

JUDE: CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

(Jude 1:3-4)

A. SOME BACKGROUND TO THE EPISTLE OF JUDE

B. JUDAS' GREETING (vv. 1-2)

C. CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH (vv. 3-4)

1. Initially Jude was very eager to write an _____ letter to these saints regarding the common _____ that he shared with them. (v. 3a)

2. In approximately AD 66 Peter had written about false teachers that were _____; to Jude's dismay he had discovered that they were _____!
 - a. He was convinced that it was now _____ to write a letter of warning, exhorting these believers. (v. 3b)

 - b. Jude wanted them to take a stand and " _____ " for the faith. (v. 3c)

 - c. The body of doctrine to which Judas referred to as " _____ " (Gal. 1:23; 1 Tim. 4:1) was that which had been laid down as a foundation by the _____ and had been _____ to the Universal Church over the past 30 plus years. (v. 3d)

* If the false teachers were already on the scene in Jude's day, what does that mean for us in the 21st century?

3. While Judas will have much to say in his letter about these men, his initial description of their character was that...

a. they were _____: they had slipped into the assembly _____ without anyone noticing. (v. 4a)

* How should the phrase, "*who long ago were marked out for this condemnation*" be taken? (v. 4b, cf. Isa. 8:19-22; Jer. 5:13-14)

* Is their end predicted in the New Testament? (2 Thess. 2:6-10; 2 Pet. 2:3)

b. they were _____: while they claimed to belong to God, they were in fact godless in their _____ and their _____. (v. 4b)

c. they were _____ of _____: teaching that a person could and should live a promiscuous life completely _____ of any moral decency. (v. 4c)

d. they were _____: while they claimed to know God, their teaching and promotion of flagrant _____ appetites actually _____ the Lord Jesus Christ. (v. 4d)

* Are you and I still susceptible to false teachers and doctrinal error today?