



EARNESTLY  
CONTENDING  
FOR THE FAITH

# Jesus Christ's Return

## ■ Acts 1:6-12

- They were looking for the deliverance from foreign domination and the establishment of an earthly kingdom. It was not for them (us) to know the time or date/season/epoch that the Father has “fixed in His own authority”.

They were tasked with being witnesses “to the remotest parts of the earth”.

They are told that Jesus will return in the same He left them, from the Mount of Olives.

# Unity and Freedom

## ■ Acts 2:41-42

- There was a time, signified by this day of Pentecost, when the church was unified—perhaps as unified as it ever was in its entire history. These verses reveal two elements of the time when the unity of the church was at its very peak.

They were devoted to the apostles teaching. In the first century, that was "the faith once delivered." It means they were constant. They were resolute. They were single-minded. They were determined in learning and following it. They did not drift.

# Unity and Freedom

## ■ Acts 2:41-42

- They did not swerve from it, and it produced what it is supposed to:
  - Faith in God
  - Faith in His way
  - Faith in His church
  - Confidence and trust in putting these things into practice.

**They took care of each other. They were very much concerned for their brother's welfare**

**It indicates they voluntarily looked out for each other personally (individually), striving to meet the needs of each other.**

# Unity and Freedom



*Wherever you go,*  
I WILL GO; WHEREVER  
YOU LIVE, *I will live.*  
YOUR PEOPLE WILL BE  
MY PEOPLE, AND YOUR  
GOD WILL BE *my God.*

RUTH 1:16 NLT

# Unity and Freedom

*Judges*  
FOR  
**OUR TIME**

"... found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints..." (Jude 3b, NKJV)

The Letter of  
**Jude**

Fight for the Truth



# Jude: Background Info.

- Book of Acts describes the beginning of the institution of the local church; Jude deals with the ending of the Apostolic Church age.
- The books deals with apostasy and a turning away from the faith.
- Greek word for apostasy is *apostrepho*; meaning to "*turn thyself away from*". Jude is often viewed, as a prophetic book.

# Reasons To Study All Prophecy

## II Thessalonians 2:1-13

- **We are not shaken from our composure**
- **We are not deceived and perish**
- **We are not guilty of a lack of love for the truth**
- **We are not lawless and take pleasure in wickedness**

**Watch / Stay Awake / Do not Sleep !**



# Jude

## ■ Sanctified by God the Father

– “To Make Holy Or to Purify Being Set Apart For God’s Use And Special Service”

- Genesis 2:3 / Exodus 29:43 / Leviticus 8:10 / I Timothy 4:5

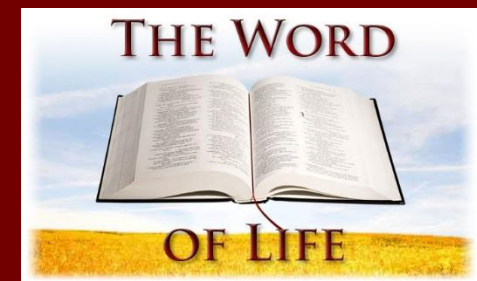
## ■ Preserved in Jesus Christ

– “Tereo” – Denotes a continuing act of watching, guarding and keeping one’s eye on something.

## ■ Called

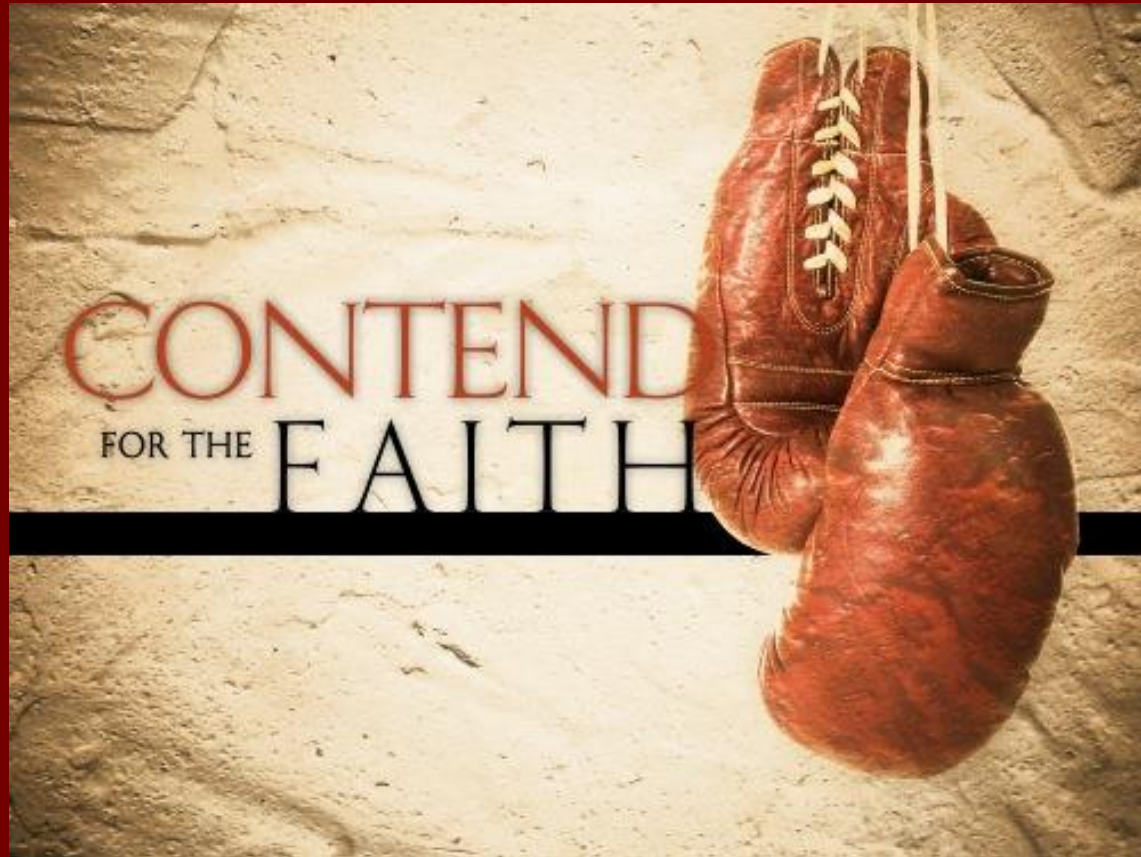
– “Kletos” – Refers to one who is invited or summoned.

- I Corinthians 1:9 / Revelation 3:20



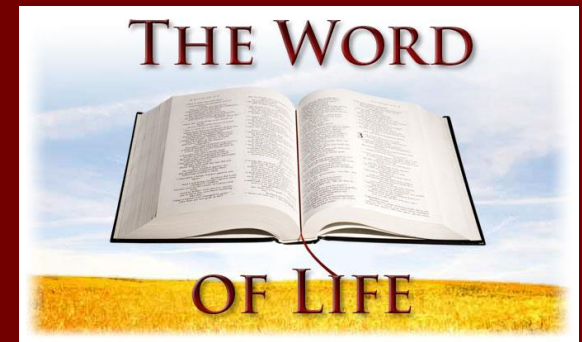
# Jude

- **Contend For The Faith Once Delivered Unto The Saints**



# Jude

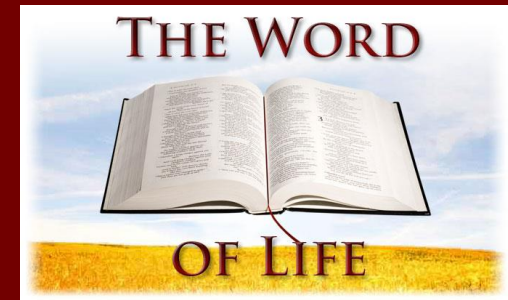
- **Ordained = “fore written”**
  - “...wolves in sheep’s clothing”
    - **Matthew 7:15-20**
    - **I Timothy 4:1**
    - **Titus 1:9-11**
    - **Acts 20:28-31**
    - **II Corinthians 11:14-15**
    - **II Timothy 3:1-5**



# Jude

## ■ Warnings From Jude

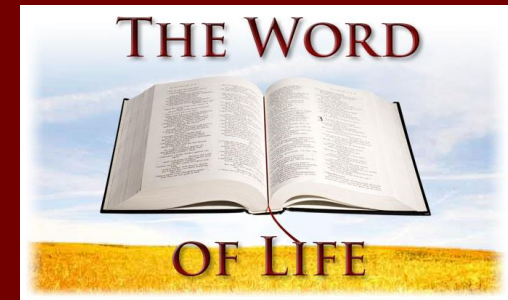
- God's people must be discerning and believe God or suffer the consequences (i.e. Children of Israel)
- Complete darkness is a judgment of God against willful rebellion (II Peter 2:3-6) (i.e. angels which kept not their first estate)
- God will judge and punish sin (i.e. Sodom and Gomorrha)



# Jude

## ■ False Teacher Associations

- Cain – Not an outsider; member of the first family
  - Genesis 4:5
- Balaam – Instructed Midianites to use seduction against the people of Israel (people of God)
  - Genesis 22 - 25
- Korah – Instigate uprising from within Israel
  - Numbers 16

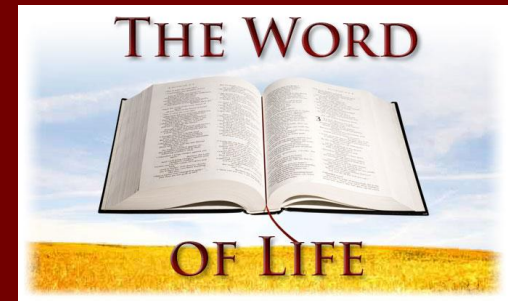


# Jude

## ■ Our Consolation and Sure Hope

– In spite of false teachers, the believer's salvation is secure in Christ Jesus.

■ I Peter 1:3-5



# Putting This Together

## Earnestly Contending For The Faith

### ■ Application To Our Life

There are two major components for our **Unity and Freedom in the Faith.**

- **The first is God and what He does (I Corinthians 2:12-13** *"...we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit from God...combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words..."*). **He opens up our mind. He predisposes it for us to receive something.**



# Putting This Together

## Earnestly Contending For The Faith

### ■ Application To Our Life

**There are two major components for our Unity and Freedom in the Faith.**

- **The second is spoken of by Paul in Romans 10:17.** *"Faith comes by hearing, and hearing comes by the word of God."* **Those two work together.**
- **What God does, by a miraculous act of His mind, of His will, of His Spirit working in our minds, is combined with the message He gives to the person He sends. It is to be the basis and foundation of our conversion and our faith.**
- **From that point on, it becomes a matter of learning more specifically the things that are contained within the message that was delivered to us.**



# **Putting This Together**

## **Earnestly Contending For The Faith**

### **■ Application To Our Life**

#### **Ephesians 4:1-3**

- Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.**