

An aerial photograph of a coastal area. In the foreground, there is a wide, light-colored sandy beach. A narrow, reddish-brown dirt path or road runs parallel to the beach, leading towards the water. The water is a deep blue color. The overall scene is bright and clear.

Building a Lasting Legacy “Contending for the Faith”

Dr. Bobby Hill

Jude

¹ Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and a brother of James,

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

² Mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance

Jude

³ Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt compelled to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God's holy people. ⁴ For certain individuals whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord.

¹⁷ But, dear friends, remember what the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ foretold. ¹⁸ They said to you, “In the last times there will be scoffers who will follow their own ungodly desires.” ¹⁹ These are the people who divide you, who follow mere natural instincts and do not have the Spirit.

²⁰ But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹ keep yourselves in God’s love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life.

22 Be merciful to those who doubt; **23** save others by snatching them from the fire; to others show mercy, mixed with fear—hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh.

24 To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy – **25** to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen

Let's Get Acquainted

1. Who was the writer?

- Jude (Judas)
- Servant of Christ
- Brother of James and Jesus

2. Who was the recipient?

- Called, Loved, Kept v. 2



What was Jude's Purpose?

1. Confront and denounce the false teachers
2. Guard and protect the church from danger
3. Encourage believers to maintain their faith



What was the Problem?

1. Christ's Warnings

2. Paul's Warnings

3. Jude's Warning and Challenge

1. Christ's Warnings

- Matthew 7:15
- Matthew 24:11-12

2. Paul's Warnings

- Acts 20:28-30
- 2 Timothy 4:3-4
- 2 Corinthians 11:3-4



3. Jude's Warning and Challenge

- Contend for the Faith v.3
- Beware of the Infiltrators v.4

Two Errors Jude Addressed

1. License – Jude 4
2. Rejection of the Lordship of Jesus – Jude 5



How do we Contend for the Faith?

1. Believe it.
2. Proclaim it.
3. Guard it.



Dangers Facing Today's Church and Leaders

1. Extreme doctrinal teachings
2. Exaltation of man – humanism
3. Abandoning the authority of scripture
4. Consumerism – conforming to worldly standards to attract people

Jude's Challenge to Remain Strong

1. Remember God's Word; Jude 17-18
2. Build Up Yourselves in Prayer; Jude 20
3. Show Mercy; Jude 22-23
 - Merciful to the doubters; v. 22
 - Snatch other from the fire; v. 23
 - Rescue with mercy and caution; v. 23