

**Transforming Daily**  
*“ . . . to those who are called, and sanctified by God . . . ”*  
*Jude 1*

Jude is believed to be one of the half brothers of Jesus. He is also one of the early church leaders, albeit, one of the lesser known. He attributes nothing to his status in his letter in the New Testament except to say that he is a “bondservant of Jesus Christ.” Jude’s message in general, as is the case with many of the N. T. epistles, is one of warning to the “called, and sanctified” against false teachers and their false doctrines. His letter also addresses aspects of the second coming of Christ.

Jude’s letter is brief, but to the point. It is only 25 verses long. In his opening remarks, he makes it clear to whom it is that he is speaking. The date of his letter indicates that the early church has been around long enough for naysayers and false teachers to have had time to pervert and undermine the true teachings of Christ with their false doctrines. Jude doesn’t want the early church believers’ faith and confidence undermined, and he challenges them to stay the course in light of the enemy’s attacks. In a backhanded way, Jude also warns the false teachers of their impending doom should they not repentance.

Although Jude’s letter is of the first century, the message is still pertinent for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, maybe even more so since we are now closer to the day of Christ’s appearing. There are many present statistics to support and validate Jude’s message for the church today. Should the church be concerned? Yes, the church should be concerned. Each believer should be concerned. In America (and perhaps throughout many parts of the world), the attack on Christianity (specifically regarding these present days) might very well be one of intense confrontation and conflict through a frontal assault on its doctrinal belief system. But more than likely the attack will be a subtle and quiet skirmish associated with the spirit of antichrist which “is now already in the world” (1 John 4:3), fueled by the world’s “intolerance” of the presence of righteousness. This is the goal of false teachers. They give many reasons to substantiate their cause, but the main reason is their enmity with God.

Do you know the truth of the gospel? Are you willing to stand for the cause of righteousness no matter the cost? Do you know the difference between God’s Word and the world’s foolishness when you hear it (1 Corinthians 1:20-21)? Are you committed to the promulgation of the gospel? This is the charge and the commission to those who are called, and sanctified by God.