

PETER'S EPISTLES & JUDE

**From Dust to Destiny
NT Epistles**

1 & 2 PETER

THE AUTHOR

- Peter is one of the most interesting individuals of the NT.
- The gospels and Acts furnish much information concerning the life and character of this prominent Apostle.

1 & 2 PETER

THE AUTHOR

- His Name:
 - Originally Simon, but Jesus gave him a new name
 - Cephas (Aramaic); Peter (Greek) – “rock, or rock-man”
 - **John 1:42** “Andrew brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, ‘You are Simon the son of John; you shall be called Cephas’ (which translated means Peter).”
 - **Matt. 16:18** “And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it.”
 - **Eph. 2:19-20** “...God’s household, having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone.”

1 & 2 PETER

THE AUTHOR

- His Family:

- His father was a Jew named John (Barjona, meaning “son of John,” -- Matt. 16:17)
- He had at least one brother, Andrew, who brought him to Christ (John 1:40-41)
- He was married (1 Cor. 9:5) and had a mother-in-law (Matt. 8:14-15) whom Jesus healed.
 - **1 Cor. 9:5** “Do we not have a right to take along a believing wife, even as the rest of the apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas?”
 - **Matt. 8:14** “When Jesus came into Peter’s home, He saw his mother-in-law lying sick in bed with a fever.”

1 & 2 PETER

THE AUTHOR

- His Life: (Pre-Gospel)
 - Peter was “uneducated and untrained” (Acts 4:13), meaning he was not formally trained in the rabbinic schools (e.g. not a Pharisee or ordained teacher).
 - He probably had a normal elementary education of a Jewish boy from a small town.
 - He was a fisherman on the Sea of Galilee and partners with James, John, and his brother Andrew (Lk. 5:10).
 - At the time prior to his conversion to Christ, Peter was living in the coastal town of Capernaum (Mark 1:29).

1 & 2 PETER

THE AUTHOR

- His Life: (post-Gospel)
 - Peter was brought to faith in Christ through the enthusiastic witness of his brother Andrew.
 - He was called by Christ to salvation, training, and service (John 1:42; Lk. 5:1-11; Mark 3:13-19).
 - NOTE: in the four passages where the names of the 12 disciples are listed, Peter's name heads each list (Matt. 10; Mark 3; Lk. 6; Acts 1).
 - Peter was the recognized leader of the 12 and, likewise, in the early church (Acts 1-12) in Jerusalem and Rome.

1 & 2 PETER

THE AUTHOR

- Peter as Leader

- His Inquisitiveness

- Peter asks more questions than all the other disciples combined:
 - The meaning of a difficult saying (Matt. 15:15; Lk. 12:41)
 - How often he had to forgive (Matt. 18:21)
 - About the end of days (Mark 13:3)
 - About John's future (John 21:20-22)

- His Initiative

- Peter not only asked questions, but was always the first to answer the Lord's questions:
 - When Jesus asked who touched Him in the crowd (Lk. 8:45)
 - Who do you say that I am? (Matt. 16:15-16)

1 & 2 PETER

THE AUTHOR

- Peter as Leader
 - His Involvement
 - Peter was always right in the middle of the action:
 - He jumped out of a boat to walk on water (Matt. 14:29)
 - He pulled a sword to defend Christ (John 18:10-11)
 - He followed Jesus after His arrest to Annas' and Ciaphas' house (John 18:12-27).
 - He raced to the empty tomb (John 20:1-7).

1 & 2 PETER

THE AUTHOR

- Close to Christ
 - Peter, James, and John made up Christ's "inner circle"
 - The gospels record three occasions when these three men were the only disciples accompanying Jesus:
 - At the home of Jairus (Lk. 8:51)
 - On the Mount of Transfiguration (Matt. 17:1)
 - In the Garden of Gethsemane (Mark 14:33)
 - Peter was with Jesus for two full years, hanging on His every word, witnessing His miraculous works, and studying His perfect character.

1 & 2 PETER

THE AUTHOR

- Committed to Christ
 - Peter was the prominent disciple (along with John) during Jesus' passion week and post-resurrection ministry.
 - He questioned about the fig tree (Mark 11:21).
 - He asked about the signs of His coming (Mark 13:3).
 - He asked for a bath (John 13:1-11).
 - He desired to follow Jesus to heaven (John 13:31-33).
 - He denied his denial (John 13:36-38).
 - He defended Jesus in the Garden (John 18:10-11).

1 & 2 PETER

THE AUTHOR

- Committed to Christ
 - He followed Jesus after His arrest to the house of Annas (John 18:15-18) and then to Caiaphas (John 18:24-27).
 - He discovered the empty tomb with John (John 20:1-10).
 - He saw the risen Christ privately (1 Cor. 15:5) and then corporately (John 20:19).
 - He was commissioned by our Lord (John 21:15-17) and received a prophecy of his later martyrdom (John 21:18-19).

1 & 2 PETER

THE AUTHOR

- His Life: (Early Church)
 - The most active and eventful period of Peter's life was during the years spanning Acts 1-12 (AD 30-47).
 - Leader of the Twelve (Acts 1:15-26)
 - Preacher of the Gospel (2:14-40; 5:42; 8:25; 10:34-43)
 - Worker of Miracles (3:1-4:22; 5:12-16; 9:32-43)
 - Protector of the Church (5:1-11)
 - Defender of the Faith (5:17-41)
 - Minister of the Spirit (8:14-24)
 - Object of the Persecution (12:1-19)
 - Apostle to the Gentiles (10:1-11:18)
 - Speaker at the Jerusalem Council (15:6-11)
 - Pillar of the Church (Gal. 2:9)

1 & 2 PETER

THE AUTHOR

- His Later Life: (post-Acts 12)
 - Visit to the Church @ Antioch (Gal. 2:11-21)
 - Here Paul rebuked Peter for his inconsistency in the manner of having fellowship with Gentiles and Jews.
 - Visit to northern Asia Minor (1 Pet. 1:1)
 - There is a strong probability that the northern provinces of Asia Minor not evangelized by Paul were areas in which Peter ministered the gospel (post AD 49 – Acts 15).
 - Hence Peter's references to believers living in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia

1 & 2 PETER

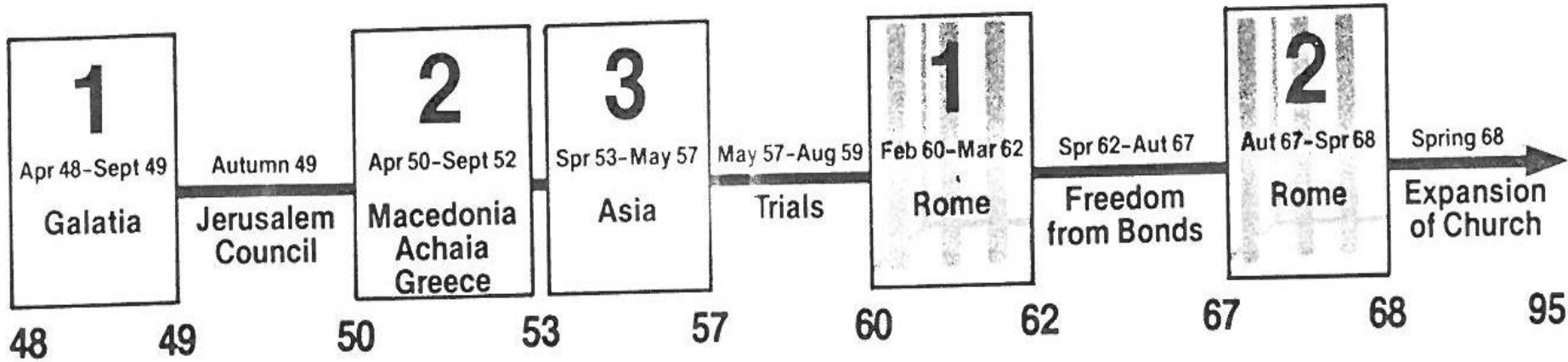
THE AUTHOR

- His Later Life: (post-Acts 12)
 - Arrival in Rome, “Babylon” (1 Pet. 5:13)
 - At some unknown time, Peter makes his way to Rome, presumably after Paul’s release from his 1st Roman Imprisonment (AD 62-63).
 - Was not in Rome 25 years; Did not found church at Rome; Not the first “Pope”
 - Epistle Writing
 - With perhaps a short period between them, Peter’s two epistles were written from Rome sometime between AD 63-67.
 - It is thought *1 Peter* was written prior to Nero’s persecution (AD 64) and *2 Peter* immediately before his death (AD 67) – 2 Pet. 1:14.

Book	Date (A.D.)	Book	Date (A.D.)
James	45-49	Philippians,	63
Galatians	49	Philemon	63-64
1 & 2 Thessalonians	51	1 Peter	63-66
Mark	50s or 60s	1 Timothy	63-66
Matthew	50s or 60s	Titus	64-68
1 Corinthians	55	Hebrews	66
2 Corinthians	56	2 Peter	67
Romans	57-58	2 Timothy	68-80
Luke	60	Jude	85-90
Acts	61	John	85-90
Colossians,	61	1, 2, 3 John	90-95
Ephesians		Revelation	

“Unto the uttermost part of the earth . . .” (Acts 13-28)

13 14 15 16 18 19 21 22 28



James
Place: Jerusalem?
Date: 46-49

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Peter
Place: Rome
Date: 63-64 | Hebrews
Place: Unknown
Date: 64-68 | 1 John
Place: Ephesus
Date: c. 90 |
| 2 Peter
Place: Rome?
Date: 64-66 | Jude
Place: Unknown
Date: 66-80 | 2 John
Place: Ephesus
Date: c. 90 |
| | | 3 John
Place: Ephesus
Date: c. 90 |
| | | Revelation
Place: Patmos
Date: 95-96 |

1 & 2 PETER

THE AUTHOR

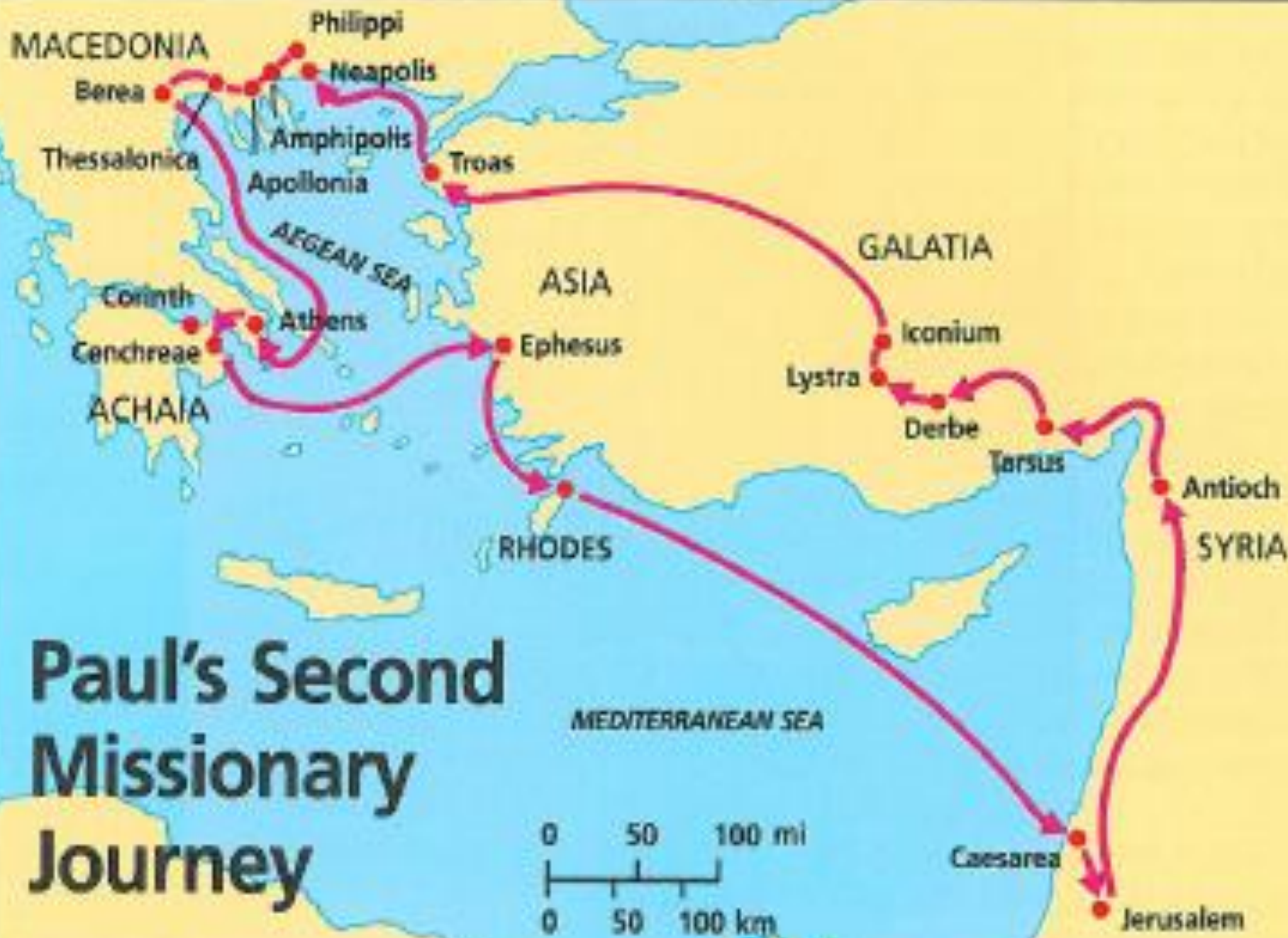
- His Martyrdom

- Though Scripture does not record the occasion or manner of Peter's death, early church tradition is unanimous that he was martyred in Rome, crucified as Christ had foretold (John 21:19).
- Prior to his own crucifixion, however, Peter was forced to witness his wife's crucifixion. Standing at the foot of her cross, it is said that Peter repeatedly encouraged her with the words, "Remember the Lord, remember the Lord."
- After she died, he himself was crucified, but upside down at his own request because he did not consider himself worthy to die as his Lord.

1 PETER

THE AUDIENCE

- Their Location
 - To Christians living in various Roman provinces of northern Asia Minor – “To those who reside as aliens scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia” (1:1)
 - Ironically, but providentially, the one occasion when Paul began to move northward into these regions, he was forbidden and redirected by the Holy Spirit (Acts 16:6-12).



Geography of Asia Minor



1 PETER

THE AUDIENCE

- Their Status
 - These believers (5:2) were predominantly Gentile (1:14; 2:9-10, 12; 4:3-4), though there were some Jews, that had apparently moved to these regions because of persecution (“sojourners of the dispersion” – 1:1).
 - These believers were experiencing:
 - Fiery trials because of their faith (1:6-7)
 - Slander and ridicule by fellow citizens (2:12; 3:16; 4:4, 14)
 - Job discrimination (2:18-20)
 - Social ostracism (4:4)

1 PETER

THE AIM

- The basic theme here is the proper response to Christian suffering.
- Peter wrote this letter in light of the widespread persecution of Christians in the Roman empire, not to assure them that it would not come, but to encourage them to stand true and endure suffering when it did come for Christ's sake and in His strength.

1 PETER

THE AIM

- What is the Christian's response to be to suffering and hardship?
- Knowing that his readers would be increasingly maligned and face more persecution than ever before, Peter writes to give a divine perspective on trials so that these believers would be able to endure without wavering in their faith.
- The riches of one's salvation should give the believer an attitude of submission in the context of suffering for Christ.

1 PETER

THE AIM

- Believers should not be surprised by trials and suffering because...
 - The One they follow also suffered and died (2:21; 3:18; 4:1, 12-14). Therefore, count it a privilege to share the sufferings of Christ!
 - They are not the only believers who are suffering (5:9). Suffering is par for the course!
 - They must recognize that God brings these things in the lives of His children not as punishment, but as a stimulus toward growth in Christ-likeness (4:1).
 - Suffering – word or derivation used 21 times

1 PETER

THE AIM

- Peter's impetus in this epistle originates from his own experience.
- The themes that run throughout these 5 chapters are, in reality, the main lessons he has learned from the school of hard knocks from his own spiritual maturation.

1 PETER

THE AIM

- Peter's Lesson of Submission:
 - *"From Rebellion to Restraint"*
 - The Garden of Gethsemane (John 18:10-11)
 - Peter draws from the well-spring of Christ teaching him restraint as he writes this epistle (1 Pet. 2:13-18, 21-23).
- Peter's Lesson of Suffering:
 - *"From Cowardly to Courageous"*
 - Peter Denials (John 18:15-27) – fear of suffering as Christ
 - Lesson learned – Acts 4:20; 5:29, 41-42
 - Consequently, Peter writes as one emboldened with courage in the face of his own personal suffering (1 Pet. 4:14, 16, 19).

1 PETER

THE AIM

- Peter's Lesson of Shepherding:
 - *"From task-oriented to people oriented"*
 - Leaders naturally tend to be task-oriented, but this comes at the expense of plowing people under.
 - Peter needed to learn love, forgiveness, sacrificial service toward one another
 - Foot washing (John 13:6-14) and a new commandment (John 13:34-35)
 - Evidently, Peter also learned this lesson as he writes in this epistle (1 Pet. 4:7-11; 5:1-3).

1 PETER

OUTLINE:

THE HIGH STANDING OF BELIEVERS (1:1-2:10)

- Salutation to the Believers (1:1-2)
- Salvation of the Believer (1:3-12)
 - Our Future Reward from Christ (3-4)
 - Our Present Rejoicing in Christ (5-9)
 - Our Past Revelation of Christ (10-12)
- Sanctification of the Believer (1:13-2:10)
 - Gird Your Mind (13)
 - Be Holy (14-16)
 - Obey in Fear (17-21)
 - Love One Another (22-25)
 - Desire God's Word (2:1-3)
 - Realize God's Household (4-10)

1 PETER

OUTLINE:

THE HOLY WALK OF BELIEVERS (2:11-4:19)

- Submission of the Believer (2:11-3:12)
 - To Governments (11-17)
 - To Masters (18-25)
 - To Husbands (3:1-7)
 - To One Another (8-12)

- Suffering of the Believer (3:13-4:19)
 - Brings Blessedness (13-14)
 - Enhances Evangelism (15-17)
 - Copies Christ (18-22)
 - Produces Purity (4:1-6)
 - Leads to Love (7-11)
 - Tests Trust (12)
 - Reserves Rejoicing (13)
 - Secures the Spirit (14)
 - Glorifies God (15-19)

1 PETER

OUTLINE:

THE HUMBLE SERVICE OF BELIEVERS (5)

- Shepherding of the Believer (5:1-11)
 - Elders Are to Shepherd (1-4)
 - Young Men Are to Submit (5-7)
 - All Are to Stand (8-11)

- Closing Remarks (5:12-14)

1 PETER

THE AIM

- Comparison:
 - Over 100 parallels in teaching and wording between 1 Peter and Ephesians, which was also written to saints in Asia Minor

1 PETER	Ephesians
1:3	1:3
1:8	3:8
1:12	3:5, 10
2:2	4:13, 15
3:9	4:2
4:10	4:7, 11
4:11	3:6, 21

2 PETER

THE AUTHOR

- Challenged:
 - Opening verse identifies Simon Peter, an apostle of Christ, as author (1:1).
 - Still, critics challenge this authorship on the basis of...
 - Difference in style from 1 Peter
 - Supposed dependence on Jude – 2 Peter parallels Jude, thus concluded that must have been written after Jude (this would put dating of epistle after Peter's death).
 - Mention of Paul's letters being collected and circulated (3:16) – all of Paul's letters could not have been collected by a date of AD 66-67.

2 PETER

THE AUTHOR

- Defended:
 - No mention of scribe in 2 Peter so could be different amanuensis/scribe from Silvanus (1 Pet. 5:12) or no scribe – would potentially explain stylistic variance
 - Parallel with Jude (2 Pet. 2:4-17 & Jude 4-19) does not insist on later dating. If anything, Jude may be seen as abbreviated version of 2 Peter (not unlike 2 & 3 John)
 - 3:16 does not necessarily refer to all of Paul's letters, but those written and collected up to that time
 - John Mark called "son" indicates relationship between Peter and Mark
 - Compares favorably with Peter's speeches in Acts

2 PETER

THE AUTHOR

- Defended:
 - Numerous similarities between 1 & 2 Peter point to same author (e.g. Christian maturity, holiness, God's Word, etc.).
 - This author refers to an earlier epistle having been written by him to these same readers (3:1).
 - Autobiographical references in this epistle point to Peter as author:
 - The Mount of Transfiguration experience (1:16-18; cf. Mark 9:2-9)
 - Christ's foretelling Peter's death (1:13-15; cf. John 21:13-19)

2 PETER

THE AUDIENCE

- Some unknown time has passed between the writing of 1 Peter and the composition of 2 Peter (AD 64-66).
- Peter now writes again (3:1) to these scattered Christians (1:1) by way of reminder of the truth (1:12-13, 15; 3:1-2) as his death is imminent (1:14).

2 PETER

THE AIM

- How to live when surrounded by the problems and perplexities of the end time
- How to live in the midst of false teachers, flagrant immorality, and flaccid scoffers

2 PETER

THE AIM

- Occasion:
 - A DEFENSE OF THE TRUTH – Peter’s time remaining on earth is short and these congregations were faced with immediate danger from false teachings (2:1-3).
 - To combat this libertine heresy (antinomianism) and answer skeptics about the delay of *parousia*
 - In 1 PETER, the danger to the church is external—***persecution*** from the world (Satan as a lion).
 - In 2 PETER, the danger to the church is internal—***pollution*** of the world (Satan as a serpent).

2 PETER

THE AIM

- Comparison:

1 PETER	2 PETER
External Opposition	Internal Opposition
Hostility	Heresy
Antagonism	Apostasy
Waiting	Warning
Suffering	Error
Submission	Knowledge
Comfort	Caution
Hope in Christ's Return	Confidence in the Lord's Return
Pain with a Purpose	Poison in the Pew

2 PETER

THE AIM

- Purpose:
 - “Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” (3:18a)
 - Peter carefully describes the characteristics of mature believers and challenges them to grow through God’s Word (2 Pet. 1).
 - Peter cautions them against false teachers and exposes their evil (2 Pet. 2).
 - Peter encourages his readers with the certainty and victory of Christ’s return (2 Pet. 3).

2 PETER

OUTLINE:

GROW IN CHRISTIAN MATURITY (2 Peter 1)

- The Christian Nature: The Work of God (1a)
 - Our Ample Provision (2-4)
 - Our Actual Progress (5-11)

- The Christian Nurture: The Word of God (1b)
 - The Memory of God's Word (12-15)
 - The Majesty of God's Word (16-18)
 - The Meaning of God's Word (19-21)

2 PETER

OUTLINE:

GUARD AGAINST FALSE TEACHERS (2 Peter 2)

- Their Doctrine Defined (1)
- Their Danger Disclosed (2-3a)
- Their Doom Declared (3b-9)
- Their Deeds Described (10-22)

GLORY IN CHRIST'S RETURN (2 Peter 3)

- The Lord's Return Assailed (1-4)
- The Lord's Return Attested (5-10)
- The Lord's Return Applied (11-18a)
 - Doxology (18b) "To Him be the glory..."

JUDE

THE AUTHOR

- “Jude, a bond-servant of Jesus Christ...” (1:1)
 - Lit. “Judas” but KJV did not want to have a book with this name, for obvious reasons
 - 5 men in NT named Judas
 - Judas of Damascus (Acts 9:11) – received Saul into his home after his conversion
 - Judas Barsabas (Acts 15:22) – leader of early church, accompanied Paul, Barnabas, and Silas to Antioch
 - Judas Iscariot (Mt. 26:14-16) – one of the original 12, betrayer of Christ, apostate apostle
 - Judas, not Iscariot (John 14:22) – son of James (Lk. 6:16; Acts 1:13), disciple also known as Thaddaeus (Mark 3:18)
 - Judas, the half-brother of Jesus (Mt. 13:55) – cf. Jude 17, not an apostle, but brother of James (1:1)

JUDE

THE AUDIENCE

- “To those who are the called, beloved in God the Father, and kept for Jesus Christ” (1:1b)
 - No specific geographical locale, hence a “General Epistle”
 - Thought to have circulated among churches at large
 - These believers were...
 - “called” – speaks of the efficacious, internal drawing of the Holy Spirit unto salvation (Rom. 1:7; 8:30; 1 Cor. 1:2, 23-24)
 - “beloved in God” – perfect tense usage indicating God’s love toward them in the past with continuing results (Eph. 1:4-5; Rom. 5:8; John 16:27)
 - “kept for Christ” – lit. “to watch, keep guard over”; speaks of eternal security of believer (John 10:28-29; 2 Tim. 1:12; 4:18)

JUDE

THE AIM

- Thought to be primarily to Jewish saints in Palestine or Asia Minor because of heavy use of OT citations:

Jude Passage	OT Reference
Israelites (5)	Num. 13-14 (cf. 1 Cor. 10:5-10)
Fallen Angels (6)	Gen. 6:1-4 (cf. 2 Pet. 2:4)
Sodom and Gomorrah (7)	Gen. 18-19 (cf. 2 Pet. 2:6-10)
Michael and Moses (8-10)	Deut. 34:6
Cain (11)	Gen. 4:1-12 (cf. 1 John 3:11-12; Heb. 11:4)
Balaam (11)	Num. 22-25 (cf. 2 Pet. 2:15-16; Rev. 2:14)
Korah (11)	Num. 16
Enoch (14)	Gen. 5:18-24 (cf. Heb. 11:5-6)

JUDE

THE AIM

- Anatomy of Apostasy
 - Jude exposes the diabolical lives of false teachers, reveals their certain judgment, and encourages believers to increase in knowledge of the truth and contend earnestly for the faith that has, once and for all time, been handed down to the saints.
 - Jude is a solemn warning to Christians everywhere, in every generation, of the danger of doctrinal and practical errors.
 - Peter warned “there will be false teachers” (2 Pet. 2:1), but Jude states “there are certain men who have secretly slipped in among you” (Jude 4).

JUDE

THE AIM

- Purpose:
 - The author states that he intended to write concerning salvation, but pressing concerns of apostasy compelled him to deal instead with false teachings that were threatening the purity and life of the church (3).
 - Jude is a call to arms for his readers to agonizingly contend for the truth, stand firm, and grow in faith.
 - Jude condemns the practices of these wolves in sheep clothing and ungodly libertines (4).
 - These heretics posing as believers taught that believers should sin more in order to magnify God's grace more and denied Jesus as Lord.

JUDE

THE AIM

- The “Acts of the Apostates”:
 - Denied the leadership of Christ (4)
 - Exercised sinful license (4, 8, 16)
 - Rebelled against authority (8, 11, 18)
 - Gave into their fleshly desires (16, 19)
 - Were concerned only with selfish gain (11, 12, 16)
 - Were divisive (19)
 - Were boasters and fault finders (16)
 - Were worldly-minded (19)

JUDE

OUTLINE:

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

- The Salutation (1-4)
 - The Author (1a)
 - The Audience (1b)
 - The Greeting (2)
 - The Aim (3-4)

- The Instruction (5-16)
 - The Examples of False Teachers (5-11)
 - Like Rebellious Israel (5)
 - Like Fallen Angels (6)
 - Like Sodom and Gomorrah (7)
 - Like Michael and Moses (8-10) – *Assumption of Moses*
 - Like Cain (11)
 - Like Balaam (11)
 - Like Korah (11)

JUDE

OUTLINE:

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

- The Exposure of False Teachers (12-13)
 - Like sunken rocks – selfish, self-immersed (12)
 - Like waterless clouds – no water for thirsty souls (12)
 - Like barren trees – fruitless, without spiritual root (12)
 - Like raging waves – frothy (13)
 - Like wandering stars – momentary (13)
- The End of False Teachers (14-16)
 - Doom predicted by Enoch (14-15) – *1 Enoch*
 - Doom predicted by Jude (16)

Jude is not recognizing *The Assumption of Moses* and *1 Enoch* as having canonical status by quoting from these sources but uses them as Paul did the Cretan poet (Titus 1:12) to emphasize the pride and godlessness of the false teachers. At the very least, though, Jude recognizes these events as historical and factual.

JUDE

OUTLINE:

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

- The Admonition (17-23)
 - Remember God's Word (17-19)
 - Remain in God's Love (20-21)
 - Reach out to God's World (22-23)

- The Benediction (24-25)
 - God's Power Described (24)
 - God's Praise Ascribed (25)