

Jude – Contend for The Faith Series

Part 1: Introduction-Contend for The Faith-Jude 1-4

JUDE - Overview

Jude calls believers to **contend earnestly for the faith** because ungodly people have crept in unnoticed and are turning the grace of God into an excuse for immorality. Jude reminds believers of God's past judgments, exposes the character of false teachers, and urges the faithful to remember the apostles' warnings, build themselves up in the faith, pray in the Holy Spirit, keep themselves in the love of God, and show mercy while rescuing others from the fire.

There are 3 main parts to Jude:

1: Contend for the faith. 2: Warning and judgment of ungodly intruders. 3: Remember, build up, keep, rescue, and remain in God's mercy.

1. **Contend for the faith** extends from 1:1-4. Jude addresses those called, beloved in God the Father, and kept for Jesus Christ. He urges them to contend earnestly for the faith once for all handed down to the saints because certain ungodly people have slipped in unnoticed and are perverting grace into a license for sin.

2. **Warning and judgment of ungodly intruders** extends from 1:5-16. Jude recalls God's judgments on Israel, angels who sinned, and Sodom and Gomorrah. He then exposes the false teachers as ungodly, immoral, rebellious, greedy, and destructive, comparing them to Cain, Balaam, and Korah and describing their coming judgment.

3. **Remember, build up, keep, rescue, and remain** extends from 1:17-25. Believers are to remember the apostles' warnings, build themselves up in the faith, pray in the Holy Spirit, keep themselves in God's love, and wait for the mercy of Jesus Christ. They are also to show mercy and rescue those being drawn toward destruction, while giving glory to God who is able to keep them from stumbling.

OVERVIEW CHART

FOCUS REF:	CONTEND FOR THE FAITH Jude 1:1–4		WARNING AND JUDGMENT Jude 1:5-16		REMEMBER, BUILD UP, KEEP, RESCUE, AND REMAIN IN GOD’S MERCY Jude 1:17–25			
DIVISION REF:	Called, beloved, kept 1:1–2	Contend for the faith 1:3–4	Past judgments recalled 1:5–7	Ungodly intruders exposed 1:8–16	Remember the apostles’ warnings 1:17–19	Build up, pray, keep yourselves 1:20–21	Show mercy and rescue 1:22–23	God able to keep and present us 1:24–25
TOPICS	God’s calling, love, and keeping power		Unbelief, rebellious angels, Sodom and Gomorrah, judgment		Scoffers, worldly-minded people, divisions			
PLACE	Not stated in Jude. The letter is addressed to those who are called, beloved in God the Father, and kept for Jesus Christ (1:1).							

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*Scripture were delivered by the inspiration of the holy spirit. **2 Timothy 3:16 and 17, 2 Peter 1:20-21, 1 Corinthians 2:13, 2 Peter 3:15-16, Galatians 1:11-12.***

Matthew 10:2-4 Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; and James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother;

3 Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and **Thaddaeus**; 4 Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed Him.

2 Peter 3:1 This is now, beloved, the second letter I am writing to you in which I am stirring up your sincere mind **by way of reminder**,

2 that you **should remember** the words spoken beforehand **by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior spoken by your apostles.**

Matthew 12:46-50 While He was still speaking to the crowds, behold, His mother and brothers were standing outside, seeking to speak to Him.

47 Someone said to Him, "Behold, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside seeking to speak to You." 48 But Jesus answered the one who was telling Him and said, "Who is My mother and who are My brothers?" 49 And stretching out His hand toward His disciples, He said, "Behold My mother and My brothers! 50 **For whoever does the will of My Father who is in heaven, he is My brother and sister and mother.**"

(Galatians 1:19 But I did not see any other of the apostles except James, the Lord's brother.)

Jude 1:1, Jude a bond-servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James,

To those who are the called, beloved in God the Father, and kept for Jesus Christ:

2 May mercy and peace and love be multiplied to you.

3 Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you **contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints.**

Romans 1:7-8 to all who are **beloved of God** in Rome, **called as saints:**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, because your faith is being proclaimed throughout the whole world.

*While **epagōnizomai** itself appears only in Jude, it is built from:*

epi- (ἐπί) — "upon, toward"

agonizomai (ἀγωνίζομαι) — "to struggle, fight, strive" (used in Luke 13:24; 1

Cor 9:25; Col 1:29; 1 Tim 4:10; 6:12)

*Jude ntensifies the common verb agonizomai by adding epi, giving the sense of **striving intensely, contending with focused effort.***

Luke 13:24 Strive (*agonizomai*) to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able.

1 Corinthians 9:25 Everyone who **competes** (*agonizomai*) in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.

1 Corinthians 9:26-27 Therefore **I** run in such a way, as not without aim; **I** box in such a way, as not beating the air; 27 but **I** discipline **my** body and make it **my** slave, so that, after **I** have preached to others, **I** myself **will not be disqualified.**

Colossians 1:29 For this purpose also **I labor, striving** (*agonizomai*) according to His power, which mightily works within **me.**

1 Timothy 4:10 For it is for this **we labor** and **strive** (*agonizomai*), because **we have** fixed our hope on the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of believers.

1 Timothy 6:12 Fight (*agonizomai*), the **good fight of faith**; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called, and you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

(John 14:21 He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him.)

Jude 4: For certain persons have crept **in unnoticed**, those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, ungodly persons **who turn the grace of our God into licentiousness** and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

5 Now I **desire** to **remind you**, **though you know all things** once for all, that the Lord, after **saving a people** out of the land of Egypt, **subsequently destroyed** those who did not believe.

Prayer and Song: Contend for The Faith