

## **Jude 4**

For certain men whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are godless men, who change the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord (*NIV*).

1. As it is written above and in most other versions, the doctrine of the Trinity is not stated or implied in this verse in any way.
2. However, there are a few texts that add the phrase “the only Lord God” in close proximity to “Jesus Christ,” and this has caused some Trinitarians to force this verse into a proof of the Trinity by using the grammar and the Granville Sharp Rule. This falls short on two counts. First, the Granville Sharp Rule cannot be shown to “prove” the Trinity (see the extensive note on Eph. 5:5). Second, modern textual research has shown that the word “God” in the phrase “the only Lord God” was not in the original text, but was added as the centuries progressed. Textual critics and translators recognize that fact and thus modern translations read in ways similar to the *NASB* (“our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ”).

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