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**Part 1 Sermon, August 20, 2023**  
**Jude 1-4 – *Contend for the Faith***

**Discussion Questions**

1. The Epistle of Jude is bookended with a beautiful and encouraging salutation and benediction. Read verses 1b-2 and 24-25. Receive these blessings as the Holy Spirit's inspiration. Take a moment to pray that "mercy, peace and love be multiplied to" others and let them know you are asking this on their behalf from the Heavenly Father.
  2. Who is the author of this letter? Why might he refer to himself by a nickname rather than his given name, Judas? What else do we know about him from Scripture? (See Matthew 13:53-58, John 7: 1-13 and/or Mark 3: 7-12, 20.) What can we learn from him about our own attitudes as the elect of God's salvation?
  3. Part of Jude's writing style includes the use of triads. How does he describe the audience of his letter? Find other verses that also use these terms about members of the household of God. Flip back to John 17 and find references to amplify being "kept for Jesus Christ."
  4. In verse 3 Jude confesses that he had to change his subject matter for this epistle due to certain people who had crept into the church unnoticed. The readers were past only needing to be on alert or watching out, for these people had already arrived. What is Jude's appeal to his readers and by extension us? In what ways are you equipping yourself against doctrinal illiteracy? Our spiritual life will never grow past our scriptural knowledge. Ask the Lord to help you make necessary changes in your habits to grow in grace and knowledge.
  5. Steve Lawson has said, "We do not change the Scripture. The Scripture changes us." Jude writes about "the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints." What argument could you give to someone who does not believe in the sufficiency of Scripture? Why or why not is the canon of Scripture complete? How are you contending for the faith in your life right now?
  6. This short epistle is a gut check for every member of God's household. Each of us know or know of certain people who are "ungodly...who pervert the grace of God . . . and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ" (*verse 4*). What is our responsibility to keep the church from crumbling within? How are you prepared to refute false teachers/teaching?
  7. Thank the Lord for our church where the whole counsel of God is preached rightly from the pulpit and in worship each week. Pray for our elders and deacons and members, that we will not grow weary but keep fighting the good fight, being on guard and standing firm.
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