

Series "Contending For The Faith"
"Contending Or Surrendering"
Jude 1:1-4
Study-1

The Author – Jude 1:1 – "Jude,"

There are 7 men named Jude (Judas) in the NT, but only one was "the brother of James." The brother of James and ½ brother of Jesus (Matthew 13:55; Mark 6:3).

When Written – About 68-70 AD. It seems that he was familiar with 2 Peter (66 AD); Jude 4-18; 2 Pet 2:1– 3:4.

Where it was Written – Location is Uncertain

Written To – Jude 1:1 – "to those who are the called, beloved in God the Father, and kept for Jesus Christ:" General Epistle.

Background – Jude, the brother of Jesus, began to write a letter about salvation but changed direction, encouraging his readers to hold on to and defend the message that had been delivered to the saints.

Purpose –

1. To Exhort Believers To Contend For The Faith (v.3)
2. To Warn About The Danger Of False Teachers (v. 4)
3. To Remind Believers Of God's Past Judgment On Sin (vv. 5-19)
4. To Encourage Christian Compassion (vv. 20-23)

Theme – Jude – "Defending The Faith"

Key Word – Ungodly – 6X

Key Passage – Jude 1:3

Outline –

1. Verses 1-4 – Who They Are
2. Verses 5-11 – What They Do
3. Verses 12-16 – What They Are
4. Verses 17-25 – What We Must Do

Thought Of Our Passage: Believers Are Called To Earnestly Contend For The Faith Which Was Once For All Handed Down To The Believers.

- 1. Verses 1-2 – Those Of The Faith**
- 2. Verses 3-4 – Defending The Faith**

1. Verses 1-2 – Those Of The Faith:

Jude 1

“Jude” – the name is derived from (Judah) meaning “praise”.

“a bond-servant of Jesus Christ,” – “bind, be in bonds, knit, tie, wind”; speaks of being close to one’s master; glad and total devotion to our master!

“and brother of James,” – Mark 6:3 says that Jesus had a brother named James. This James was the leader of the Church of Jerusalem, Acts 15:13-21; Galatians 2:9.

The Readers Are Described In 3 Ways:

- 1. Christians Who Were Called:** (Past) “to those who are the called,” – “invited, those that have received an invitation and accepted it.”

Act 2:21

- 2. Christians Who Are Loved:** (Present) “Beloved” – “saint, sanctified, holy ones”; “in God the Father”, Jude 1:21.

1 John 3:1

1 John 4:9-10

- 3. Christians Who Are Kept:** (Future) “and kept for Jesus Christ:” – The term “keeping” 4X in Jude.

John 10:28-29

John 17:15

2 Peter 2:7-9

Verse 2 – Prayer: “multiplied” – “to cause to increase”; mercy, peace, love.

Jude Invokes 3 Blessings Upon His Readers:

- 1. God’s Mercy:** “May mercy” – (multiplied) – “undeserved kindness to the needy and helpless”, Romans 9:15-16.
- 2. God’s Peace:** “Peace” – (multiplied) – harmony with God then with others, which is the result of salvation, the byproduct of the grace and mercy of God.

3. God's Love: "and love be multiplied to you." – "the mercy and the peace of God equates to the love of God."

Romans 5:5-8

2. Verses 3-4 – Defending The Faith:

Jude 3

"Beloved," – "to love to be dear."

Verse 3 – Salvation We Share: "our common salvation," – (Not Inferior)
"The Salvation shared by all genuine believers; "common" – "all are in need of a Savior and salvation", Titus 1:4.

"I felt the necessity to write to you" – Literally "Out of distress, need."

Verse 3 – The Faith We Defend: "appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith" – the words "contend earnestly" – English word "agonize"; "on-going wrestling match"; taken from the Greek games "to fight, standing upon a thing which is assaulted and which the adversary desires to take away, and it is to fight so as to defend it, and retain it."

Colossians 1:29

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

"for the faith" – "to be entrusted with, the body of doctrine"; Intellectual and moral truth; The Apostles Doctrine; Objective truth, Acts 2:42.

Philippians 1:27

The Message Is Complete In Content: "the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints." – Literally "the once for all having been delivered to the saints faith."

Saints – "true believers, declared righteous or holy by God", 2 John 1:9.

Verse 4 – A Forewarned Defense: Jude 4

"For certain persons" – or certain men; this is the reason for the change for the content of the letter.

"have crept in unnoticed," – Greek, sometimes used of "political infiltration and subversion, to slip in secretly, to steal in undercover", John 10:1.

Jude Uses 4 Phrases To Describe These Deceitful Workers:

1. **“those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation,”** – (Matt 7: 15-20) Olivet discourse. (Matt 24) Paul – Acts 20:29-30.

2 Peter 2:1-3

“for this condemnation,” – Jude 5-16

2. **“ungodly persons”** – the word ungodly used 6X; “no inner reverence for God, they willfully ignore Him, rejection of the moral authority of God that leads to shameless behavior”, Jude 1:18.

3. **“who turn the grace of our God into licentiousness”** – “wantonness, absence of moral restraint, indecency”; a word that covers all debauchery.

“turn the grace” – “to change grace”

Titus 2:11-12

4. **“and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.”**

“deny” – “not to accept, to reject, to refuse something offered” – “our only Master”

“Master” – sovereign, used in the NT for God the Father, Luke 2:29; Acts 4:24; Revelation 6:10

2 Peter 2:1

“Master” – Jesus Christ’s Sovereignty; “and Lord” – Lordship – “Jesus” – His Savior-hood, “Christ” – His Messiah-ship.

Titus 1:16

Application:

1. True Christians Are Called By God, Loved By God, And Kept By God.
2. Jude’s Prayer For The Believers: Blessed Life Is Through God’s Mercy, Peace And Love Being Multiplied In You.

3. All Genuine Christians Share A Common Salvation, A Faith Which We Must Earnestly Contend For, And A Message That Is Complete In Content.
4. Anyone Who Denies Our Only Master And Lord Jesus Christ, Is A False Teacher, No Matter How Correct He May Be In Other Matters.