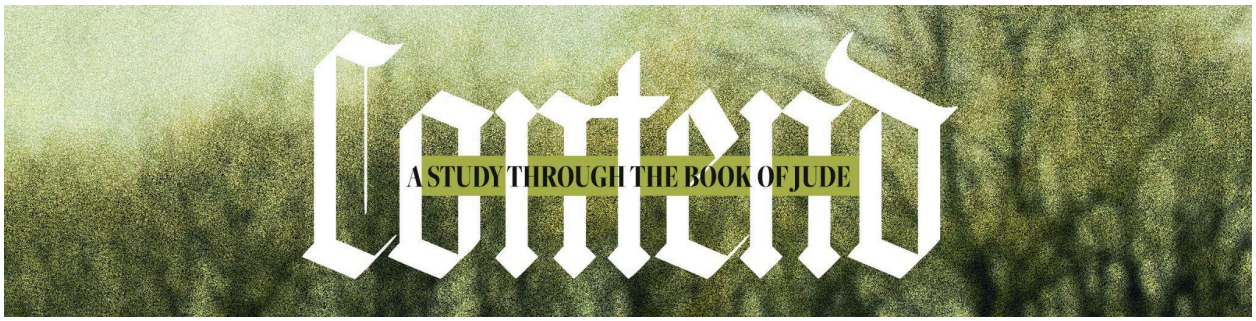


Contend — Week 1: Know Where You Stand

[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.

[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.

Jude 1:1–4 (NIV)

(v. 1) Remember I am:

- Called: God _____ me (1 Peter 2:9)
- Loved: God _____ for me (1 John 4:10)
- Kept: God _____ me (John 10:27–28)

(v. 2) And I have:

- Mercy: What I don't _____ (Titus 3:5)
- Peace: What God _____ (Romans 5:1)
- Love: What I can _____ (John 15:13, 1 Corinthians 13:1–3)

(vv. 3–4) Contend for the faith against:

- Compromised _____ (Matthew 7:15–20, Matthew 23:25–28, 2 Peter 2, 1 Timothy 6:3–5)
- Counterfeit _____ (2 Timothy 4:3, Colossians 2:8, 1 John 4:1–6, Galatians 1:6–9)
- Cultural _____ (Romans 12:2, 1 Corinthians 16:13, Ephesians 6:13)

Discussion questions:

- Jude reminds us that we are called, loved, and kept by God. How does remembering who you are in Christ change the way you respond to challenges, doubts, or pressures to compromise your faith?
- How do you discern whether messages, teachings, and influences shaping your beliefs are drawing you closer to Jesus or leading you away from him?
- Where might God be inviting you to stand more firmly in your faith, even when doing so is uncomfortable or goes against cultural expectations? How can you do this with humility, grace, and love?

Recommended resources:

Contend: Standing Boldly for Biblical Truth While Winning the War Within, by Philip Anthony Mitchell
The Daniel Dilemma: How to Stand Firm and Love Well in a Culture of Compromise, by Chris Hodges
Thriving in Babylon: Why Hope, Humility, and Wisdom Matter in a Godless Culture, by Larry Osborne
Live No Lies: Recognize and Resist the Three Enemies That Sabotage Your Peace, by John Mark Comer
Faithfully Different: Regaining Biblical Clarity in a Secular Culture, by Natasha Crain

(NIV) New International Version

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Jude 1:1–4 (NIV)

(v. 1) Remember I am:

- Called: God chose me (1 Peter 2:9)
- Loved: God sacrificed for me (1 John 4:10)
- Kept: God secures me (John 10:27–28)

(v. 2) And I have:

- Mercy: What I don't deserve (Titus 3:5)
- Peace: What God gives (Romans 5:1)
- Love: What I can share (John 15:13, 1 Corinthians 13:1–3)

(vv. 3–4) Contend for the faith against:

- Compromised character (Matthew 7:15–20, Matthew 23:25–28, 2 Peter 2, 1 Timothy 6:3–5)
- Counterfeit content (2 Timothy 4:3, Colossians 2:8, 1 John 4:1–6, Galatians 1:6–9)
- Cultural pressure (Romans 12:2, 1 Corinthians 16:13, Ephesians 6:13)

Discussion questions:

- Jude reminds us that we are called, loved, and kept by God. How does remembering who you are in Christ change the way you respond to challenges, doubts, or pressures to compromise your faith?
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