

Jude

(1) The Introduction to the Letter

To whom it does concern... Jude 1-4

How does Jude introduce himself? vs.1 Comment??

A servant of Jesus Christ and a brother of James. Servant first. Authority second

Jude uses a triad to identify/describe to whom the letter is addressed. What's first? vs.1

To 'the called', those who have been called. Rom.1:6; 8:30; ICor.1:24; Eph.4:4; IIPet.1:3

This 'part' of salvation is done by Whom, and when? Jn.16:8-10

The Holy Spirit convicts of sin, righteousness, and judgment. It's the first work.

What is the second 'part' of salvation, done by Whom, and when? vs.1 Jn.3:16

To those beloved in the Father. This is a present-continuing state for the believer.

And what is the third 'part' of salvation, done by Whom, and when? vs.1 Jn.10:27-30

To those who are kept for (by) Jesus Christ. This is our (future) eternal security.

What triad does Jude immediately invoke upon this group? vs.2 Heb.4:16; Rom.15:13; 5:5

May mercy, peace, and love be yours (the called, loved, and kept) in abundance. Amen!

What is the concern... Jude 3-4

What did Jude originally start out to write? vs.3

He originally intended to write of the more pleasant things of our salvation.

But instead he feels 'the necessity' to write addressing what issue? vs.3 See ITim.4:1

He pleads with them to contend earnestly for the faith, once for all entrusted to the saints.

What is the sense of *contend earnestly* (epagonizomai)?

It carries a sense of struggle with and adversary. Also a sense of urgency.

What had happened that gave Jude such a sense of urgency? vs.4

Godless men had secretly crept in among them. They were now "in" the church.

And is the presence of such men a surprise? vs.4 IIPet.2:1-3

No! Such ungodly infiltrators continuously plagued true believers. Judgment is coming...

And what was their two part, distinctive brand of ungodly teaching? vs.4

1. They turned the grace of God into a license for immorality 2. Denied Christ our Lord

What 'lake of truth' is this first 'thimble of error' hidden in? Rom.8:1; Gal.5:1, **13**

The freedom in which true believers stand is taught to be a free license to fleshly sin.

Since doctrinal errors usually travel in pairs, what defining error followed? vs.4

These ungodly liars then denied Christ as Lord. Not misled believers. No truth is in them.