

THE LETTER FROM JUDE

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**WAITING OR WASTING TIME?**

**ANTICIPATING YOUR MOST IMPORTANT MOMENT**

*But you, dear friends,  
build yourselves up in your most holy faith,  
and pray in the Holy Spirit.*

*Keep yourselves in God's love  
as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ  
to bring you to eternal life.*

*Be merciful to those who doubt,  
snatch others from the fire and save them;  
to others show mercy, mixed with fear,  
hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh.*

## OUR DILEMMA

*This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.*

JOHN 3.19

*There is no difference between Jew and Gentile,  
for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*

ROMANS 3.23

- ▶ Jude has extensively documented the sinful nature of humanity and the irrevocable consequence of God's judgment. Apart from God's intervention, our sinfulness has already determined our destiny.

## MERCY THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.*

JOHN 3.16-17

*Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand.*

ROMANS 5.1-2

- ▶ Jude began his letter with an eagerness to write “about the salvation we share.” In response to our unresolvable dilemma, the collaborative love of the Father and the sacrifice of the Son provides salvation and justification to all who believe.

## JUST TWO ALTERNATIVES AND ONE WAY

*“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.”*

MATTHEW 7.13-14

*“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*

JOHN 14.6

- ▶ Jude has emphasized the fact that there are only two alternatives: you either contend for your faith or you will lose it; you either are led by the Spirit or you follow your natural sinful instincts; you are either waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ or you are falling under God's judgment.



## ARE YOU WAITING OR WASTING TIME?

*They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.*

1 THESSALONIANS 1.9-10

- Are you waiting for the return of Jesus? That question can only be answered by “how” you are waiting.

*For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.*

TITUS 2.11-14

*Then he told me, “Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this scroll, because the time is near.*

*Let the one who does wrong continue to do wrong; let the vile person continue to be vile;*

*let the one who does right continue to do right; and let the holy person continue to be holy.”*

*“Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me,  
and I will give to each person according to what they have done.*

REVELATION 22.10-12