

JUDE

AUTHOR:

Jude claims authorship of this letter in vs. 1:1. Jude was the brother of James, Jesus' half-brother. James was a prominent leader in the church at Jerusalem. This would make Jude the half-brother of Jesus also. Jude and James are sons of Mary and Joseph.

DATE:

This letter is best dated between the years of 60-65 A.D.

AUDIENCE:

The address in v. 1 is very general making a specific recipient tough to identify. We know that Jude was written to Jewish and Gentile, Christian churches in the Ancient World (namely, Asia Minor or Palestine).

PURPOSE:

Jude is warning the churches against false teachers. They were saying that since we are saved by grace we have a license to sin. Jude was bringing them back to the truth Paul claimed in Romans 6:1-2, "What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?"

