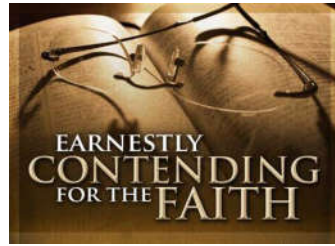


JUDE 1:1-2

The author of this letter is believed to be the 1/2 brother of Jesus. Like the rest of the siblings in the family, he did not believe Jesus was the Messiah until after the resurrection. I believe this was penned somewhere around the time of the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70.



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.

What may indicate Jude's humility in his introduction?

To whom is this letter obviously addressed?

Though there are some differences in the wording of major translations, there are at least three deep truths in the latter part of verse one that I do not want us to miss.

First, he writes to those who have been called. Called how - and by whom?

He also says his readers are loved by (or 'in') God. What might he be referring to?

Finally, he says that they are kept for Jesus. How would you explain what this means?

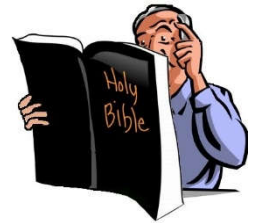
What does Jude want for his readers to have a good supply of?

Why should knowing that we are called, loved, and kept, insure we will have more than enough of these commodities?

Points to Ponder

How do you feel about the fact that Jude didn't accept Jesus earlier in his life?

Do you think people might have tended to treat Jude differently because of his family connection with our Lord?



If you were to have to choose which of the truths in these verses has the most profound effect upon you, which would it be?

Do you have mercy, peace, and love in abundance for others?