

Contending for the Faith
Introduction to Jude
Jude 1:1

Introduction

Today we are going to begin a series of messages on the Epistle of Jude. Often shortened to just Jude, the letter was written as an open letter to be read to many of the New Testament churches.

1. According to verse 1, Jude was the brother of _____, often called James the Just.
2. Both Jude and James were brothers of _____.
3. The theme of the letter is an appeal to "Contend for the Faith" even in times of _____.
4. Jude's writing gives us a vivid account of a coming apostasy and a warning to protect and defend the Christian _____.
5. A great apostasy will be a sign of the end times and the soon _____ of Jesus Christ.
6. Jude echoes the words of Peter that there would be "_____ in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts.
7. Persecution comes from without, but apostasy comes from _____.
8. Arius denied the _____ of Jesus.
9. Arianism was an outright attack on the doctrine of God and a challenge to the very foundation of Christian faith based upon Jesus as truly _____.

10. The famous Nicene _____ was the outcome of the Council of Nicaea.

I. Bond-Servant of Jesus Christ

11. Both James and Jude begin their writings declaring that they are _____ of Jesus Christ.

12. A bond-servant is a _____.

13. Jude had so much respect and love for Jesus that he was _____ to be his slave and call him his Master and Lord.

14. The name "Jude" is a shortened form of _____, meaning "praise YHWH."

15. During Christ's earthly life, Jude and James did not believe _____ was the Messiah.

16. After the Resurrection, Jude calls himself a bond-servant of _____.

17. Belief in the Resurrection _____ you!

18. The apostates that Jude speaks of later sought to gain power and authority over people and were certainly not interested in being _____.

19. To the Romans, Paul writes, "Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the _____ of God" (Romans 1:1)

20. To call Jesus "Christos," "Messiah," or "The Anointed One," was to make a theological claim that He is the Messiah long expected by the _____."

21. After the Resurrection, when Jesus appeared to his brothers, they became _____ and believed.

Jesus was the Messiah.

II. Those Who Are Called

22. Jude says he is writing to those who are the _____.

23. In one sense, the Apostle Paul says that every non-_____ believer is called. (Rom 1:6)

24. God planned all of his promises and blessing to come upon the _____ human family before time began.

25. In this sense, _____ has been called to partake of God's saving grace

26. While God intended the call to be universal, because of free-will and _____, many have not heard the call or have refused the invitation.

27. The Bible calls those who accept God's invitation of salvation through the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross, the _____!

III. The Beloved of God

28. Jude also calls Christians " _____ in God the Father."

29. It is for this reason Satan despises Jews and _____.

30. Those who don't feel accepted and beloved very often lash out at those who do have a sense of security and _____.

31. God intended His blessings to be for _____, not for just a few.

32. God wants you to live a _____ life!
33. Many people are angry with God because they can't replace him and be their own _____.
34. We see the outcome of this kind of hostility and anger when _____ enters this world.
35. Believers are the called, beloved in God reserved, preserved, and _____ by the power of Almighty God
36. Always remember that God _____ you and wants to bless you and will keep his hand upon you no matter what you must face when you choose to follow his Son, Jesus.

Conclusion

37. In verse 2, Jude says, "Mercy, peace, and love be yours in _____." (Jude 1:2 NIV)

Jude admonishes us to contend for the faith! Don't be intimidated or afraid to defend the gospel – the good news about God's love revealed in C Christ.

Answers:

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| 1. James | 14. Judas | 27. Church |
| 2. Jesus | 15. Jesus | 28. Beloved |
| 3. Apostasy | 16. Jesus | 29. Christians |
| 4. Faith | 17. Changes | 30. Peace |
| 5. Return | 18. Servants | 31. Everyone |
| 6. Mockers | 19. Glory | 32. Blessed |
| 7. Within | 20. Jews | 33. God |
| 8. Deity | 21. Christians | 34. Jesus |
| 9. God | 22. Called | 35. Kept |
| 10. Creed | 23. Jews | 36. Loves |
| 11. Servants | 24. Whole | |
| 12. Slave | 25. Everyone | |
| 13. Honored | 26. Sin | |