

Jude 1 –

We are preaching through a series of message on the church entitled, "Unstoppable Force: The Church is designed to be a people of hope in a dark world.

- **Matthew 16:18** - Jesus said, "I will build MY church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it!"
- As Followers of Christ, we collectively are to be a beacon of hope.
- The tragic events of this week have provided multiple opportunities to share the good news of Jesus – That is the only hope for our nation.

New Testament book of Jude – half brother of Jesus

- Did not believe in Jesus as Messiah until after Jesus' death, burial and resurrection. He not only became a follower of Jesus, but became an leader in the early church
- He says he desires to write a longer letter about the "...common salvation, but I found it necessary to write this **letter warning you of the threat that is among you.**

Shout "Your Warning"

- American Village Field Trip – Reenact Paul Revier's Famous Ride
 - You may remember **One (lantern) if by land; two if by sea.**
 - The signal was meant to alert patriots about the route the British troops chose to advance to Concord.
- The plan was to reenact this...Kid named Wolf – British Troops (decked out in red coats)
 - The man said, "Shout Your Warning" ... With every fiber of his being, Wolf shouted, "Your Warning"
 - You gotta know what the battle is all about!

Jude 1:3-4 - Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. ⁴ For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Jude is urging believers to **know you are** in the battle and that the enemy is not just approaching, they are already here!

- We are not sure what particular error Jude addresses, we know more about the false teachers than their false teaching

This is in line with the warning about false prophets from...

- Jesus himself – **Matthew 7:15-16** - Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶ You will know them by their fruits.
- From Paul...From John...From Peter – almost all of the books of the New Testament warn about false teachers.

He describes them as rebellious and immoral giving several Old Testament Examples

Jude 1:16-18 - These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage. ¹⁷ But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: ¹⁸ how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. ¹⁹ These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit.

Faith that was Delivered

Jude is calling believers in that generation and by extension ours, to defend the faith that has been delivered to ALL THE SAINTS – those set apart by God through Christ

The Faith – The sum of what Christians believe.

- **The phrase** refers to that body of doctrine that was given by God through the Apostles to the church.
- **The faith** here refers not to the **ACT** of believing but rather to **WHAT** is believed = the unchangeable message of the Gospel, that body of Christian truth which brings salvation (past, present and future).

That was Delivered

- Adrian Rogers said of this faith, "It is divine in its conception. It is complete in its content. . . . It is absolutely unique in its character" ("Battle for the Bible"). (Shaddix, *Exalting Jesus: 2 Peter & Jude*, p. 199)

I Corinthians 15:1-2 - Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ² and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

I Corinthians 15:3-8 - ³ For I delivered to you as of **first importance** what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.

Blank Live - Faith that was Delivered

Jim Shaddix, in his commentary on Jude said this, "It has been "delivered" / "entrusted") once for all to the saints. In saying "once for all," Jude suggests that it is **complete**. It needs no corrections and no additions. Christians need not seek any fuller revelation. It has come to us decisively in Jesus Christ. God has, as a sacred trust, passed on the precious, soul-saving faith to us." (Shaddix, *Exalting Jesus: 2 Peter & Jude*, p. 199)

Faith that is to be Defended

Jude 1:3-4 - Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you **to contend earnestly** for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

This is a Clarion Call for believers everywhere to stand for Truth!

- It's as if Jude is saying, because there are false prophets in your midst, I urge you, with every fiber of your being to contend earnestly for the faith.
- The word "contend" is a translation of the Greek word from which we get **our word agonize**.
- The word appears in both **military and athletic contexts**. It means "to fight or struggle with intense effort."
- Jude calls on us to strive after and fight for the faith, and his words suggest that he knows it will not be an easy battle; it will be agonizing at times. (Shaddix, *Exalting Jesus: 2 Peter & Jude*, p. 198)

Remember what Jude wanted to write – Notice verse 3 once again...

Jude 1:3 - Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

Blank Live - Faith that is to be Defended

Jude desired to write about the common salvation

- I can picture sitting around a **campfire** – roasting marshmallows talking about how good we have it...We are saved by grace, Our sins are washed away by faith and repentance in the finished work of Christ...That is good news – That's great news.
 - If you are here today, and you have never repented of sin and trusted in Jesus, called upon his name for salvation, today is the day!
- Picture Jude – Who needs more marshmallows – That's what he wanted to write...
 - What he wrote was contend for the faith
 - If there is ever a time for the body of Christ to do that ... It's Now

There is a Battle for the very Soul of Our Nation!

- I don't have to tell you how bad it's gotten – We have seen it this week
 - We are at war – battle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this world – against spiritual hosts of wickedness in high places.
 - The enemy has come to steal, kill and destroy, but Jesus came to give life ... more abundantly!
- As we commemorated the 24th anniversary of 9/11
- I was deeply saddened by the events of the assassination of Charlie Kirk. A man who loved Jesus and loved his family, and sought to share the hope of Jesus.

Know What you Believe – You cannot fight error if you don't know it!

Romans 13:11-14 - And *do* this, knowing the time, that now *it* is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation *is* nearer than when we *first* believed. ¹² The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. ¹³ Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. ¹⁴ But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to *fulfill its* lusts.

Wake Up – Stand Up – Speak Up – Can you defend your faith

I Peter 3:15 - But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always *be* ready to *give* a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

Are you ready to give an answer... I got asked several times this week, "What's going on? What do you think? Is there hope? Are we headed for anarchy?"

Jude 1:3 - Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

My passion is relentlessly pursue Jesus, and to equip those in my sphere of influence to do the same!

- Sunday School Lesson – Daily Discipleship Guide
- Come to Church with an open Heart, open Bible, open Notebook and see what God can teach you about Himself, about His people, about his will for our lives.
 - Go home and meditate on what you have learned from SS, Group, Sermon
- We are excited to announce the Launch of Deep Discipleship –
 - Launching in the Spring of 2026, this Comprehensive study of Christian Theology, The Story of Scripture and Spiritual Formation will form your faith, equip you to defend your faith and know the Bible tells the story of the redemption of mankind
 - **Deep Discipleship Picture** - [Link](#)
- As you leave this morning, you will receive a copy of our Doctrinal Statement – **Baptist Faith and Message - Picture**
- Know what you believe!



Faith that is to be Demonstrated

Jude says, False teacher are among you –

Jude 1:16-19 - These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling *words*, flattering people to gain advantage. ¹⁷ But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: ¹⁸ how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. ¹⁹ These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit.

Jude 1:20-25 - But you, beloved, (**Personal application – Here is what you need to do...**) building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹ keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Jude 1:22 - ²² And on some have compassion, making a distinction; ²³ but others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

Glory to God

²⁴ Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present *you* faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, ²⁵ To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, *Be* glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever. Amen.

Personal Application - Actions:

Build Yourself up in the Faith – Your responsibility

- Preacher, isn't the church supposed to be build me up
 - Eph. 4:11-12 – Jesus gave the church...apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

- Which is it? Am I supposed to build my self up, or is that the church's responsibility?
- The Answer is YES – It's a both / and; Not either / or
- How do I do that? I'm glad you asked! **Abide in Christ – God time –**
- Gather Time - Equipped through Teaching and Preaching of God's Word
 - Know the Core Doctrines of the Faith
 - Discern the Difference between Core Doctrine – Theology & Ministry Philosophy & Methodology
- Group Time – Sunday School, first place of connection and care / D-Groups equip you to live the life of a follower of Christ.

Pray in the Holy Spirit

- Paul exhorted believers in Colossians 4 to "Continue steadfastly in prayer..."
- **In Ephesians 6:18** - praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit...
- Praying in the Holy Spirit is to be empowered, enabled, and guided by the Holy Spirit – all true prayer is empowered by the Spirit
- This could be everything from dedicated time on your knees in prayer, or the prayers whispers in the time of need.

Keep yourself in God's Love

- **MacArthur on keep yourselves in the love of God** – "...to remain in the sphere of God's love, or the place of His blessing ([Ro 5:5](#); [8:39](#); [1Jn 4:16](#)). On a practical level, it means that we must stay obedient to God, since divine blessing is promised only within the sphere of obedience. [\(2 Peter and Jude MacArthur New Testament Commentary\)](#)
- **Starts with Trusting that His way is Better – His knows what's best**
- **Relentless Pursuit of His Design – It's understanding His Guidance, His Protection and His provision ... as we are studying in the book of Numbers!**
- **John 15:9-11** - "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. ¹⁰ If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. ¹¹ "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and *that* your joy may be full.
- **We are kept by the power of God**
 - **Philippians 2:12-13** - Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³ for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure.
 - **1 Corinthians 15:10** - But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God *which* was with me.

Look up!

- Jude 1:21 - looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.
- Looking for that Blessed Hope and the glorious appearing of our Great God and savior Jesus Christ.

Have Compassion – for those who doubt

- **Jude 1:22** - ²² And on **some have compassion**, making a distinction;
- **Some struggle** – have compassion on them!

Rescue the Perishing

- **Jude 1:23** - ²³ but others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.
- ***There are some close to judgement*** – Are you doing everything you can to reach them.

Imagine for a Moment, you are Paul Revere...Shout Your Warning

As funny as that story is, it is sobering...How many of us when faced with the impending attack of the enemy can do nothing more than shout Your Warning