

INTRODUCTION TO JUDE (Jude 1)

I. Authenticity

A. Its ANTIQUITY

1. Possible ALLUSIONS in the Apostolic Fathers
2. Mid-to-late 2ND CENTURY testimony

B. Its AUTHORITY

1. Questioned because Jude was not an APOSTLE and he twice QUOTES from apocryphal books (vv. 9, 14-15)
2. Tertullian quoted it as SCRIPTURE and identified the author as JUDE
3. Clement of Alexandria included it in his COMMENTARY on NT
4. Origen QUOTED it FREQUENTLY as Scripture

II. Authorship (v. 1)

A. His name is JUDAS, usually spelled "JUDE" in English Bibles

B. Only two identified with a JAMES

1. The APOSTLE "Judas (not Iscariot)" (Luke 6:16)
2. Judas the BROTHER of JESUS (Matt. 13:55)

C. Must have been written by Judas, the brother of JESUS

1. Had a WELL-KNOWN brother named James
2. Demonstrated HUMILITY and REVERENCE by not announcing a FAMILY relationship with Jesus
3. Identified himself as "a BOND-SERVANT of Jesus"
4. Evidently a MARRIED itinerant PREACHER (1 Cor. 9:5)

III. Occasion

- A. DATE of writing: probably between A.D. 67 and 75
- B. PLACE of writing: UNKNOWN
- C. RECIPIENTS of the letter: Unspecified CHRISTIANS
- D. PURPOSE of the letter
 1. To DISCOURAGE believers from adopting the SELF-INDULGENCE of the false teachers invading the church
 2. To ENCOURAGE believers to vigorously DEFEND the FAITH

IV. Relationship of the Letter to 2 PETER

- A. Some believe PETER is quoting JUDE
- B. Some believe both used a COMMON SOURCE
- C. Best to see that JUDE quotes PETER
 1. Peter PREDICTS the COMING of false teachers (2:1-2; 3:3), while Jude describes them as ALREADY PRESENT (vv. 4, 10, 11, 12, 16)
 2. Jude quotes PETER'S PROPHECY (2 Pet. 3:3; cf. Jude 17-18)