

12. What is Jude's warning for these false teachers, and on what does he base his warnings?

Warning is of judgement basis is OT (5-7, 11)

Israel, Angels, Sodom and Gomorrah reject grace and authority of God

Cain, Balaam, Korah - rebel against God and lead others to rebel

13. How is the church to remain strong in the face of this danger?

It is be reassured by the God who keeps them and to hold fast to the historical, unchanging revelation he has given to them through the Apostles.

14. What encouragement, warnings are there for us in Thessalonians and Jude?

	Gen 1	Gen 3	Gen 12-Mal	Gospels	Acts	Epistles
<b>God's people</b>	Adam & Eve	No-one	Israel	Those who respond	The Church	Church
<b>God's place</b>	Eden	Lost	Canaan	In Christ	The Church	Church
<b>God's rule</b>	By his word bringing blessing	Living with curse but is promise	God's word to his redeemed people	New covenant, by grace	New Covenant, Holy Spirit	Holy Spirit God's word

## Unit 1.9 The Epistles

1. Use the scenario given to you in your group.

### 1 THESSALONIANS

2. Acts 17:1-10 - What is the context of the letter and church it's written to?

AD 50 approx, Paul in Corinth writing to young church  
Church is composed of Jew and Gentile, facing opposition from Jewish community and Greco-Roman world to return or conform. Opponents are attacking Paul and undermining gospel he taught. Letter clearly shows his love and concern

3. Ch1:1-10 What are the signs of true conversion?

(3) work produced by faith, labour prompted by love, endurance inspired by hope. To proclaim message

They are counter cultural - to imitate Christ and Paul

Gospel is received as word of God in power of Holy Spirit (5)

Turned from idols to serve living God (9) wait for 2<sup>nd</sup> coming (10)

4. Ch 2:1-16 - Paul's ministry is under attack, who does he appeal to in his defence and what is his defence?

God (4-5, 10) Thessalonians (10)

Proclamation was in face of hostility (2)

Motives and means are pure (3, 5) message is from God (4)

Behaviour - mother (6b-12)- caring, gentle, shared lives.

Father (11-12) - holy, righteous, blameless.

(13-16) Gospel led to change in Thessalonians

5. Ch 2:17-3:13 - Paul is being criticised for fleeing. What 5 evidences does he give as evidence that he cares for the church?

We torn away (17a)

Tried to return (17b-20)

Sent Timothy (3:1-5)

Overjoyed at news (6-10)

Pray for them (11-13a)

6. Ch 4:1-12 - What does Christian living look like?

(1-2) living to please God - implications of gospel

Highlights 2 areas where it shows:

Gospel and sex (3-8)

Gospel and others (9-12)

7. Ch 4:13-5:11 - What does Paul say about the second coming and its implications for the believers?

3<sup>rd</sup> implication of gospel is with death (4:13-18)

Belief means we grieve differently

Means we live not just for now

Means we will look ready (5:1-11)

8. Ch 5:12-28 - What does a community in which the gospel is at work look like?

Respect for leaders and others

Accountability to one another

Live listening to God (16-22)

Live praying to God (23-28)

## JUDE

9. Why is Jude written?

Probably written to Jewish Christians, given reference to Assumption of Moses and the Apocalypse of Enoch

False teachers have entered the church and are living immoral lives - Problem is ethical

He had intended to write about the salvation that is theirs. But having heard something that concerns him he is compelled by his love and concern for them to write this letter. But he has to write to urge them to contend, to continue to fight, to stand up for - that word implies an ongoing wrestling match.

10. What can you discern about the false teachers there?

Their teaching perverts the grace of God into licence (4)

Not blatantly obvious "secretly slipped in", ungodly, sensual, heretical, was predicted.

(8) Sexual immorality, rejecting authority of Bible, abuse celestial beings - may be denying their existence, but probably rejecting law which trad. says was given to Moses by angels and saw angels as its guardians.

"Dreamers" - in OT dreamer claimed to have a message from God (10) do not understand, they are dangerously ignorant, they dismiss or attack what they cannot understand, make judgements (9) and live to fulfil passions. (16) Teach for own benefit

11. Look at the bookends of the letter; 1-2, 24-25. What is the great encouragement for Jude's readers?

God is sovereign and they can be in no safer hands

God keeps them.