of Revelation looks forward to the new heaven and new earth described in chapters 21–22.

Did you know?

- Although Jude is one of the shortest books of the Bible (only 25 verses), the author manages to fill the book with references from the Old Testament. Can you name all 9 references?
- Like Jude, Revelation would be difficult to understand without referring to the Old Testament. There are over 500 references in Revelation to the Old Testament. Which Old Testament book does it reference the most (49 times)?
- Revelation is John's report of the testimony of Jesus Christ about *"the events that must soon take place"*. How did John get this revelation?
- John recorded messages to seven churches in seven different cities. What were the seven churches who received letters from Jesus?
- Revelation ends with God and His people victorious. The closing chapters describe the "new heaven and earth" coming down from heaven to replace the old. How is the "new Jerusalem" described?

Further Thought

- At the beginning of Revelation and again at the end of the book, John wrote that God will bless anyone who reads these words of prophecy, listens to its message, and obeys what it says. Why is it so important for us to read and understand the book of Revelation?
- Even though we often have hard times in our lives, Revelation shows us that when Jesus comes back to the earth, evil will be completely destroyed forever. Revelation encourages us to press on and endure because the end is coming soon. What can we do to remind ourselves that the things we are currently experiencing are only temporary?