

Jude 1-4

AN URGENT APPEAL

The letter of Jude...

Confusion?

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- Confusion?
- Concern?

The letter of Jude...

- Confusion?
- Concern?
- Contend!

V3: Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt compelled to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God's holy people.



V1: Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and a brother of James,

To those who have been <u>called</u>, who are <u>loved</u> in God the Father and <u>kept</u> for Jesus Christ:

Called – Personally

- Called Personally
 - General call

Mt 11v28: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

- Called Personally
 - General call
 - Effectual call

- Called Personally
 - General call
 - Effectual call

Rom 8v30: And those he predestined, he also <u>called</u>; those he <u>called</u>, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

- Called Personally
- Loved Immeasurably

- Called Personally
- Loved Immeasurably
- Kept Eternally

- Called Personally
- Loved Immeasurably
- Kept Eternally

John 10v27-28: My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.

V3: Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt compelled to write and urge you to **contend** for the **faith** that was once for all entrusted to God's holy people.



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- Only two thirds of clergy in the CofE believe in a physical resurrection
- Only 50% believe that faith in Jesus is the only way to salvation



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CONTENDING WITH CULTURE

uknews The Revd David Baker

What's going on in the Church of England over transgender issues? How does that relate to wider UK society? How will the future unfold?

The CofE is in a mess over this. In 2017, the General Synod - a denominational Parliament of sorts - supported a call for 'the House of Bishops to consider preparing nationally-commended liturgical materials to mark a person's gender transition'. The bishops refused. But in 2018 they did suggest that the existing liturgy for the Affirmation of Baptismal Vows could be used 'as the central feature of any service to recognise liturgically a person's gender transition'.

Confusion

This 'pastoral guidance' was immediately mired in confusion. The guidance itself appeared slapdash, lacking any serious theological content, with imprecise language and out-of-context Bible verses. The situation was compounded by the fact that Bishop Julian Henderson, president of the Church of England Evangelical Council (CEEC), had in theory been overseeing its production - but retracted his support after its publication.

Another evangelical bishop, Pete



"The point about contending is not that it guarantees success — but that we do so in obedience to scripture. This side of heaven, it never stops."

Titus 2v11-14: For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. 12 It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ 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.

V1: Jude, a <u>servant</u> of Jesus Christ and a brother of James...

Firm footing (Called, loved, kept)



Contend for the faith

Firm footing

(Called, loved, kept)



Contend for the faith

How is God calling YOU to contend?